

## Minutes of the Council meeting via Zoom on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Present: Anne Brenchley, Kelvin Jones, Alison Noble, Carlton Parry, Giles Pepler, Rhion Pritchard, Clare Ryland, Jez Smith, Steve Sutcliffe, Dan Rouse, Daniel Jenkins-Jones, Mike Shewring, Anthony Caravaggi, Steve Stansfield, Neil Lambert

Apologies for absence: none

21.05	<p><b>Minutes of the meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021, and the AGM held 7<sup>th</sup> November 2020.</b></p> <p>Minutes and amendment accepted.</p> <p><b>GP asked CR to re-send him the minutes from 21<sup>st</sup> November excluding the section NL had requested not to be made public.</b></p>	CR
21.06	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p>None</p>	
21.07	<p><b>Chair's report</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
21.08	<p><b>Treasurer's report</b></p> <p>Not a lot to report - <i>Birds in Wales</i> publication has been paid for. Postage was approx. £200-£250 more than last year due to thickness of the journal.</p> <p>£300 web support paid to Yellow Fly to remove a plug-in.</p> <p>Only income was from membership subscriptions.</p> <p>SSu due to speak to someone in next couple of weeks regarding any options available at present for earning interest.</p>	
21.09	<p><b>Membership Secretary's report</b></p> <p>Current WOS membership stands at 361 which includes 42 second members. There have been 10 new members in 2021 thus far. We have lost 5 members – 1 died and 4 did not renew.</p> <p>Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Clwyd and Gwent bird clubs have not yet renewed their subs, AN is going to send them all a reminder. AB confirmed during meeting Clwyd payment made end February.</p> <p>AN advised she has nearly run out of the current <i>Birds in Wales</i> journal which she sends as part of a new member's pack. RP has approx. 6 copies spare. It was agreed to wait before printing additional copies to see whether membership continues to increase.</p>	

		AN thanked DJJ, DR and JS for their efforts on Social Media which have been successful in bringing in new members.	
21.10		<p><b>Editor's report</b></p> <p><b>Journal development</b></p> <p>The web developer, Glynn, is looking into hosting the journal platform alongside the website on our server. The aim is to effectively 're-launch' the journal, with a new web presence and new guidelines for authors, following the final submissions deadline for the current edition.</p> <p><b>Birds in Wales 2021</b></p> <p>Papers accepted for publication:</p> <p>Llysdinam's Contribution to Ornithology in Mid Wales; Fred Slater</p> <p>Papers under review:</p> <p>Preliminary observations of the impact of non-native common pheasants, <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>, on the abundance and diversity of invertebrate communities in upland habitats in Wales, UK; Jack Devlin et al.</p> <p>Eagles in Wales: A review of ornithological literature, county avifaunas 1889-2017 and Welsh place names; Dewi Lewis</p> <p>Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> responses to predator activity at Newport Wetland Nature Reserve; Anthony Caravaggi et al.</p> <p>A Pied Flycatcher - one of many, by Bob Harris (JS remarked this was a really nice piece and he is happy to accept it with a few tweaks)</p> <p>Additional papers anticipated:</p> <p>Willow Tits in Ceredigion; Ian Morris</p> <p>A 30 year review of raptor persecution in Wales; Julian Hughes</p> <p>Blackcaps in North Wales; Toby Carter</p> <p>Notes on movements of swans in South Wales; Richard Facey</p> <p>AC advised he was very pleased with progress made developing the journal and thanked GP, RP and IMS for their help.</p> <p>RP noted that the supply of papers tends to vary greatly from year-to-year, AS anticipates holding a couple back.</p> <p>GP advised it should be possible to include photos from the competition.</p>	
21.11		<b>Blogs as a means to raise profile</b>	

