

**SOMERSET ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT 2.00 P.M. ON 8th APRIL 2017
AT CHEDDON FITZPAINE VILLAGE HALL HALL**

1. Apologies for absence were received from James Packer, Simon Breeze, Nigel Smith and David Ballance.
2. Minutes of the AGM of 14th April 2016 were read and agreed as a true record, proposed by Dave Dawe 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) few members took part in surveys, so we would need to consider how far we should pursue such activities;
- (b) feedback on the first Members' Day would be much appreciated;
- (c) the new website had been very successful;
- (d) Denise Wawman had agreed to act as ringing co-ordinator;
- (e) our indoor meetings at Ruishton had quality speakers but were not well reported. More support at such meetings would be good. He thanked Jill Hill for her valuable help with refreshments at the meetings; and
- (f) Alison Everett had done an excellent job running field meetings.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer Jeff Hazell read through the financial statement which had been presented and signed by an independent examiner as a true record. The Society's finances continued to be healthy, and subscriptions were up slightly. Bird Report sales were steady and there had been a trickle of Bird Atlas sales. Sponsorship by the Society was £500 for the Tower Hide at Shapwick and £200 for The Birds of Exmoor.

Jeff confirmed that he was stepping down as Treasurer. Roger thanked him for his stalwart work over the years running the Society's accounts.

The report was accepted, proposed by Brian Hill and seconded by Eve Tigwell.

Jeff also gave an update on membership, which stood at 498 at the end of 2016. with 19 new members in 2017. A total of 14 members were still paying at the old rate; such payments would be treated as donations to the Society. 6 people had not renewed, 9 had resigned and 5 had died.

6. Indoor Meetings and Field Meetings reports

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Elections of the following were endorsed by the Meeting, proposed by Bob Jervis and seconded by Denise Wawman:

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

8. Any other business

Jeff Hazell suggested that a reminder about renewing subscriptions should be included in the Bird Report.

Rob Grimmond said that it would be very useful to identify people who might be prepared to help with surveys.

31 people attended the meeting.

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