



**STRETTONS AREA COMMUNITY WILDLIFE GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**5/2/2026**

**Present:** Committee - Isabel Carter, Chair (IC), Will Priestley, Treasurer (WP), Julie Cowley, Secretary (JC), Leo Smith (LS), Penny Bienz (PB), Sally Mawhinney (SM), Maggie Bryant (MB), Jan Hegman (JH), Martin Hegman (MH), Project leaders Mike Carter (MC), Steve Butler (SB)

**1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

- Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting 25/2/2025 were Approved (proposed by WP and seconded by Anne Cronin).

**2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Matters from the Chair's report:

- SACWG had an excellent display at Stretton Climate Care open day. The microscope activity run by SB was well received, particularly by the younger attendees
- A Garden Wildlife Survey was conducted in the spring and summer of 2025, inspired by the Strettons branch of Shropshire Wildlife Trust garden survey that ran in 2005. Results in 2025 were varied and generally encouraging. Information such as distribution of hedgehogs and slowworms has been informative. One of the aims of the project was to inspire young people to participate in nature-based activities and because the take up was not very good IC has set up a continuation of this project with Church Stretton primary school. See item 7.
- A Dawn Chorus Walk on 7/5/2025 was very successful
- Wildflower and Ladybird ID training events are planned in 2026. Contact IC for details.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Accounts were presented by the Treasurer and were approved by MC, seconded by Sandra Whitlock.

**4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- Thanks were extended to John Bacon who has now resigned from the committee
- The Committee was re-elected en-block unanimously (proposed Caroline Uff, seconded by Kate Hudson)
- Members of the audience were invited to stand as committee members
- A new member, Kate Goodman was elected to the committee.

**5. PRESENTATIONS/PROJECT REPORTS**

- A new project was presented: Engaging with Forest school
- Project leads presented their reports for 2025: Botanical surveys, Crayfish survey, Curlew and Lapwing surveys, Stretton Wetlands, Red Grouse survey, Dipper project, Swifts in the Strettons, Toad Patrol, Butterfly surveys.
- Dormice project: – on hold, if anyone would like to take on this project they are to contact CU/IC. Three dormouse boxes have been donated to the Gulley Green site and the audience invited to sponsor a box. Please contact IC or JC.

**6. BUTTERFLY SURVEY BY JAN AND MARTIN HEGMAN**

- JH/MH summarised the 2025 survey in Batch Valley, which was a repeat of the previous survey in 2015 carried out by Heather Hathaway. There was also a brief comparison to the transect surveyed at Clemcroft. The skipper species have declined the most significantly at both sites. The surveys will be repeated in 2026, and volunteers were invited to join in.

**7. FOREST SCHOOL PROJECT**

IC briefed the audience on the new project which will run every 2 weeks from April to July, aimed at years 5 and 6 at Church Stretton primary school.

**8. AOB**

WP announced the installation of two barn owl boxes locally.

The raffle was drawn at the interval and raised £92.50 and refreshments raised £70 (total £162.50). The meeting was closed. 25 people attended the meeting.