	<p>DJJ has looked at various blogs (SOC, various scientific blogs), good way to promote WOS over social media channels. A blog could be an outlet for reports which don't get into <i>Birds in Wales</i> and be used to recycle reports from bird / ringing groups.</p> <p>AC suggested <i>IBIS</i> and other journals could be approached for content.</p> <p>Someone would have to assume overall control of this, a lot of work even if only issued monthly.</p> <p>Pros and cons of a designated Council member or co-opting a "young champion" onto Council to take charge of the blog were discussed.</p> <p>JS said all Council members should bear collective responsibility for coming up with content and images.</p> <p>SSt suggested that Bardsey, Skomer and Skokholm could contribute, possibly one article annually. It was thought this would appeal to Skokholm who are keen for WOS to be more active on-line.</p> <p><b>Comms Group – DR, DJJ, JS and GP - convene and discuss the way forward.</b></p> <p><b>CR volunteered to send monthly reminders to all Council members and affiliates for content and images to go into blog.</b></p>	<p>DJJ /DR JS / GP</p> <p>CR</p>
21.12	<p><b><i>Birds of Wales</i> – update and publicity</b></p> <p>RP advised that the proof copies have been promised by early April. LUP have a publication date of 1<sup>st</sup> July on their website, which will be partially dependent on how quickly the proofs get approved.</p> <p>DR requested all information pertaining to the book should remain prominent on the website.</p> <p>AB advised the publicity flyer is available although not yet printed, aim to get printed versions ASAP.</p> <p>GP has discussed publicity with JH. One text panel publicising the book and a second one thanking species' sponsors are to go on the WOS website along with the pre-publication offer. Individual thank-you e-mails containing the flyer will be sent to species sponsors, contributors and photographers.</p> <p>SSt advised that JH has written a piece for the Bird Observatories Council website to be published along with the flyer.</p> <p>AN stressed current WOS members should receive hard copy of flyer before it goes out on social media, sending the flyer out with the next edition of <i>Birds In Wales</i> will be too late. She estimated postage cost of £180 to send flyer second class to all members (350 copies of the flyer).</p> <p><b>AB reminded Council that a flyer needed to be sent to Philip Snow. RP to do this.</b></p> <p>SSu suggested sending copies of the flyer out with the next <i>Friends of Skokholm and Skomer</i> newsletter in May.</p>	<p>RP</p>

		<p>SSt requested 150 copies of the flyer for the Bardsey giftshop and offered to send out PDF of flyer with the Bardsey newsletter at the end of May.</p> <p>KJ said the flyer would go out with the next BTO newsletter.</p> <p>AB stressed WOS wants to get as many pre-publication offers as possible. DR reminded Council this was as much about selling WOS as a whole as the book itself.</p> <p>WOS will get 75 copies of the book with 45 allocated. 6 to be held back for prizes, raffles etc.</p> <p><b>RP reminded Council not to send flyers to anyone receiving a free copy of the book. RP or IMS have the list of those due to receive a free copy, RP to check and AB to check with IMS.</b></p> <p><b>AN asked whether the WOS logo and wording were on the flyer. AB advised the logo was visible on the book only, it was probably too late to change this but she would mention to LUP.</b></p> <p><b>DJJ suggested producing text with more information promoting the book and its contents which could be sent with flyer to members. AN said she would get this printed locally if DJJ could supply the wording. DJJ to liaise with JH about this.</b></p> <p><b>AB and JH to work out total number of hard copies required and inform LUP for publishing. Flyers to go to members ASAP and first, followed by emails with electronic versions of the flyer to species sponsors and then distribution by social media, website and other channels. AN to email Council after the flyers have been posted to members so that social media publicity can start.</b></p>	<p>RP / AB</p> <p>AB</p> <p>DJJ / AN</p> <p>AB / JH AN</p> <p>DJJ / DR GP / JS</p>
21.13			
	13.01	<p><b>On-line event update and future plans</b></p> <p>JS has received talks from IW and KJ. Sub-titles and captions are being added to these talks before being sent to DR. A couple of technical issues should be sorted today. Publicity for the event to start as soon as the files have been sent to DR.</p> <p>DR explained that videos will go out separately on FB and on Twitter, the FB video can be embedded into the website.</p> <p><b>GP to send YouTube login to DR, and DR to supply GP with video link for website</b></p> <p>DR and DJJ will try to edit out any mention of RSPB from the talks, otherwise just the RSPB logo could be added and the RSPB update included in the next on-line event.</p> <p>It was understood that there was an urgency to get this event out on social media ASAP.</p>	GP / DR
	13.02	<p><b>Future plans</b></p>	

