

## LINCOLNSHIRE BIRD CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING 12 FEBRUARY 2013

### MINUTES

**Present:** Andrew Chick, Robert Carr, Bill Sterling, Colin and Sheila Jennings, John Clarkson, John Watt, John Badley, Roy Harvey, Phil Hyde, Mike Harrison and Ian Macalpine-Leny.

**Apologies for absence:** Phil Espin, Janet Eastmead, Anne Goodall, Grahame Hopwood.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Agreed to be a true record.

#### **Matters arising:**

**Coastal Grazing Marshes:** no further input.

**Membership Secretary:** see Officer's report.

**Website:** updated; a few teething troubles.

**BAP:** see AOB.

**AGM:** see later item.

**Martin Garner talk:** successful, given the weather and postponement.

**LCCP:** finished.

**SoBiL:** distributed at the MG talk or to be sent out later.

**Gibraltar Point:** data has arrived but causing problems; see AOB.

**2003-7 Report:** nearing completion; see AOB.

**Janet Eastmead:** no requests received since the last report; the lack of requests a cause for concern: see AOB.

**Officers' reports:** no matters arising.

#### **Officers' reports:**

**Treasurer:** Copy of accounts circulated prior to the meeting. Expenditure had exceeded income by £974 this year. Subscription income down by 15% and data searches by 60% - perhaps consultants are using the LRC rather than the LBC. (See later AOB item.) One-off items include the payment to LWT for setting up the DD. We still have £186 in credit for the Atlas as not all depositors had been traced. Next year we may publish three reports (2011 Bird Report, SoBiL and Rare and Scarce 2003-7) which will make a further dent in our reserves. There are very few fixed-term accounts for societies with ethical institutions. There was some discussion as to whether the DD should be made compulsory for new members and if lapsed members should receive the various reports. There is no need to increase subscription rates.

**Secretary:** Nothing noteworthy.

**Sales secretary:** copy of sales accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting. 107 copies of the recent report had been sold, and 7 already this year. The price should be kept the same.

**Membership secretary:** data base had been revised but there are still many lapsed members - c75. Mike Harrison should contact the LWT who will chase up the non-payers.

**County recorder South:** very busy, chasing up records for the 2003-7 report. Expressed concern about a request from WWT to provide data on Pink-footed Goose in the county as it appears that WeBS data is being ignored. Mike Badley will investigate further.

**County recorder North:** busy with the above and help with ID. Proposed that both recorders should retire from the Rarities Committee in due course.

**Rarities committee:** busy with the 2003-7 report as well. Agreed that the submissions for 2012 will be released for voting when the 2003-7 report has gone to the printers.

**Chairman and Webmaster:** nothing to report concerning the website; other items in AOB.

**AOB:**

**Joint BTO and LBC day:** after some discussion, it was agreed that we would support the event; the exact financial commitment would depend on the financial outcome – we could not simply offer to underwrite the event. Whisby on 3rd November seems suitable. One suggestion for speakers was made: Alan Ball and Bob Sheppard are both ringers in the county with extensive experience. Phil Espin should contact Chris Gunn and organise the event.

**Adrian Slater:** a proposal had been circulated but not reached all the Committee. John Badley outlined the request to cover some of the costs of ringing Starlings in Adrian's garden in Boston as part of the new RAS scheme from the BTO. It was agreed that we make a payment of £300 and that Adrian will write a report as a condition of the grant.

**AGM:** all organised; Andrew Chick will post a notice on the website and on Birdforum. He will email it to John Badley who can organise distribution to RSPB members.

**Garden Bird Survey:** We will make a final push to increase participation, including using the LNU to promote it. If this proves unsuccessful, it might be best to leave this survey to the BTO.

**Rare and Scarce report 2003-7:** nearly finished; agreed that Graham Catley be paid when it is published.

**SoBiL:** the question of whether we should continue to produce this was discussed. In the absence of an editor, no final decision was made. It might be possible to include some of the material in the Bird Report.

**GLNP:** We have contributed to the report on Bittern numbers in the county.

**2011 Report:** almost complete but for the recent arrival of the data from Gib Point. This has meant that many species accounts have to be rewritten at the last moment. This is a large task and is being undertaken by Andrew Henderson to whom we are indebted. It is not certain that the Report will be ready for the AGM. In an attempt to prevent a reoccurrence, Colin and Sheila Jennings will visit Gib Point on a fact-finding visit; the LBC will pay their travelling expenses.

**LRC:** concern was expressed that very few consultants are using the services of the LBC, preferring the LRC instead. They do include a statement about birds not being fully covered but if we do not provide data our records are not being fully used. John Badley will investigate their reports and Andrew Chick will contact the officer responsible, Charlie Barnes.

**Colin and Sheila Jennings:** asked that the records for the 2003-7 Report from the Rarities committee be passed on to them in steps rather than all at once to facilitate entry onto the database. John Badley will ask Graham Catley about this.

**Janet Eastmead:** had circulated the Committee concerning the species we should consider confidential when approached by consultants. After discussion, it was agreed that Peregrine, Marsh Harrier, Black-necked Grebe and Goshawk be kept; the restrictions on Barn Owl, Little Ringed Plover, Red Kite and Hobby can be lifted. For Nightjar and Wood Lark, there should be no concern if the grid references given are to 4 numbers only.

**John Badley:** suggested an activity for the members to be involved in. It was agreed that he would go ahead and organise a survey on the status of Lesser-spotted Woodpecker in the county in March of this year. Confidentiality may be an issue in the Report to prevent sensitive sites being the subject of too many visits from birders.

Meeting closed at 21h45.