

MINUTES**BERWICK WILDLIFE GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday 18th March, 2009, 7.00 pm, Castle Hotel****Attending:** Fiona Aungier, Molly Hardie, Malcolm Hutcheson, John Inglis, Enid Turnbull, M. Williams.**Apologies:** John Rae, Leslie Cook.

Item	Subject	Outcome
1	Minutes of last meeting	Agreed
2	Matters arising not shown below	
3	Recent events	M Hutcheson & JI thanked for another successful wader count. Data has been passed on to EYE. Gill Young's illustrated talk on the natural history of S Africa was superb. A write-up will shortly appear in the Berwick Advertiser (thank you M. Hardie).
4	Next Events	Lichen/moss walk 21 st Mar. Meet at pill box car park on Cocklawburn dunes 1.30pm. Walk with SoS, 19 th .April. Botanical Soc. of the British Isles conference in Berwick 9 -11 May, has an excellent programme of events. All BWG members welcome.
5	Summer programme.	Need to timetable: butterflies, bats, bees, Whin Sill grass, trees, insects, etc. Following detailed discussion the programming moved forward. <u>Butterfly surveys</u> start 1 st April. FA to contact potential surveyors. <u>Positive dates for the tree group</u> are: Ord Rd. and House Sun. 24 th May, meet Ord Industrial Estate, western entrance 2.00pm.; and Castle Terrace Wed 10 th June, meet junction with old Paxton Road 7.00pm. <u>Green Festival</u> is 28 th .June, theme Our Coast Our Seas. Proposed work on <u>Whin Grassland</u> still to be arranged with Steve Lowe. Next ' <u>Berwick is Brilliant for Wildlife</u> ' probably Jan 2011. <u>Holy Island 'Bioblitz'</u> organised by Biodiversity Partnerships and NWT is 12/13 th June. <u>Banded snail survey</u> (see www.evolutionmegalab.org) would be interesting and useful.
6	Stevenson Bridge Lighting Scheme	LC to arrange bat survey through Ruth Haddon, NBG co-ordinator, as BWG cannot accept direct commission. FA has calculated carbon off-setting, although problems with this idea. Report will be sent to Tim Kirton of BBC.
7	Data.	M Hardie and JR have, after a massive amount of work, produced well formatted and user friendly data spread sheets, suitable for retaining our data and

		transferring to others. Since the work began BWG has sent in over 5,500 records to Explore Your Environment, and has received a letter of praise for the excellent format. M Hardie praised JR for the amount of work he had put in.
8	Slide Show for Community Devt. Trust.	JR was thanked for the work he had put in to produce an excellent show to be displayed in the foyer.
9	Reports	Draft report 'Solway -Tweed River Basin' received from SEPA. See http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx . FA to respond. (NB – the apparent spaces in web address are underscores).
10	AONB and EMS joint Management Scheme Consultation	This can be accessed via http://www.xbordercurrents.com . FA and JR attended the Eyemouth conference which proved very useful. FA has responded and welcomes attention to trampling on dunes and would like AONB extended south and north and to include Tweed estuary.
11	N. Gas Networks.	FA accepted their cheque for £509 for recording equipment, etc., together with the trophy awarded to BWG for environmental work at the short ceremony in Castle Vale. LC showed their representatives the newly installed bird and bat boxes. FA thanked members who had attended.
12	AOB	<u>Planting at Maltings.</u> MW has passed M. Hutcheson's list of trees and shrubs suitable for planting locally (and of benefit to wildlife) to Maltings manager. Wych Elms had been suggested by Maltings staff, but are susceptible to Dutch elm disease and if they survive will grow far too big for site. <u>SoS.</u> The Group has completed a number of surveys since the last report, has had several displays to raise awareness, is fund-raising at Morrisons April 2 nd & 3 rd , and hope to set up new group in Wooler area.
17	Date/venue of next Cttee Meeting	15 th April then 20 th May (Castle). AGM 13 th .May.