	<p>DJJ said these on-line events should be a membership benefit, ideally 7-8 annually.</p> <p>AB suggested the first one should be held in September with a big name speaker. This was agreed.</p> <p><b>Comms Team to come up with name, and 7-8 other talks. Feedback to Council within a month.</b></p>	DJJ / DR / JS
21.14	<p><b>Photographic Competition</b></p> <p>GP provided 2 email updates prior to the meeting with details of the short list and eventual winners.</p> <p>There was a winner and a 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the main category with other entrants highly commended (including one Council member), a winner in the junior category and a winner plus one highly commended in the humorous category.</p> <p><b>DR to send pin badges to GP.</b></p> <p><b>GP to obtain NHBS gift voucher and liaise with AC regarding photos for <i>Birds in Wales</i>. JH has also asked for photos for the WBR.</b></p> <p><b>GP to do feature on website as soon as the winners have been informed.</b></p> <p>A year's free membership offered to winners not already WOS members, NHBS voucher for members.</p> <p>SSt offered a week at Bardsey Observatory for next year's winner of the junior category. Bardsey trustees had requested that SSt be a member of the judging panel for the junior category, it was agreed he should join the panel for the whole competition.</p> <p><b>It was agreed that the same judging panel would be asked if they would like to judge again in 2022.</b></p> <p><b>DJJ asked GP to advise the Comms team as soon as the winners have been informed so there can be a co-ordinated social media campaign.</b></p> <p>GP proposed this be an annual event and the age limit of the junior category be raised to 21. All were in agreement.</p> <p>AN suggested the photographs be used to make a WOS calendar, featuring the WOS name, logo and membership information. This was agreed as an incentive for the 2022 competition.</p> <p>DJJ reported that the competition had been very popular on Twitter, and GP reported spikes in website visits - the competition was thought to have brought in 3-4 new members.</p> <p>The suggestions GP had made for future competitions were accepted, and he said he was happy to manage next year's event.</p>	DR GP GP GP GP
21.15	<b>Conference 2021</b>	

	<p>AB said that no decisions regarding the conference could be made at present due to the uncertainty caused by the COVID pandemic. A face-to-face conference might not be possible in 2021.</p> <p>SSu said that the situation would be clearer by the time of the next Council meeting. It should be possible to put together an on-line conference relatively quickly.</p> <p>In the event of a live conference being possible this year potential venues were discussed. It was agreed that although this did not fit in with the policy of venue rotation, Aberystwyth was a proven location.</p> <p><b>AN to contact Aberystwyth University and pencil in a booking for the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in November (6<sup>th</sup>).</b></p> <p>This item will be discussed again at the July council meeting.</p>	AN
21.16	<p><b>Membership Benefits</b></p> <p>DJJ and AN circulated document with ideas for boosting membership and providing value for money for members prior to the meeting.</p> <p>AB thanked AN and DJJ for their comprehensive list of suggestions. She suggested that Council needed some time to digest the proposals and should send feedback to AN and DJJ by email.</p> <p>AN said any decision regarding increasing membership subs would have to be raised at the AGM. SSu reminded Council that subs had gone up recently and recommended leaving a future rise to 2022 or 2023.</p> <p><b>To increase benefit of membership to the affiliates there should be a nominated Council Member as contact. GP to send list of affiliated groups to Council.</b></p> <p><b>CR offered to send a monthly update email to the affiliates to improve information flow in both directions.</b></p> <p><b>AN to send CR email addresses for affiliates.</b></p> <p>DJJ raised the idea of an annual 'poster bird', seeking records for breeding birds particularly declining species. The rook was proposed as a good candidate, easy to identify, not currently being targeted by other conservation groups. AB said she would be very happy to write a paper spotlighting the rook.</p> <p>NL suggested the curlew as a priority bird for 2021 to link in with other NGOs. WOS to encourage records of birds in suitable breeding habitat this year.</p> <p><b>It was agreed to promote the curlew in 2021 and the rook in 2022. Comms team to look into promotion.</b></p>	GP CR AN DJJ / DR GP / JS
21.17	<b>Project Erebus</b>	

