

**LINCOLNSHIRE BIRD CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING 11 FEBRUARY 2014**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Andrew Chick, Robert Carr, Bill Sterling, John Watt, Mike Harrison, John Clarkson, Phil Espin, Phil Hyde and Ian Macalpine-Leny.

**Apologies for absence:** Janet Eastmead, Anne Goodall, Roy Harvey and John Badley.

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

**Matters arising:**

**Joint meeting with BTO:** APC has written, expressing our thanks, to Chris Gunn. A similar event will be planned in 2 years.

**Rare and Scarce report 2003-7:** Stalled and still at the final stage of proof-reading; it will not now be ready for the AGM.

**2012 Report:** Is nearing completion with only a handful of species accounts left. It will have fewer pages than the current one as accounts are briefer. It is unlikely to be ready for AGM and will be posted with the R&S?

**Photo album:** The issue has been resolved. Andrew informed us that there are now far fewer photos being uploaded as other web-sites are increasingly used. It is possible that it will eventually become non-functional, especially as the technology has not been updated for some time.

**Officers' reports:**

**Treasurer:** A copy of the current position was circulated. As previously, John pointed out that subscription income does not cover the cost of the report and we will have a deficit this year and next. The proposed changes will be notified to members in the AGM agenda.

**Secretary:** The leaflets had been received from Minox and will be distributed. Andrew will contact them to organise delivery of the optics. The use of this item is yet to be resolved.

An email had been received from Anne explaining that no report was available for the meeting and requesting that we seek volunteers for the inland wader survey. Andrew will put a request on the web-site.

An email had been received from Janet with the data search statement attached; income this year is a very healthy £2341.50.

**Sales secretary:** copy of sales accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting. The sales are lower than last year but still very encouraging. We will have to write-off three copies lost to the sea at Gib! Nearly £700 has been added to our funds as a result.

**Membership secretary:** As previously, no actual figures to hand.

**County recorder North:** has continued to deal with a range of enquiries and to respond appropriately.

**County recorder South:** not present.

**Rarities committee:** Roy Harvey was not present but sent an email, informing the Committee that he will resign, with effect from the AGM from the LBC Committee. He will continue to act in his capacity for the Rarities Committee. Andrew will write to him, expressing our gratitude. It does mean that the Committee is now much smaller than a year ago and perhaps we need to look for more members, especially one with expertise in media and communications. A request will be made on the web-site by Andrew.

**Chairman and Webmaster:**

Following a recent post on the web-site, it was also agreed that the LBC should organise a survey on the status of woodland species which have declined significantly – Willow Tit and Lesser-spotted Woodpecker, for instance. Andrew and Phil Espin will jointly organise this.

Thanks are due to Andrew Henderson who has done an enormous amount of work for the current and previous Bird Reports. Andrew will write to him, expressing our gratitude.

Thanks are also due to Phil Espin for the work done for the Rare Breeding Birds and the liaison with the BTO which is to the benefit of both organisations.

Thanks are also due to the four BTO reps for their work during the BTO Atlas and Andrew will write to them, expressing our gratitude.

There was then a long discussion about data searches and the GLNP. Andrew and John Badley had met Charlie Barnes (GLNP) and had a preliminary discussion about the relationship between us. Currently they receive about 300 requests for data p.a. from consultants and developers whereas we receive only about 30. If we are to comment on all the requests, we will need to have a formal arrangement with the GLNP, whereby they have access to all our data and we receive some financial benefit – a % or an annual fee, perhaps. A draft agreement was circulated, based on an agreement between Notts Bird Club and their partner organisation. It was agreed that we should do something similar with the exact details to be finalised later.

**AOB:**

**Ian Macalpine-Leny** drew attention to a talk he is giving at the LNU AGM, with the focus on the potential benefits to be had from co-operation between conservationists, landowners and sporting interests. It will be given at Whisby LWT on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3:15pm. All are welcome to attend. A posting will be put on the web-site.

**Phil Espin** briefed us on the BTO Peregrine survey taking place this spring. It will involve monitoring of known nesting sites as well as random squares.

**Andrew Chick** has received a request for financial assistance to cover the printing of a book *The Birds of Grantham* by Alex Lees. It will be similar in style to John Clarkson's *Birds of Louth*. It was agreed that some funds be made available but we also suggest that funding be sought from local bodies, as John had done.

**Andrew** also told us of discussions with Nick Moran who runs the BirdTrack for the BTO. Data from this is available to the LBC and it is proving very productive and will become increasingly important.

**Andrew** also raised the issue of arrangements for the AGM. Robert will contact the speaker and pass on details of the title and background information to Andrew for the poster.

**John Clarkson** asked Andrew to clarify his long-stated wish to stand down as Chairman. Andrew stated that he would wish to continue in his roles on the web-site, Bird Report and elsewhere, but would be happy to relinquish the role of Chairman if a suitable member would take over. John suggested that Phil Espin would be eminently suitable, and all agreed, including Phil. A notice to this effect will be included in the AGM agenda. In addition, any requests for items for consideration from members should be sent to the Secretary, in writing, at least two weeks before the AGM.

Meeting closed at 21:35.