

LINCOLNSHIRE BIRD CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
ADMIRAL RODNEY HOTEL, HORNCastle
24 MARCH 2015

Present 43 members and officers.

Apologies John Watt, Clive Kent, Rick Bennett and Colin Goulding.

Minutes of 2014 AGM The minutes are on the website. Accepted as a true and accurate record; signed by Phil Espin. There were no matters arising.

Hon Chairman's address (Phil Espin)

One of the main objectives of the club is to produce an annual report, which we have done for 2013. The 2102 report has also been published since the last AGM. Particular thanks are due to Andrew Henderson for his work as editor. We have also caught up on the missing years and the "Rare and Scarce Birds for 2003-7" has been published; special thanks to Graham Catley for his work. Thanks are also due to the members of the committees and also to members who post their sightings on the forum or on BirdTrack, from whom we receive the sightings once a year. It is hoped to start work soon on the 2014 report and all are encouraged to submit sightings and descriptions (if appropriate) as soon as possible. Advance notice was given of the joint BTO/LBC day at Whisby on Saturday 28th November; the topic will be *Monitoring bird populations in Lincolnshire*. Suggestions for talks and speakers are welcome: please send a private message to Phil.

Hon Treasurer's report (John Watt, absent)

The accounts were circulated at the AGM, together with John Watt's report. There were no questions arising.

Report from Secretary (Robert Carr)

Nothing to report.

Report from webmaster (Andrew Chick)

The software support for the photo album section is becoming an issue which Andrew may not be able to resolve; help from the membership would be appreciated.

Report from recorders

John Clarkson had no items to report. John Badley thanked all contributors. There was some discussion about the merits of submitting records to BirdTrack as well as, or instead of, the LBC. It was recognised that questions regarding rare species breeding and help with identification are best dealt with by the recorders.

Report from Hon Membership Secretary (Mike Harrison)

Current membership now estimated to be around 275. There is some uncertainty as LWT administer the DD payments and the latest update is due.

Report from Sales Officer (Bill Sterling)

As the membership has increased, the sales of past reports have decreased. Over £420 has been raised last year and £3000 in the past 10 years. Some old reports are still available at heavily discounted prices: please contact Bill if interested.

Election of Officers

All the officers and committee members are willing to continue serving. Nominations from the floor for additional committee members were invited but none were proposed. In this circumstance the chairman indicated the entire committee would be treated as re-elected and will continue in their roles.

Motions re non-members access to the forum

Two proposals have been made: one suggests that non-members should be able to post sightings and make comments in any section of the forum; the second is to restrict access to the sightings section. There was a lengthy discussion about both proposals, most of which has been previously put on the forum. Both were voted on: the first was rejected by 35 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions; the second was also rejected, by 17 votes to 9, with 17 abstentions. There will be no change to the access at present.

AOB

Peter Overton (BTO rep for W Lincs) advertised a meeting and lunch with Chris du Feu as speaker; all are welcome to attend; the event will be posted on the web-site in due course.

John Badley raised the question of whether non-members should be charged for admission to the AGM. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting, along with the proposal to change the day and time of the AGM.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:56.

RJF Carr, Secretary.