

## MINUTES

**BERWICK WILDLIFE GROUP  
COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2006  
7.00 pm, CASTLE HOTEL**

**Attending:** Fiona Aungier, Elizabeth Bamford, Malcolm Hutcheson, John Inglis, John Rae, Enid Turnbull, M Williams.  
**Guest:** Anthony Johnston of NWT.

**Apologies:** Leslie Cook.

Item	Subject	Decisions to make	Outcome
1	<b>Minutes of last meeting</b>	Agreed?	E.B. had been asked to notify members re. next bat survey, not L.C. Then agreed.
2	<b>Matters arising not shown below.</b>	Discuss briefly if required.	<b>Needle's Eye:</b> Important site for orchids, puffins and other species. N.Dugeon happy not to top it. F.A. to write to DEFRA who might be willing to accommodate this. It needs cutting and raking off in September.
3	<b>Welcome Anthony Johnston, NWT's People and Wildlife Officer for North Northumbs.</b>	Exchange of views on respective roles, projects and problems. Where can we help each other? (NB Estuary).	A.J. is in charge of Natural Connections project, funded until Dec. 2008, but this is 'just a beginning'. Area covered is Scottish Border to south of Alnwick. Will help community to appreciate the natural landscape via education, training, volunteering, etc. M.H. voiced group's concerns over apparent lack of interest by planners and local authority re. developments in estuary. A.J. offered to express BWG views to relevant organisations as appropriate. A.J to be sent BWG minutes. There was a long and fruitful discussion and F.A. thanked A.J. on behalf of the group.
4	<b>Border Green Festival</b>	Worth it? Do again? Questionnaire.	Very worthwhile. F.A had completed the questionnaire. BWG should continue to be involved. Display photos need labels.
5	<b>Birds on Golf Course</b>	Finished! Presentation?	Completed. F.A gave copies to committee members. Cost of folders was 70p each.

			BBC and NWT to have copies.E.B proposed formal launch at Magdalen Fields Golf Club. Vice Chair of AONB to be invited. J.I. to fix an evening date with the golf club & invite press photographer.
6	<b>Goody Patchy</b>	Brief verbal report (MH, FA).	F.A & M.H. have made suggestions on its care to Keith Wilson -, Chair of St. Boisel Community Woodland Project. F.A. to write Rob Mariner, BBC, expressing group's pleasure that the area hasn't been cut this year. M.H: the woodland there needs opening up.
7	<b>Surveys:</b> Bats Butterflies (T the Millers) Squirrels Verges	Brief verbal reports on how these are going. LC. EB/FA EB FA Can NWT help?	<b>Bats.</b> E.T. reported few bats recorded in cold weather. Governor's Garden appears to be an important site for roosts. <b>Butterflies.</b> E.B. is doing excellent work. F.A. has made coloured graphs. <b>Squirrels.</b> E.B. & Molly Hardie attended a training course for monitoring. E.B. gained permission to survey section of Kyloe Woods and is liaising with Louise Bessant, Red Squirrel Officer with NWT who has surveyed there for three years. Louise will arrange further courses if required. <b>Verges.</b> F.A: Three verges had been cut just prior to survey. F.A to suggest to BBC that they cut later. A.J. felt BBC would be amenable to this. It was felt the public should be informed why some verges were not cut, as this would improve relations and spread the wildlife message.
8	<b>Events:</b> Holy Island Butterfly count (Cocklawburn)	How did it go? Just check that we are prepared.	<b>Holy Island.</b> Splendid outing. F.A. to thank Phil Davey. <b>Butterfly Count.</b> F.A & M.H have done risk assessment in the fenced area around the

			pillbox. M.H. to contact 'Butterfly Conservation' With count results. E.T. to organise a donation box for members of the public. F.A. to provide the logo.
9	<b>AOB</b>		None. Meeting closed 8.30pm.
10	<b>Date/venue of next Meeting</b>	Castle, <b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>.Aug.</b>	
11	<b>Little Beach (Notice board)</b>	Visit site (if weather OK)	Group visit did not take place.