

## Minutes of the Council meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, 2 September 2020

Present: Anne Brenchley, Mick Green, Kelvin Jones, Alison Noble, Keith Noble, Carlton Parry, Rhion Pritchard, Clare Ryland, Jez Smith, Ian Spence,

Apologies for absence: Heather Crump, Giles Pepler.

20.41	<p><b>Virtual conference 2020</b></p> <p>An earlier meeting had taken place between JS, HC and Dan Rouse about technical possibilities.</p> <p>JS reported that the conference will pose technical challenges for all the organisers as it will be the first virtual conference any have arranged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The event will be hosted by Facebook (the WOS page).</li> <li>- There will also be a live stream from the WOS website</li> <li>- There will be no charge for the conference, but the website has a donate button and donations will be welcomed.</li> <li>- A goal for money to raise will be set, dependent on the costs of preparing and running the conference. Contributions will be asked for.</li> <li>- There will be a WOS timeline on Twitter and a Twitter feed from the conference.</li> <li>- (NB I hope the above has been recorded accurately as I have no idea how to do any of it. IMS).</li> </ul> <p>The hope is that the above will capture viewers from Facebook, Twitter and from the WOS website.</p>	
	<p><b>To organise the Twitter feed.</b></p>	<p><b>JS</b></p>
	<p><b>To arrange the hosting on Facebook.</b></p>	<p><b>DR</b></p>
	<p>Assistance will be needed from Glyn at Yellow Fly. It will probably be necessary to book time with him in advance to ensure that what needs to be done is done in time. Currently, there is a problem with the website not fully working (eg potential new members cannot pay by Paypal). This part of the discussion led to some questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do we stay with Yellow Fly? (Glyn is expected to have some major new work soon from a television company).</li> <li>- Should we investigate an alternative web developer?</li> <li>- This could be done by advertising on Twitter.</li> </ul> <p>KN had sent to all a draft programme several weeks ago, with the theme, 'Birds of Welsh farmland'. As our discussion took place the draft programme was modified towards:</p>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction by Iolo Williams (c45 mins)</li> <li>2. Ian Newton (30-40 mins)</li> </ol>	

		3. John Lloyd. Introduction to theme (15 mins)	
		4. Peter Dennis. Birds and grazing regimes (15 mins) 5. Katherine Bowgen. Update on Curlew (15 mins) 6. Andy King. Birds of winter fields (15 mins) 7. Chris Jones. Linnets (15 mins) 8. Iolo Williams (possibly) Update about breeding successes this year (15 mins) 9. Arfon Williams. The future of Welsh farmland birds (15 mins) 10. Chris Newsom. Cuckoos (15-30 mins)	
		<b>To contact Ian Newton.</b>	<b>AB</b>
		<b>To direct technical questions to HC.</b>	<b>AB</b>
		<b>To contact John Lloyd.</b>	<b>KN</b>
		<b>To check with Katherine Bowgen.</b>	<b>KHJ</b>
		<b>To check with Andy King.</b>	<b>KN</b>
		<b>To check with Chris Jones.</b>	<b>KHJ</b>
		<b>To check with Chris Newsom.</b>	<b>KHJ</b>
		<b>To produce a revised conference programme showing breaks.</b>	<b>KN</b>
		<p>There have been no nominations for a Lifetime Achievement Award.</p> <p>So far, there has been just one project proposed for the Derek Moore Student Award. There was some discussion about whether a sole project would, necessarily, receive the award. It was agreed that any project that received the award should be deemed of sufficient quality.</p> <p>Any advertising of the conference should have WOS/BTO/RSPB logos to show that it is still a joint conference.</p> <p>An extra element is that there should be two competitions running through the day.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A drawing competition for children (ie those under 16 years of age).</li> <li>2. A photographic competition for anyone, though it must be a bird in Wales.</li> </ol> <p>For the entries to be displayed during the day. One, or more, winning photos may be used in the forthcoming <i>The Birds of Wales</i>.</p> <p>Prizes for the photo competition will be: First: Free membership for a year, a pin badge and car sticker Second: Pin badge and car sticker.</p> <p>Prize for the drawing competition will be: First: Cuddly Manx Shearwater toy or somesuch.</p>	
		<b>To clarify all the technical issues.</b>	<b>JS, DR, HC</b>

		To seek contact with Yellow Fly about what we need.	GP
		To ask speakers to be available for about 30 mins at the end of the day for live questions.	JS
		To ensure a fall-back that is less technically demanding but will still allow the conference to proceed.	JS, DR, HC
		All the recorded talks will be available on the website.	
20.42		<b>AGM 2020</b>  There was much discussion about how to organise the AGM. RP informed us that the printing of <i>Birds in Wales</i> is likely to take longer this year because of COVID issues. Our agreements were based on it appearing about the end of September.	
		To contact DR to ask if she can send out an eNewsletter in the near future which will include a request for any further nominations for Council to be sent, with a short biography, to IMS by a week after the sending of the Newsletter.	IMS
		The AGM will, nominally, be on the day of the conference.	
		To arrange for papers (minutes of the 2019 AGM, Chair's and Treasurer's reports) to be printed.	IMS
		For the papers to include a sheet asking for last, late sponsors to support the book.	GP, IMS
		For the flyer for the book to have, on the other side, a flyer for the conference.	IMS
		After the last date for further nominations, to send out by email a Survey Monkey link to seek votes on the key elements that would have been voted on at a real AGM (details in an email from IMS).	IMS, AN
		For a paper version of the voting form to be sent to members without email addresses with a return date of 1 November 2020.	AN
		For results to be collated by 2 November so that they may be shown as part of the conference.	IMS, JS
		To send a test Survey Monkey poll to Council members as a dummy run in the near future.	IMS
		3 September 2020 Ian M Spence	