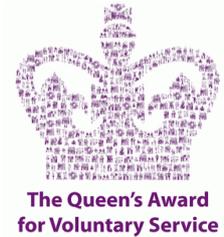




Conservation Group for the Prestwood Region
Including Great Missenden, the Hampdens,
the Kingshills, North Dean and Speen



Prestwood Nature AGM 3rd November 2015

Council Members: Chris Lee (in the Chair), Sylvia Bennett, Julie Hopton, Val Marshall, John Obee, Vanessa Rickett, Jenny Smith, Kieran Sweeney, Fiona Waller

Apologies: Lesley Stoner, Tina & David Hillas, Julian Webster, Ross McVean, Nick & Mary Heald

40 members were in attendance and 25 non-members also attended for the talk.

1 Minutes of Meeting of November 2014: - The minutes which had been circulated with the notice of the meeting were considered. Chris Lee proposed acceptance of the minutes as a true record, this was seconded by Kieran Sweeney, and the meeting agreed without objection.

2 Matters arising There were no matters arising.

3 Chairman's Address The chairman for the meeting, Chris Lee, spoke of the Society's recent activities, which had been aimed at consolidation of past progress.

The Annual Report (circulated before the meeting) mentioned the work at *Boug's Meadow*, led by John Obee, and with help from David Wildman, where an area of meadow has been cleared and seeded with wildflower seeds. A hedge trimmer, funded by a grant from Great Missenden Parish Revitalisation Group, has been purchased for the boundary hedge with the carpark.

The *Butterfly Transect*, managed by Sylvia Bennett has completed 10 years of recording, and has become a valuable data set.

Sheepwash Pond, awaiting a consultant's report, has had a somewhat disappointing year with very few natural history records. There have, however been several ducks regularly using the pond, and it is feared that feeding and encouraging them has had a detrimental effect on other species. The meeting was asked to refrain from feeding the ducks and encouraging others to desist too.

Finally the chairman pointed out the development, year on year, of the *Prestwood Nature website*, through the care and interest of Frank Rickett.

Evening talks A talk on *Glow-worms* had been well received by members and some non-members too, and was followed by an evening visit to Prestwood Nature Reserve, at which glow-worms had been found, amongst other nocturnal insects. John Morris has spoken about *Angling Spring Wood*, and will be followed by a walk in the woods later in November.

4 Accounts 2014-15 Chris Lee the Treasurer had prepared the accounts. These were circulated before the meeting and had been seen and agreed by the Examiner, Ian Mead. The Chairman asked that the accounts be accepted and adopted. This was proposed by Fiona Waller, seconded by Kieran Sweeney and carried by the meeting without objection.

5 Election of Council Members

Chairman There were no nominations for the role, so the post was left open for the time-being, during which time the council would run without a Chair.

Secretary Lesley Stoner has served six years will stand down. **Jenny Smith** was nominated to take on the office, she was proposed by Fiona Waller, seconded by Kieran Sweeney and carried by the meeting without objection.

Ordinary Members One new council member had been nominated, and was willing and able to be elected. **Ross McVean** was proposed by Sylvia Bennett, seconded by Jenny Smith and carried by the meeting without objection.

Lesley Stoner was willing to stand for Ordinary membership. She was proposed by John Obee, seconded by David Cann and carried by the meeting without objection.

Sylvia Bennett was standing down as an ordinary member of the Council. She was thanked for her time and commitment to the Council.

6 Re-nomination of the Examiner of Accounts

Ian Mead's re-nomination was proposed by John Obee, seconded by Fiona Waller and carried by the meeting without objection.

7 AOB

The **Queen's Award for Voluntary Service** will be held in 2016 by Frank Rickett for his commitment and dedication to the hosting and development of the website www.prestwoodnature.org and printing of publicity materials with a clear house style.

Chris Jolly asked that the Council consider making available a map showing PN work party and nature reserve sites. This will be taken forward to the next Council meeting.

There followed an informative and entertaining talk by Dr Pat Morris on the Edible Dormouse, *Glis glis*, a protected pest.