



Minutes of the 144th Annual General Meeting of the Hertfordshire Natural History Society

held at 4.25pm on Saturday 9 November 2019 at the offices of Affinity Water,
Hatfield.

1: Welcome: HNHS Chair, Agneta Burton welcomed everyone to the AGM, including 80 Society members present.

2: Apologies: Brian and Sian Barton, Lesley Cannon, Michael and Anna Clark, Chris Dee, Tom and Janet Gladwin, Michael Howgate, Joe Gray, Trevor James, Ernie Leahy, Anne Rowe, Keith Smith, Tom Speller, Robert Wilson.

3: Minutes of the 143rd AGM held on 3 November 2018 were unanimously agreed as a correct record. *Proposer: Stuart Warrington. Secunder: David Johnson.*

4: Matters Arising: none.

5: Report of the Management Committee for 2018/19 – Agneta Burton introduced the report, which had previously been published in the 2019 *Hertfordshire Naturalist* and circulated to members. Highlights included:

- Publication of Trevor James's book *Beetles of Hertfordshire* to critical acclaim and the subsequent announcement of his winning the National Biodiversity Network's Gilbert White Award for an outstanding contribution to biological recording.
- The 2018 Gerald Salisbury Memorial Lecture on beetles in November 2018, also given by Trevor James
- Significant progress 'digitising' the Society's *Transactions* to create a searchable, online archive
- Continued survey work on the Herts. mammal, amphibian and reptiles survey to be taken into a sixth year.
- On-schedule publication of the *Hertfordshire Naturalist* 2018 and *Hertfordshire Bird Report* for 2017, with thanks to their respective editors, Judy England and Clifford Smout and their teams.
- A continuing high level of HNHS membership at 480, with thanks to Geoff Hill for chasing late payments.

6: Annual Accounts for 2018/19 – Peter Tallantire, the Treasurer, presented summary accounts, as published in the *Hertfordshire Naturalist* 2019. These showed total funds of £98,763, made up of £44,400 in accessible cash funds and £54,273 in investments. Income of £30,188 included £7,978 from members' subscriptions. Total payments of £32,628 included publication costs of *Beetles of Hertfordshire* and scanning the *Transactions* archives. The accounts had been certified as accurate by Bob Harding, a Chartered Accountant. The Management Committee saw no need to increase subscriptions in 2020.

The accounts were unanimously adopted. *Proposer: Edward Darling. Secunder: Linda Smith*

7: Election of Officers and members of the Management Committee for 2019/20

The following officers and members were unanimously elected unopposed: Chair, Peter Tallantire; Secretary, David Utting; Treasurer, Dan Fletcher. Members: Agneta Burton, Ian Carle, Ian Denholm, Ronni Edmonds-Brown, Judy England, Jack Fearnside, Alan Gardiner, Chantal Helm, Geoff Hill, Tim Hill, Trevor James and Jenny Rawson (nee Sherwen).

Peter Tallantire, David Utting, Dan Fletcher, Agneta Burton, Ronni Edmonds-Brown, Ian Carle, Alan Gardiner, Tim Hill, Chantal Helm and Trevor James would continue to serve as the charity's Trustees.

Proposer: Ken Smith. Secunder: Peter Delaloye.

Agneta Burton noted that Joe Gray was standing down from the committee and thanked him for his contribution. Peter Tallantire, the incoming Chair, warmly thanked Agneta for serving four years as Chair - double the normal term - at a time of administrative transition. Agneta thanked the management committee for their support, especially David Utting who took over as Secretary at the same time she became Chair and Tim Hill, the Society's Events Organiser.

8: Other business – none

The meeting closed at 4.45pm.

David Utting
HNHS Secretary