



STRETTONS AREA COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25/2/2025

Present: Committee - **Isabel Carter, Chair (IC), Will Priestley, Treasurer (WP), Julie Cowley, Secretary (JC), Leo Smith (LS)**, Project leader Mike Carter, Kate Nixon (Stepping Stones Project Manager)

Apologies: John Bacon (JB), Penny Bienz (PB), Caroline Uff (CU), Steve Butler (SB)

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

- Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting 27/2/2024 were Approved (proposed by Mike Carter and seconded by Will Priestley).

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

Matters from the Chair's report:

- Nature in the Strettons: IC introduced the group to new members of the audience
- Birdfest March 2024: a successful event that raised significant funds for SACWG to help run projects
- A Dawn Chorus Walk on 7/5/2025 was promoted. Numbers are limited so it is important to sign up to the event
- A bumble bee id and iRecord training event is planned for 13/5/2025. There is a small charge of £15 for participation (contact IC for details).

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Accounts were presented by the Treasurer and were approved by Mike Carter and seconded by Janet Martin.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- The Committee was re-elected en-block unanimously (proposed Anne Cronin and seconded by Kate Hudson)
- Members of the audience were invited to stand as committee members
- Three new committee members – Martin and Janet Hegman and Maggie Bryant – will be joining the committee in due course.

5. PRESENTATIONS/PROJECT REPORTS

- Three new projects were presented: Toad Patrol (JC), Bumble bee (bee walk) (IC), Garden Wildlife Survey (all)
- Project leads presented their reports for 2024: Bat survey, Botanical surveys, Crayfish DNA survey, Curlew and Lapwing surveys, Stretton Wetlands, Red Grouse survey, Dipper project, Swifts in the Strettons
- Butterfly project – this project will be led by Martin and Janet Hegman in the 2025
- Dormice project – on hold, if anyone would like to take on this project they are to contact CU
- Curlew and Lapwing project meeting scheduled 14/3/2025 – contact LS
- Red grouse project meeting scheduled for 27/3/2025 – contact LS.

6. Stepping Stones Project Update

KN gave a presentation on Stepping Stones. She then introduced Landscapes Connections initiative (Heritage Lottery Funded) that the NT is designing a project to bid into.

7. LNRS

IC presented a summary of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to the audience.

8. Garden Wildlife Survey 2025

IC launched the Garden Wildlife Survey.

9. AOB

The raffle was drawn, and the meeting was closed. 28 people attended the meeting.