		<p>SSu reported that information regarding this project, including a very poor ornithological assessment, could be found online. There is no information regarding bird passage at night, or on passage at WF5 and above.</p> <p><b>SSu agreed to circulate any information that he has.</b></p>	<b>SSu</b>
21.18		<p><b>Small grant applications and panel</b></p> <p>AB reported that 6 good applications had been received. No recommendations have come back from the panel yet (IW, MG, JS and Bob Haycock), AB will report back when she has more info.</p>	
21.19		<p><b>eMedia</b></p> <p>The regularity of the newsletter was discussed. DJJ suggested the whole Comms team takes over responsibility chasing content, with DR carrying on as editor.</p> <p>DJJ suggested changing the layout to one PDF. Discussions were had on the merits of data tracking (several links) versus PDF. The Comms group will have a look at this.</p> <p>It was agreed to move the e-letter to quarterly from bi-monthly.</p> <p>JS suggested one Council member should collate the info and then DR can edit it.</p> <p>CR offered to help with this.</p> <p>DJJ has started tweeting bi-lingually in Welsh and English.</p> <p>DR reported an 80% open rate for the last E-newsletter, and a 50% rate of links being opened.</p>	
21.20		<p><b>BTO Cymru</b></p> <p>Riverine (Goosander) Survey - distance planned was 2400km of waterway, and coverage averaged 95% of plan for each catchment (access, flooding etc), all completed on schedule by end Feb. Digitising the cormorant and goosander data progressing very rapidly and analysis has begun with the first catchment fully digitised (the Usk) acting as a test-catchment for the analytical approach designed primarily using the Dee data BTO collected a few years ago. Draft report to NRW by end March.</p> <p>ECHOES - Curlew are beginning to move away from the Cefni, three birds still local as of Sunday and three gone out of range of base stations but strong message from Curlew tags is that birds are not only estuarine in winter but using lots of wet grassland up to 5km inland. Look for colour ringed birds as they move - if a bird that may be tagged is spotted breeding we will try VERY hard to get a base station to it in time!</p> <p>Geese - three birds with GPS collars showing movements between Cefni valley and Llyn Alaw, maps won't be released until the birds leave and we will be looking at their use of the two separate sites and what appears to</p>	

		<p>cause them to switch between them - lunar cycle, weather, frost, disturbance?</p> <p>A new member of staffer has been recruited.</p>	
21.21		<p><b>RSPB Cymru</b></p> <p><b>Hen Harrier</b> NRW have confirmed funding for the continuation of the satellite tagging project in 2021 with two tags unused from 2020 left and one recovered from a bird that died, the plan is to tag 7 more chicks in 2021. There are also tagged birds from previous years which we will continue to track. This will run alongside the assistant investigation officer - this post has been extended until end of March 2022 and is 50% funded by WG.</p> <p><b>Curlew</b> Gylfinir Cymru has completed the Curlew single Species Action Plan. This identifies Important Curlew Areas with aims for direct conservation action for an estimated 80% of the known population. The date of the official launch by WG is still to be confirmed but having official WG endorsement is a key strategic aim to have political backing to unlock funding. RSPB's UK LIFE project is up and running. In Wales we have significant match funding from NRW for the work. The project covers sites in the Upper Conwy catchment including Hiraethog with an estimated population. Lucy Foster is the new project officer for the Wales project and the team is working on securing necessary consents and agreements. We have delayed recruitment of the community engagement officer until restrictions are eased. We are also seeking funding for work on curlew in two other proposed ICAs – the Cefni Valley through Natur am Byth (see below) and in the Elenydd-Mallaen SACs where we are seeking WG support to carry out a survey to update population knowledge (there has been work for the known core population via the Elan Links Landscape Partnership). A reminder that <a href="#">World Curlew Day</a>, on 21 April.</p> <p><b>Chough</b> We have now been able to release news from the joint NRW/RSPB/Cross &amp; Stratford Chough Research Project completed last year. This was included in the State of the UK's Birds 2020. It shows some worrying trends in the populations of Mid and North Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 72% decrease in occupied inland territories</li> <li>• 12% decrease in occupied coastal territories</li> <li>• 25% decrease in chicks fledged per pair</li> </ul> <p>Encouragingly, we have seen better productivity over the last two breeding seasons albeit that data was limited last year. NRW and RSPB are in discussions to secure funding to carry out further work on developing an effective site condition assessment tool and to carry out diagnosis work to identify causes of reduced productivity NRW has also funded RSPB to work with the Pembrokeshire Chough Group to look at the demographics of the Pembrokeshire population. This is nearly complete.</p> <p><b>Natur am Byth! (Nature Forever!)</b> Background The project has been developed by a partnership of Natural Resources Wales (lead partner), Rethink Nature members (Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Bat Conservation Trust, Buglife, Bumblebee Conservation</p>	



Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Plantlife, and the RSPB), Marine Conservation Society and Vincent Wildlife Trust.

There are two approaches to species conservation within the programme:

- Four terrestrial area projects in which the species work is integrated (Eryri, Llŷn ac Ynys Môn, Swansea Bay and Welsh Marches) and a marine project in Llŷn a Môn and Pembrokeshire).
- Six single species projects that operate across the species' range in Wales: adder, high brown fritillary, lesser horseshoe bat, scarce yellow sally, barbastelle and shrill carder bee.

