

MINUTES

BERWICK WILDLIFE GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 19th July 2007 7.00 pm, CASTLE HOTEL

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

Apologies: John Inglis.

Item	Subject	Decisions to make	Outcome
1	Minutes of last meeting	Agreed.	
2	Matters arising not shown below.	None.	
3	Border Green Festival.	Both exhibitor and visitor numbers down markedly on last year. Numerous suggestions for improvement, which F.A. will convey to the organisers. Agreed that a donation of ten pounds be given to Berwick United Reformed Church for allowing use of their trestle tables.	
4	2008 events programme	E.B. has this virtually complete except for a few dates which need to be confirmed. E.B. will supply finalised list to F.A. as soon as possible. J.R. kindly agreed to give a talk on his Canada trip at the next AGM, and the December meeting will be on exciting revelations from this year's work by the group.	
5	Recent/forthcoming events	Trip to the Farne Islands was excellent, with an abundance of birdlife to be seen. M.H. reported that although sand eels were plentiful, Kittiwakes were feeding pipe fish to their young. Pipe fish are too stiff for chicks to cope with, so deaths result. If weather unsuitable for the Butterfly survey at Cocklawburn on 21 st .July, it will be carried out on the following day (Sunday). Ford Moss, Sat.11.Aug. F.A. to produce the poster; E.B. to obtain suitable photo. Poster should stress importance of car-share, as limited parking at the site. Meet at gate into the moss, parking cars on the road outside. F.A. to send location map to Cyril Guthrie prior to his talk.	
6	Surveys	Bats. Final Camp Hill survey to be Thurs.26 th .July unless adverse weather changes plan. Aug.9 th . East Ord survey, meet 9.30pm at entrance to campsite. Possibly no surveys in Sept. due to holidays, any changes to survey dates to be notified in the Newsletter. Butterflies. Surveys continue weather permitting. Butterfly numbers markedly down on last year. Possibly wet weather affecting a successful pupate. Beach Survey. BBC have again been asked to lend equipment for survey on 19 th .July. Squirrels. Surveys adversely affected by staffing disruptions at SOS and inadequate liaison between estate management and survey team resulting in team not being	

		<p>informed when game shooting is taking place.</p> <p>24th.Aug. 3.00pm BWG to be at an event at Lady Waterford Hall, Ford in order to distribute information and assist the public.</p> <p>28th.Aug. same venue at 10.00am and 1.pm BWG to help out at an event for accompanied children. F.A. to produce identity badges.</p> <p>Trees. Four surveys completed – Warkworth Avenue, Lady Jerningham statue, and 2 in Anglican churchyard.</p> <p>Trees in the rose garden to be surveyed at a date to be notified by M.H., and F.A to contact Ross Weddle re, an amenity tree survey for the Forestry Commission.</p> <p>Bees. Members having difficulty distinguishing different types, as there appears to be considerable natural variation. Stirling University continues to be very supportive.</p> <p>Birds. M.H. is to get info. from BTO about tetrad squares so group can learn how to do accurate recording next year.</p> <p>Membership Participation. It was suggested that members be asked in Newsletter for their interests and ideas.</p> <p>Also a 12th. December meeting with wine and dainties when survey leaders give brief and exciting presentations on the year's findings. Related photos and info. also on display. Cabaret seating and no professional jargon. L.C. to check availability of hall.</p>	
7	Website, schools, etc.	<p>Schools. J.R. School participation has been extremely poor. Remove the site and start afresh in the autumn, E.B. to contact schools to find out which would be interested in participating.</p> <p>Main Site. J.R. to update main website, including updates on surveys, the info. to be retained for one year. E.B. is keeping a diary of the squirrel surveys and can make this available.</p>	
8	Newsletters	<p>Decided to continue sending quarterly paper copies to members.</p> <p>M.H. thanked for continuing with his record keeping during his period of indisposition.</p>	
9	Any other business	<p>Agreed that a letter be sent to the Rotary Club offering to advise on wildlife-friendly planting for Rotary Way. F.A. to action.</p>	
9	Date/venue of next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 15th August. Room reserved 3rd Wednesdays until December. The Castle may make a charge in the new year.</p>	