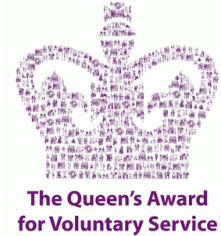




Conservation Group for the Prestwood Region  
Including Great Missenden, the Hampdens,  
the Kingshills, North Dean and Speen  
[www.prestwoodnature.org](http://www.prestwoodnature.org)



## Prestwood Nature AGM

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Held via on-line platform Zoom due to the  
restrictions caused by the covid-19 pandemic

Agreed at AGM 2nd November 2021

Vanessa Rickett, Chair

**Council Members:** Vanessa Rickett (in the Chair), Jenny Smith (Secretary),  
Colin Tyler (Treasurer), Helen Matthews (Membership Secretary),  
Val Marshall, Chris Jolly and Tim Pye.

**In attendance:** 32 members were in attendance.

1. **Apologies:** Helen Bartington, Hazel Tyler, Julie Hopton, Mike and Elizabeth Excel.
2. **Minutes of Meeting of November 2019:** The minutes which had been circulated with the notice of the meeting were agreed and signed as correct without objection.
3. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Chair's Address:**

The chair, Vanessa Rickett, spoke of the Society's activities since the last AGM. These had been affected by the restrictions caused by the covid-19 pandemic which is on-going. Events planned up to mid-March were held, some site maintenance works have progressed with a new pond planned at the Pollinator Friendly Garden. After initially ceasing the butterfly transect was able to proceed as normal.

The **Annual Report** (which had been circulated before the meeting) reflected PN's activities during the course of the year.

### Items mentioned not in the Annual Report

**Council meetings** are now held virtually rather than in person.

**A tools inventory** has been completed with a view to finding a new home for the tools currently stored in Tony and Val Marshalls garage.

**Risk Assessments** have been completed by Tim Pye for activities taking place incorporating the covid-19 restrictions/guidance as necessary. A constantly changing process keeping up to date with the Government regulations.

**Newsletter and Facebook.** Three editions of the Newsletter have been produced by Val Marshall during the year. A Facebook page has been set up and maintained by Helen Matthews reaching a new audience in Prestwood.

**New Council members** are required to replace the Treasurer and fill vacancies. In 2021 a new secretary will also be required.

**Additional Donations.** Two donations received. One kindly donated by the friends and family of the late Ray Tomlin, a member who enjoyed the peace and serenity of Boug's. The other gratefully received from Bucks County Beekeepers towards encouraging pollinating insects on our sites.

**Sites continue to be maintained** chiefly by individuals or two or three people socially distanced. Sylvia Bennett at Sheepwash with assistance from local residents with litter picking and other PN volunteers with hedge trimming. Colin Tyler has been taking care of the orchard. The apples grown being used to produce 24 bottles of juice distributed as thank you amongst volunteers at various sites.

**Angling Spring Wood.** We have done little work in Angling Spring Wood in 2020 due to lack of volunteers and without support and direction from Buckinghamshire Council the owners of the wood we shall need to consider over the next year whether we can continue our involvement with this wood.

**Looking ahead to 2021.** We need to plan to work within the Covid-19 regulations as they change. Adapting as we go along - social distancing, lone working and use of masks and sanitisers all help to keep us safe and the green sites open. We are looking to hold some walks and arrange virtual meetings to hear from speakers or maybe meet out in the open and encourage more members to join.

**Big thank you** to everyone attending the virtual AGM.

- 5. Presentation of the Queen's Award.** The certificate and crystal are to be held by Sylvia Bennett for the forthcoming year. This is in recognition of her many years caring for Sheepwash, serving on the council together with her role as butterfly transect co-ordinator and involvement with all our other projects.

**Recognition of service** of Council members standing down.

- Val Marshal - 6 years as Council member, producing the newsletters almost from the start of PN, together with general help with PN Activities.
- Tim Pye - 2 Years as Council member. Responsible for the risk assessments, project managing the pond restoration at the Pollinator Friendly Garden and publicising the events particularly on the website.
- Colin Tyler - 3 years as Treasurer. Physical work at the sites, particularly Boug's and the orchard.

## **6. Accounts 2019-20**

Colin Tyler had prepared the accounts. The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis rather than profit and loss. The last two years have shown a deficit as two large donations received from the Co-op earlier were spent in 2018/19 and 2019/20. These were for Boug's Meadow for a new bench, information board and planting in the meadow area.

The accounts have been examined and agreed by the Independent Examiner, Steve Adkins.

After 1<sup>st</sup> April we've received the two donations and spent £220 carrying out emergency tree work at Boug's to make the area safe. Bucks Council have yet to reimburse us as agreed. A gift aid claim for the last two years has been submitted. PN needs approx. £1k income to cover the annual costs of insurance, site maintenance and general running costs.

Ideas needed for actioning to use funds for PN objectives in the future.

Vote to approve the accounts - carried.

**7. Election of Treasurer and Council Members**

**Ordinary Member:** Julie Hopkins was nominated by Helen Matthews and seconded by Jenny Smith – carried by the meeting

**Treasurer: In the absence of anyone standing** Vanessa has agreed to stand in as Treasurer until someone is co-opted. Proposed by Helen Matthews, seconded by Jenny Smith carried by the meeting.

**8. Nomination of the Examiner of Accounts**

Steve Adkins was proposed as the Examiner of Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 by Helen Matthews and seconded by Jenny Smith. Carried by the meeting.

**9. AOB** No items were raised - the meeting closed.