



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



Prestwood Nature AGM 7th November 2017

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

Apologies: Frank and Rita Fermor

36 people were in attendance.

Junior Photography Competition.

The evening began with the award of certificates to the leading entrants in the Junior Photography Competition. The entries were on display and had all been of a good standard - all entrants were thanked for their efforts and presented with a certificate. The judges awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates for the outstanding photos.

Gold Awards	Isabelle Warren- 14	Fallow Deer
	Annie Sutcliffe -13	Aphids on Poppy
Silver awards	Annie Sutcliffe -13	Bumblebee on Cornflower
	Heather Nixey - 16	Red Kite in mid-air
Bronze awards	Hanna Lukasiewicz - 12	Scarlet Waxcap fungus
	Hannah Eades - 13	Expressive Sheep

Keith Tyrrell (Chairman of the judges) pointed out the qualities of the winning photos.

Prestwood Nature AGM

1 Minutes of Meeting of November 2016: - The minutes which had been circulated with the notice of the meeting were considered. Jeanette Hedley proposed acceptance, this was seconded by David Cann, and the meeting agreed without objection.

2 Matters arising There were no matters arising.

3 Chairman's Address

The chair, Vanessa Rickett, spoke of the Society's activities since the last AGM.

The Annual Report (circulated before the meeting) highlighted the heightened importance of the waxcap fungi assemblage in Holy Trinity Churchyard, which as a result has been declared a Local Wildlife Site, a Churchyard Nature Reserve and warrants assessment as an internationally important waxcap grassland.

Angling Spring Wood was visited by the Botanical Society of British Isles bramble experts and located stands of rare brambles. These will be marked and protected in future.

The *Butterfly Transect*, co-ordinated by Sylvia Bennett, has completed 12 years of recording. The disappointing weather had impacted on both the number of days available for transect and numbers of butterflies seen.

The work at *Boug's Meadow*, led by John Obee, with help from David Wildman and Paul Heath, had been boosted this year by a sizeable grant from the Co-operative store in Great Missenden. As a result it has been possible to extend the area of meadow which has been cleared and seeded with wildflower seeds, and wildflower plugs. PN is grateful for the support of the Cooperative Store and its customers, and also Chiltern Rangers and the Little Kingshill Combined School eco-warriors, on Community Day.

Sheepwash Pond dipping platform has been subject to two incidents of damage by vandalism this year. Mark Cunnane has twice repaired the damage to the platform, giving his time and materials without charge, for which PN is very grateful. It has also been heartening to hear from the community that Sheepwash is a valued part of the local environment and that they support our efforts to enhance the pond and the area around it.

Pollinator-Friendly Garden and *Kiln Common Orchard* both received positive comments from other residents and passers-by, establishing their value as part of the local environment.

Wicked Wednesdays For five Wednesdays in August Great Missenden Library opened its side room to PN volunteers to introduce one topic (bees, moths, bats, seeds and slugs) each week to the local children and their families. There were different ways of exploring each topic and take-home artwork.

4 Accounts 2016-17 Chris Lee the Treasurer had prepared the accounts. These were circulated before the meeting and had been seen and agreed by the Examiner, Steve Adkins. Chris Lee asked that the accounts be accepted which was carried unanimously.

5 Election of Council Members

Treasurer Thanks were accorded to Chris Lee, who has served as Treasurer for 6 years and is now standing down. Colin Tyler was nominated as Treasurer by Fiona Waller, seconded by Chris Lee and approved unanimously by the members present.

Ordinary Members One new council member had been nominated, and was willing and able to be elected. **Val Marshall** was proposed by Julie Hopton, seconded by Marilyn Fletcher and approved by the meeting without objection.

6. Nomination of the Examiner of Accounts

Steve Adkins was nominated as Examiner of Accounts and was proposed by David Page, seconded by Tony Marshall and carried by the meeting without objection.

7 Special Mention

Vanessa thanked **John Obee** for his service to the Council over 12 years, which included 6 years as Chair, and continuing as Project Leader at Boug's. **Fiona Waller** has supported PN as Chair for 3 years and as Treasurer for 6 years and is also Project Leader at Sheepwash. **Chris Lee** has been 6 years as Treasurer and an active Council Member. Thanks to all for their commitment to Prestwood Nature, and we look forward to seeing you in future at our meetings and activities.

8 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

This will be held in 2018 by David Wildman for his commitment and dedication to the work and thought given throughout the year at Boug's Meadow, both at organised work parties and in his own time.

9 AOB

Peter Daltry asked that the Council consider an Adult Photography Competition. This will be considered by the Council.

There followed an informative talk by Roger Wilding titled Fascinating Fungi