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**Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting of the Welsh Ornithological Society
10 November 2012, Myddfai**

1. Present

77 members were present at the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Rhion Pritchard, John Jones (with his resignation from Council)

3. Minutes of the last AGM on 12 November 2011, Carno

Proposed as accurate by Heather Coats, seconded by Iolo Williams. Accepted.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Chairman's report

The Chairman thanked those present for supporting the WOS by attending the conference as any surplus goes towards the awards for bird conservation projects.

He thanked members and Affiliate members for their continuing support. The WOS tries to represent the birders of Wales to the Welsh Government, eg by responding to the consultations about the new Single Body, now called Natural Resources Wales.

He is very pleased that we are now a Partner with the BTO and others with BirdTrack and he urged all members to use BirdTrack and reminded those present that the WOS logo now appears on the BirdTrack pages.

He was pleased to introduce for the first time the Lifetime Achievement Awards, three of which will be awarded after this AGM. He also reported that we have introduced a new Student Award to encourage students to undertake projects relevant to birds in Wales, each award being worth £100. This year, three awards for conservation projects, up to a value of £500 were awarded.

The Chairman reported that the WOS had been able to help an Affiliate Member, the Clwyd Bird Recording Group, by applying to CCW for a grant. The CBRG is not a charity and only charities can apply for grants. This grant will help the publication of the North Wales Breeding Bird Atlas.

He reminded people that there were membership forms on the table and urged that all should be taken and passed on to others to promote membership and urged all non-members to join. Those people who are members of an Affiliate Member club are eligible to a £2 discount on their annual, personal membership of the WOS.

6. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2011 both on paper and in an abbreviated form by Powerpoint. He reported that this year the WOS had been able to provide £1,500 as small grants for conservation because of the financial success of the previous year.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Bob Haycock and seconded by Reg Thorpe. The report was accepted.

7. Secretary's report

Apart from regular minuting duties the Secretary reported satisfaction with his role in obtaining sponsorship for this conference and in the discussions that led to the WOS becoming a partner in BirdTrack. He encouraged all individuals and possibly bird clubs to consider using BirdTrack to store their records. This would, eventually, help the production of a better Welsh Bird Report.

8. Editor's report

The Editor reported that Birds in Wales 9(1) was published on time and thanked Ian Spence of typesetting it which helped to reduce production costs. The Editor would like to receive more papers to publish. She asked for a show of hands to see how many people still wished to receive a printed copy rather than just on on-line publication. There was considerable support for continuation of printing.

9. Election of Council members

Anne Brenchley had reached the end of a three-year period on Council and was eligible for re-election. Steph Tyler proposed her re-election, Bob Haycock seconded and the proposal was accepted.

The Chairman reported that there were two vacancies on Council now. Tony Cross proposed that Carlton Parry be elected to one of the positions. Bob Haycock seconded and the proposal was accepted.

There remains one vacancy and the Chairman reported that he may seek to co-opt someone until the next AGM.

10. Lifetime Achievement Awards

The President read commendations for the three people who were accepted for the awards this year. They were Peter Hope Jones and Mike Shrubbs, neither of whom was well enough to be present at the meeting. The third award was to Graham Rees and we were delighted that he was able to attend the conference to receive his award.

11. Date of next meeting

The next AGM will be on 2 November 2013 at The Bridges Centre, Monmouth.