

Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Held at the University of Stirling on the 22nd May 2008

1. Welcome and Apologies – Chairman, Prof Dave Goulson

The chairman and Trust director, Professor Dave Goulson welcomed 12 members to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Lara Goulson (BBCT Director) who was again unable to make it to the AGM due to family commitments.

2. Register of Attendees

Those present signed a register, which has been duly lodged in the minutes book

3. Chairman's Report – Chairman, Prof Dave Goulson

Dave Goulson gave a summary of the Trust's activities over the last 12 months, as outlined in the Annual Report to the Charity Commission. The Trust has:
Increased membership since last year by ~340 (total now 2039)

Recruited 2 staff (C. Nitsch & R. Dawson) (1 staff member had departed, B. England)

Raised awareness of bumblebee conservation through the media (national and local newspapers, radio & television).

Run ~15 training days for bumblebee recorders, including one for countryside rangers

Gained funding from Esmee Fairbairn Trust (£98k)

Distributed education packs for primary schools in Scotland (~400)

Part-funded 2 PhD students researching bumblebee ecology

Successfully created a bumblebee wildflower meadow of ~8Ha at Vane Farm, Kinross.

Run a national bumblebee survey "Beewatch 2007", obtaining ~7,000 bee records. Obtained 35,000 bee records from our partnership with British Trust for Ornithology "Garden Birdwatch" scheme. Collectively these greatly improve our understanding of bumblebee distributions.

Set up a wildflower garden at University of Stirling

Set up a wildflower garden at Argaty Red Kite Centre

Produced a booklet on gardening for bumblebees

Produced two rounds of advisory leaflets regarding Great Yellow Bumblebees for farmers and crofters, in conjunction with RSPB

Obtained funding from SNH for a seed harvester

Produced our own seed packets

Joined Scottish environment link

4. Financial Report and Annual Accounts – Treasurer, Dr Ben Darvill

Ben Darvill, BBCT Director and Treasurer gave a financial report, based on the 3-page Treasurers Report (which was presented to those members present and has been lodged in the minutes book). In summary:

Full accounts for the financial year 2006-2007 have been signed off, and are available from the Charity Commission website, or on request from BBCT. These accounts were presented to those present at the meeting and unanimously approved.

Accounts for 2007-2008 are being finalised, an BD expressed his apologies that the full accounts were not fully completed due to the short interval between the end of the BBCT financial year and the holding of the AGM. For the benefit of those present BD presented an summary of estimated figures as follows:

In brief:

Income totalled ~£131,500

Expenditure totalled ~£99,000

Total net assets were estimated at £84,578

Looking forward, BD noted that in the near future 4 full-time staff would be on the books, resulting in an estimated wage bill for 2008-2009 of £94,000. Based on projections of likely unrestricted and restricted expenditure, it was estimated that the new 'Ecologist and Development Manager' would need to attract in excess of £40,000 of additional unrestricted funds to maintain or add to the Trust's £50,000 reserve.

5. Resignation of Directors

Prof Dave Goulson stood down as Director with immediate effect

6. Election of Directors

Ben Darvill nominated Dave Goulson to be re-elected as Director, the motion was seconded by Dr Kirsty Park, and unanimously agreed by those present. DG was therefore re-elected as Director.

7. Discussion of the proposal to postpone the next AGM.

BD explained that up to 15 months are allowed to pass between successive AGMs. In order that the finished accounts can be presented for approval at future AGM's, BD proposed that the next AGM be held on or around the 22nd August 2009. The motion was seconded by Bob Dawson, and passed unanimously by all members present.

8. Other Relevant Business

There were no other matters raised

9. Thanks and closing comments

Dave Goulson finished the meeting by thanking those present for attending.

Approved and dated this _____ day of _____ 20____

Approved by: _____