Update

A Stage 1 bid has been submitted to NLHF for £5 million to be considered in June. This is a proposed £7.4 million multi-partner project to carry out work to improve the conservation status of a range of threatened species in Wales. NRW has confirmed funding but there is still a funding gap that needs to be filled.

RSPB will be the lead for one of the areas (Anglesey and Llyn) which will include conservation action that benefits chough across and the Cefni Valley curlew population.

### **Greenland White-fronted Goose**

The PINS (Planning Inspectorate) process raised by wildfowling Dyfi regarding restrictions imposed by NRW is still ongoing to the best of our knowledge.

Dyfi Estuary population – 15 birds wintering (Initially 27 birds arrived at Ynys-hir in early November including 4 juveniles, 12 quickly moved).

A flock of 18 birds has been wintering on Anglesey including the RSPB Cors Ddyga reserve. The BTO caught eight in late January as part of the [ECHOES project](#) (the climate-change /land-use/conservation research project). Three were fitted with GPS tags, which are currently providing location information every 15 minutes, downloaded to local base-stations. All eight were also fitted with neck collars and leg rings. The birds haven't returned to the field in which they were caught.

In the four weeks since, all three have stayed together, presumably in the flock of 18, and have ranged fairly widely around the island (including a brief circuit around Puffin Island!), but feeding concentrating on the Cefni Valley and land to the north of Llyn Alaw (and roosting on the reservoir). At the end of March, the tags will switch to less frequent contact with the satellite until the end of November, which should give enough to locate stopover and breeding sites – but only if they come back to somewhere next winter where they can download the data – it's not downloaded in real time.

In the Cefni Valley, birds are using the lower end of Cors Ddyga and rye grass silage fields to the west, whereas they're on rye-grass ley around Alaw. Covid restrictions may mean this is an unusual year, as the human disturbance may not be typical. In previous years, the flock has also been around Llyn Coron, but they haven't used this area in 2021.

### **Golden Eagle – proposed reintroduction by Wilder Britain**

No further contact has been received by RSPB since the stakeholder video conference that failed due to technical issues.

### **NRW Killing of Birds review**

Reminder that there are 4 workstreams

- General and specific licences
- Fish eating birds
- Impact of shooting on waterfowl of conservation concern

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Larsen traps</li> </ul> <p>GLs - Anticipate a public consultation on changes during Aug-Oct, including General Licences. NRW has drafted some principles for GLs on which T&amp;Cs would be based.</p> <p>FEB – The BTO is finishing off the CA/GO survey in all catchments by the end of this month, to assess population size and distribution.</p> <p>Gamebird releases and Natura 2000 sites - NRW anticipate looking at the gamebird SPA stuff in August after the GL work has gone out to consultation. This is the response in Wales to the Wild Justice challenge to Defra in England about the need to assess and licence not-native gamebird releases close to designated sites.</p> <p><b>SPA (Special Protection Area) review</b> Awaiting response from WG on plan submitted by NRW supported by partners.</p> <p><b>Hawfinch</b> - Ewan Stenhouse's PhD on hawfinches (Cardiff Uni/RSPB) is finding wide variety of vegetation and inverts in diet, varying across range, probably in relation to availability. Not looking very specialist! WOS supported this project with a grant.</p>	
21.22	<p><b>Gylfinir Cymru – Curlew Recovery Plan (AC)</b></p> <p>The proposed launch of the Wales Action Plan for the Recovery of Curlew, scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, has been postponed due to delays in the formal adoption of the plan by all members of Gylfinir Cymru and subsequent impacts on the launch event. A date of September 2021 has been suggested for the rescheduled event. We've been advised that a public launch in advance of this date is not possible. However, there are opportunities to take some action in advance of the launch. For example, Mick Green has signalled his intend to write to the Minister asking her to prioritise Curlew for funding and action. I would propose that WOS contribute to and co-sign this letter.</p> <p>GP reported he has received a curlew painting from the same artist who provided one last year to publicise World Curlew Day, which will be publicised on the WOS website.</p>	
21.23	<p><b>WBRC</b></p> <p>SSt advised that many records of rarities are not being submitted to records committees, but going straight to publications such as BirdGuides or birder's own blogs. WBRC would like to follow example of BBRC and award a prize for best description submitted annually, and asked whether WOS would be prepared to award an e-membership package as 1<sup>st</sup> prize? This was agreed.</p> <p>SSu asked whether Bird Observatories and Islands would be excluded, SSt replied that only current members of the records committee would be excluded, the aim being to improve documentation.</p> <p>Welsh list proposal – AB in agreement. SSt will report back to WBRC and contact JH (editor of WBR) with view to joining WBRC Chair and Secretary in maintaining the Welsh list.</p>	

