

# BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

## Minutes of the AGM of the British Ornithologists' Union held on 6 April 2016 at the University of Leicester

President Prof Hamer welcomed everyone to the AGM. A total of 39 members attended the meeting.

### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Elizabeth Bell, Stephen Chapman, John E Cooper, Nigel Crocker, Roger Dickey, Mike Walters and Hugh Wright.

### 2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Minutes of the previous AGM held on 1 April 2015 at the University of Leicester (published online <http://www.bou.org.uk/BOU-2015-AGM-minutes.pdf>) were approved as a true record of that meeting.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### 3. Adoption of the Annual Report of Council & Approval of Accounts for 2015

Prof Hamer introduced the Annual Report and Mrs Evans the Annual Accounts.

Prof Hamer commented on the transformational work carried out by Prof Gill during her presidency. He also commented that the strategic review of the Union's activities was now complete and that many of the points highlighted by the review were now being implemented. He commented that the new Engagement Committee was working very well and that Mr Steve Dudley was to be congratulated on his work with social media which had established the BOU and IBIS as the leader in our sector.

IBIS remains an important source of income for the Union and the journal's Management Committee continued to monitor developing issues such as Open Access and carefully. Prof Hamer thanked the editors, associate editors and reviewers for their hard work in delivering an excellent journal.

Mrs Evans highlighted the legacy of over £390,000 received from the estates of the late John and Pat Warham (Warham Legacy). These funds were to be spent on supporting specific areas of seabird research which Council was currently looking in to.

Despite an overall loss of £23,000, the Union was still in good financial health with substantial reserves. A detailed financial forecast for future charitable expenditure will be produced during the year.

The adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2015 was proposed by Prof Chris Perrins and seconded by Dr Barbara Helm.

Finally, Prof Hamer thanked members of Council, the Union's committees and its staff for their valuable work over the year.

### 4. Elections to Council

Council proposed that Mrs Julianne Evans be re-elected as Honorary Treasurer, Dr Phil Atkinson be elected as an Ordinary Member of Council to replace Dr Paul Dolman as Chair of Grants Committee and that Mr Tom Finch be elected as an Ordinary Member to replace Dr Hugh Wright.

There being no other names put forward (rule 10.3), the nominations were approved.

The President welcomed the new members and thanked those retiring members for their hard work on behalf of the Union during their time in office.

### 5. Reappointment of Auditors

It was proposed not to reappointment Alliotts Chartered Accountants due to problems encountered with them and their high costs. A new auditor will be appointed by Council during the year.

The proposal was made by Mrs Julianne Evans and seconded by Prof Jenny Gill.

### 6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Prof Hamer declared the AGM closed at 18:15h and thanked members for their attendance.