

MINUTES

BERWICK WILDLIFE GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 20th February 2008 7.00 pm, Castle Hotel.

Attending: Fiona Aungier, Elizabeth Bamford, Leslie Cook, John Inglis, John Rae, Enid Turnbull, M. Williams.

Apologies: Molly Hardie, Malcolm Hutcheson.

Item	Subject	Decisions to make	Outcome
1	Minutes of last meeting (November)	Agreed .	
2	Matters arising not shown below.	JR. New members should be circulated with survey lists. Agreed.	
3	Molly Hardie	Molly Hardie, although unable to be present, was welcomed to the committee.	
4	Recent/forthcoming events Latest version of events programme printed off for you, will hand out at meeting.	Indoor meetings. Geoff Sample on Birdsong was excellent. Next is David Rollo, 12 th March at Berwick United Reformed Church. Event was publicised in 'The Point', and FA has thanked the editor. Outdoor meetings. Spring walk at Plantation, Sat. 5 th April, Ross Weddle is unable to lead, but members will lead instead. Displays. Library was 4 th Feb for 10 days. More than 20 programmes taken. Thank you everyone. Next display is Berwick Organic Gardeners potato day at Kelso on Sunday 2 nd March. Venue is the showground, and direction signs will be displayed. 6 tables and 6 chairs have been booked by BWG.	
5	Surveys	Estuary Bird Survey. FA thanked all helpers. Reasonable turn out. 4 years' results now. Survey maps showing distribution of total numbers and species numbers were shown, but there appears to be no consistency of use. Squirrel surveys EB reported excellent results of recent Kylee survey. Plenty of evidence of reds, none of greys. Has contacted President of Northumberland WI and she has agreed to propose to the Federation that members help by reporting red sightings. Richard Wales' red survey is drawing to a close, and he has applied for more funding. Beach Litter 13 th March. Need for more equipment. Butterflies (T the M and Cocklawburn) begin Tuesday April 1 st	
6	B & Q	Richard Wales has suggested we get grant from B & Q for squirrel food, tubes, etc. Is £1000 minimum, B & Q goods only, to be in by 28 th March, used by end Sept. Possibly we could do in co-operation with other groups. JR reported Morrisons give £50 grants, and up to 3 can be applied for in a year. The scheme runs from March – July.	

		Discussion on types of equipment needed. Felt that B&Q grant was not viable.
7	Governor's Garden	Full plans submitted for new development. LC taken aback that no bats found there by developer's environmental consultant Steve Betts. BWG to continue to monitor bat activity.
8	Tesco	Have only got outline planning permission. Advised by BBC to draft letter re. suggestions for tree-planting now. It will go on file at Council awaiting full p.p. Agreed. FA to write.
9	Cocklawburn Dunes Possible Cattle Erosion	Meeting with Steve Pullen, Jo Wilkinson, MH & FA. Fixed pt photos 3-4 times per.an. to monitor erosion could be tried. FA to ask MH to talk to J Whiteford, owner of cattle.
10	Tappee	Series of meetings with Margaret Shaw, Philomena, FA, MH, others re. proposed killing and leave standing sycamore trees. Margaret Shaw to discuss with BBC. Northern Gas Networks have money for green projects... FA to further consult Tappee Management Plan.
11	BBC – licence for OS maps	Agreed FA should sign Document.
12	Any other business	BBLSP. Questionnaire received based on their vague plans for <i>looking into</i> the future of Berwick. BWG felt that to provide answers was not appropriate as resulting data could be used to prove almost anything. Agreed that BWG response to Masterplan be returned instead. FA to update and circulate to committee first. Donation of £10 received from Mrs. Aungier senior. Thanks expressed. Bat Equipment. LC needs more sophisticated bat recording equipment. Could be expensive. FA to talk to Northern Gas Networks.
13	Date/venue of next Cttee Meeting	Wednesday 19 th Mar (then Wed. 16 th April – to be booked)