

SOMERSET ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT 2.00 P.M. ON 15th SEPTEMBER 2018
AT CHEDDON FITZPAINE VILLAGE HALL HALL

1. Apologies for absence were received from David Ballance, Eve Tigwell and Roger Musgrove.
2. Minutes of the AGM of 8th April 2017 were read and agreed as a true record, proposed by Jeff Hazell and seconded by Brian Gibbs.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. Chairman's Report

Roger Dickey welcomed all those present to the AGM. He made the following points:

- (a) the Society's website was going from strength to strength;
- (b) the 2016 Bird Report was excellent, with good articles;
- (c) Eve Tigwell had settled in well as Treasurer;
- (d) the 2017 Bird Report would be published in October;
- (e) there was good news on membership of the Society, since it had now gone up to 501. He thanked Jeff Hazell for all of his work as Membership Secretary; and
- (f) the Little Owl and Kingfisher surveys were ongoing, with one year to run.

He also wished to thank all members of the General Committee personally for all of their work.

5. Treasurer's Report

In Eve Tigwell's absence, Roger Dickey read through the financial statement, which had been presented and signed by an independent examiner as a true record, and outlined the reasons for changes. The Society's finances continued to be healthy. He said it was important to provide financial support to projects within the County.

The report was accepted, proposed by Julian Thomas and seconded by Dave Dawe.

6. Membership Report

Jeff Hazell gave a brief summary on membership, which stood at 501. There were now 4 free under-21 members.

7. Indoor Meetings Report

Brian Hill, caretaker Indoor Meetings Secretary, said there had been a mixture of Society and non-Society speakers, all of whom had been well received. Attendances varied but usually around 30 people attended. He believed indoor meetings were still viable. Roger Dickey thanked Brian for his work.

8. Field Meetings Report

Alison Everett said that meetings had gone down well, despite variable weather. Reasonable numbers of people attended, including many new people. Thanks were due to all of the leaders. Roger Dickey thanked Alison for her work.

9. Rule Change

It was proposed that Rule 3 of the Somerset Ornithological Society Rules should be deleted and replaced by the following:

“The Society shall consist of Ordinary Members, Student Members below the age of 21, and such Honorary Life Members as may be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Society in recognition of outstanding work for the Society.”

The proposal was unanimously agreed by all present. Brian Gibbs suggested that wide publicity should be given to the change.

10. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Elections of the following were endorsed by the Meeting, proposed by Brian Hill and seconded by Denise Wawman:

Chairman:	Roger Dickey,
Hon Secretary:	Rob Grimmond
Treasurer:	Eve Tigwell
Membership Secretary:	Jeff Hazell
Indoor Meetings Secretary:	Brian Hill (as caretaker)
Field Meetings Secretary:	Alison Everett
Recorder:	Brian Gibbs
Assistant Recorder:	Julian Thomas
Surveys Secretary:	Simon Breeze

11. Any other business

Rob Grimmond gave a brief mention of proposed Nightjar surveys in the County.

33 people attended the meeting.

There followed a series of talks as part of the Members' Day.