

MINUTES

BERWICK WILDLIFE GROUP
COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 17th January 2007
7.00 pm, CASTLE HOTEL

Attending: Fiona Aungier, Elizabeth Bamford, Malcolm Hutcheson, John Inglis, Enid Turnbull, M Williams.

Apologies: Leslie Cook, John Rae.

Item	Subject	OUTCOME	Outcome
1	Minutes of last meeting	Agreed	
2	Matters arising not shown below.	Members had heard very favourable comments on last week's talk on bees.	
3	Little Beach (Notice board)	Nothing to report.	
4	Estuary	<p>Masterplan. FA read extracts and handed out discs of the plan. Numerous inaccuracies were noted, including incorrect designations of environmental/wildlife areas.</p> <p>FA to contact all members and invite comments on wildlife issues to arrive with her by 5.00pm Monday 22nd.Jan. These will be considered at an extra Committee Meeting on Wednesday 24th.Jan. 7.00pm at Castle Hotel, and a document setting out concerns will be compiled and sent to relevant bodies.</p> <p>Agreed that all BWG members be encouraged to view the Masterplan at the Wm. Elder Building, and to voice their personal concerns at the consultation events being held at the Swan Centre for Leisure on 20,21 Jan. and Wm.Elder Building on 27th. Specific details are in local press.</p>	
5	Newsletters/Record sheets	<p>Monthly natural history records are to be sent to members. Sightings for all species should be sent to MH by 7th.of each month.</p> <p>Of particular conservation relevance in Estuary are mute swan, goldeneye, redshank, goosander.</p>	
6	Surveys	<p>MH – BTO willing to supply records for Little Beach, but will make a charge.</p> <p>Bats. FA read out LC's letter to BBC reporting on bat activity in Berwick, to general approval.</p> <p>Copies of LC's Report on bats was circulated, and very well received. LC to be congratulated on excellent work in producing it. Free copies to be sent to Steve Betts, NWT and Chief Planning Officer at BBC.</p>	

		<p>Butterflies. JR's Report on Butterflies was circulated and very well received. JR congratulated on his excellent work. (Free) copies to be sent to Macphersons, NWT and Jacki Beavan of Butterfly Conservation.</p> <p>To cover expenses, a charge is to be made to anyone wishing to obtain paper copies of the above two Reports, £2.00 bats, £3.00 butterflies. Both reports will be available free to view and download on the web.</p> <p>It is hoped to continue surveying Tommy the Miller's Field in the coming season, and also to undertake a square-by-square survey for Butterfly Conservation, based on the Cocklawburn area.</p> <p>Golf Course Birds. FA reported that BWG's insurance does not, in fact, cover costs of legal representation. It was decided not to persue the matter further.</p>
7	Any other business.	Elaine Jaggs, Biodiversity Co-ordinator for Northumberland Biodiversity Partnership has invited BWG to become involved in a survey of trees. It was agreed to ask for more information.
8	Date/venue of next Meeting	Wednesday February 21 st . 7.00pm Castle Hotel (but NB Extraordinary Committee Meeting re. Masterplan at Castle 7.00pm on Wed. 24 th Jan).