		<p>AB registered her gratitude to Reg Thorpe for his help with <i>Birds of Wales</i>.</p> <p>GP advised details of WBRC on WOS website have been updated and a featured post published.</p> <p>AB asked whether the current Welsh list was on the website, SSt thought a couple of birds might have dropped off the list. Needs checking?</p> <p>It was confirmed that the rarities records belonged to the individual recorders BUT that the Scarce and Rare birds database belonged to WOS.</p> <p>SSt asked whether the Welsh Records Panel had had a constitution. IMS had checked back through WOS minutes but there was little information available for the pertinent time period (1993). The need for a constitution for WBRC was agreed.</p> <p><b>Action AB and SSt to draft a constitution based on that for BBRC and would then present to Council for endorsement.</b></p> <p>SSt is waiting for reply from Jon Green about how old paper records have been stored/archived. Reg Thorpe believes most records from the Welsh Records Advisory Group would have been destroyed so records are probably only available from 1993 onwards. RT owns the master set of data, SSt suggested that this version should be adopted as the official data with updates held by WBRC.</p> <p>AB said a plan was needed for scanning the paper archives.</p> <p>Sub-species – some subspecies have been removed from the list as they can only be identified from DNA analysis and not through identification in the field/hand.</p> <p>It was agreed that the ownership of individual records remains with the person who made the initial submission, whereas the collated data set belongs to WBRC and thus to WOS.</p> <p>AB requested that an annual copy of the data base should come to WOS Council for CR to archive.</p>	<p>SSt / AB</p> <p>SSt / CR</p>
21.24	<p>24.01</p> <p>24.02</p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Bardsey Young Birder’s Week - SSt has been approached by British Birds offering financial support for this course. SSt asked whether WOS be interested in sponsoring, potentially £200 – all info produced for the course including t-shirts would have the WOS logo alongside Bardsey and British Bird logos</p> <p>Agreement was unanimous.</p> <p>It was discussed whether to offer general sponsorship, or to sponsor a Welsh birder. AN asked what percentage of young birders came from Wales, SSt reported very few, only 2 (DR plus one other) have ever attended.</p> <p>AB reported that she, as WOS Chair had written to Mark Drakeford to request that bird surveying should be considered part of volunteering work</p>	

		considered exempt from Covid-19 restrictions as it is in England. No response has yet been received.	
24.03		JS requested that the July Council meeting be recorded.	
24.04		Inclusion statement – raised by AC. This issue is particularly pertinent at present and many bird groups are being pro-active issuing statements. WOS needs to issue a statement ASAP.  <b>AC to word a statement and forward to Council for approval. DJJ to provide a Welsh version then both versions to be distributed on social media.</b>	AC/DJJ
24.05		Response to development projects.  AB said that WOS cannot get involved in every development project across Wales but we can offer a guidance role and point people in the right direction.  <b>DJJ has template from RSPB days, he will circulate. JS suggested including link to the Environment Act.</b>  NL said that the RSPB are putting together a ‘tool-kit’ to help with responses, we could put a link through from the WOS website when it is finished.  AB felt WOS should have its own with guidance based on good practice from RSPB etc in order to be seen to be pro-active	DJJ
24.06		MS mentioned CIEEM (Chartered Institute for Ecologists and Environmental Managers) are putting together an ornithological skills pyramid for guidance on common standards for bird surveys.	
24.07		<b>JS reported he had info on what some previous winners of the Student Research Award have gone on to do, which can be published. SSt asked for a short piece to be put together for the Bardsey newsletter which DJJ said he was happy to do.</b>	JS / DJJ
		<b>Next Council Meetings</b>	
		10 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Zoom meeting probably (JS sends apologies) 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	
		Clare Ryland	
		14 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	
		<b>Appendix WBRC Report</b>	

President: Iolo Williams

Welsh Ornithological Society is registered as a charity in England and Wales. Charity number 1037823