

NFBR

National Forum for Biological Recording

Charity No 1152948

12th Annual General Meeting, Friday 16th May 2025 at 2.00pm, online meeting

Minutes

Present: Twenty one members attended the online meeting including: Sam Amy, Janice Ansine (representing iSpot), Keiron Brown, Catherine Burton, Imogen Cavadino, Sue Dancey, Phil James, Clare Langrick, Lisa Phipps, Simon Pickles, Mike Prince, Chris Raper, Zoe Simmons, David Slade (representing SEWBRReC), Alan Stewart, John van Breda, Justin Walker (representing BTO), Graham Walley, Sarah Whild, Mark Wills (representing NEYEDC) and Elaine Wright. The AGM was quorate.

1 Welcome and Apologies: SW opened the meeting and asked SP to chair the AGM. Apologies were received from Teresa Frost, Martin Harvery, Deb Muscat (representing ALERC), Paul Seligman, Giselle Sterry and Sarah Woodcock (representing Biodiversity Information Service for Powys and BBNP).

The following apology from the NFBR Executive was made: The Executive wish to acknowledge their failure to provide the requisite 28 days' notice of the 2025 Annual General Meeting on the above date, and we make a sincere joint apology for this. This was due to Executive members taking their eyes off the practicalities of the meeting whilst trying to keep up with many important initiatives from Government with a biological recording connection, and the projects NFBR are engaged in. We hope our members will understand and be supportive of the need for this urgently arranged AGM.

2 Minutes of the 11th AGM held as at virtual event on Friday 10th May 2024 in Pontypridd at 12.30pm (previously circulated)

ACTION: the AGM accepted these minutes as a true and accurate record. (20 voted yes, 1 abstained)

3 Annual Report for 2023 (previously circulated)

ACTION: the AGM noted this report.

4 Financial Statement and appointment of an Independent Examiner (circulated)

ACTION: The Financial Statement for 2024 was accepted by the AGM and Mrs Shirley Bell was asked to be our independent examiner for NFBR accounts for 2025 and 2026. (20 voted yes, 1 abstained)

5 Executive Committee review.

ACTION: The AGM elected Sarah Whild, Jodey Peyton and Clare Langrick as a Trustees to serve on the NFBR Executive from May 2025 to May 2028. (21 voted yes). And noted Sam Amy had stood down from the Executive during the year.

No other Trustees were proposed from the membership.

6 Advisory Council review

ACTION: The AGM voted the following members to the NFBR Council: Sam Amy, Keiron Brown, Imogen Cavadino, Martin Harvey, Martin Hicks, Chris Raper, Zoe Simmons, David Slade, Alan Stewart and Elaine Wright and to co-opt Damian McFerran, and John van Breda. (20 voted yes, , 1 abstained). It also noted that BRISC had been dissolved in 2025, and Zoe Randle had resigned from Council recognising Zoe's knowledgeable contribution.

No other Council members were proposed by the membership.

7 Acknowledgements

Thanks, are given to all members for continuing their membership and all committee members for their time and effort to make NFBR effective. Special thanks are given to those who have taken on specific tasks, the newsletter (Sam Amy, Gordon Leel and Jodey Peyton), website (John v Breda, and David Slade), meeting minutes (Sam Amy and Graham Walley) and Clare Langrick, Treasurer and Membership Secretary (including annual Charity Commission return), and Jodey Peyton, Vice-Chair. Elaine Wright and Teresa Frost were thanked for their organising of the 2024 conference in Pontypridd.

8 Plans for 2025 – 2027

- Plan and deliver the NFBR Conference May 2026 - probably in Birmingham, it is our 40th anniversary, recording themes to be developed. KB recommended we approach the membership for ideas for speakers.
- Publish two newsletters: submissions to editor@nfbr.org.uk
- Maintain an interest in Recording Standards, Communications, National Schemes and Societies.
- Contribute to the Wildlife and Countryside Link sub-groups, and the next State of Nature Report.
- Develop close relations with the NBN and ALERC in terms of data flow and the need for local and national ecological information.
- Respond to consultations and other contacts with the governments and environmental agencies of the four nations.
- The Executive is happy to hear from the existing membership and Council on how to direct the resources of NFBR over the next three years.

9 Any other business none were previously notified to the Chair. SP closed the AGM at 2.40pm

G.Walley NFBR Secretary May 2025/ ed April 2026