

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

Held at the University of Stirling on the 21st August 2009

1. Welcome and Apologies – Chairman, Prof Dave Goulson

The chairman and Trust director, Professor Dave Goulson welcomed 10 members to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Lara Goulson and Dr. Paul Williams (BBCT Directors) who were unable to attend the AGM.

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 year, as outlined in the Annual Report to the Charity Commission. The Trust has:

Increased membership since last year by ~3,450 (total now 5,500)

Recruited 4 staff (E. Heskey, N. Rolph, P. Rayner, N. Gammans) (1 staff member departed, L. Southern)

Raised awareness of the plight of the bumblebee at national events and through extensive media coverage, including Springwatch, Countryfile and in BBC Wildlife Magazine (plus national and local newspapers, radio & television).

Run ~15 training days for bumblebee recorders

Gained funding from Scottish Natural Heritage, the Mackintosh Foundation and Natural England (96.5k in total)

Part-funded 2 PhD students researching bumblebee ecology

Continued to manage the successful bumblebee wildflower meadow of ~8Ha at Vane Farm, Kinross.

Run a national bumblebee survey "Beewatch", obtaining ~5,000 bee records.

Encouraged wildlife friendly gardening around the country, including producing and distributing over 4,000 copies of our book *Gardening for Bumblebees*.

Distributed advisory leaflets regarding Great Yellow Bumblebees for farmers and crofters, in conjunction with RSPB

Distributed several thousand bumblebee-friendly seed packets

Engaged with Scottish Environment Link and influenced developing policy in Scotland.

Supported land management initiatives to improve habitats for some of the rarest species of bumblebee, with additional benefits for other insects, mammals and birds.

Appeared on BBC Gardener's World, encouraging wildlife friendly gardening

Worked with 122 Wyevalde garden centres to promote bee-friendly planting

Received support from Chris Packham, Kate Humble, Mike Dilger and Sir David Attenborough

Developed and run a pilot transect recording scheme to measure change in bumblebee abundance.

Run national surveys to map the distributions of the Blaeberry and Tree bumblebees.

Working in partnership with Natural England, Hymettus and RSPB on the reintroduction of the short-haired bumblebee from New Zealand (ongoing).

Liaised with government bodies and NGOs and meet with MPs to influence land management for the benefit of bumblebees.

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

Ben Darvill, BBCT Director and Treasurer talked those present through the Treasurers Report (which has also been lodged in the minutes book).

In summary:

Full accounts for the financial year 2007-2008 have been signed off, and are available from the Charity Commission website, or on request from BBCT. These accounts were presented to attendees, and their approval was proposed by Kirsty Park and unanimously approved.

Accounts for FY2008-2009 are being finalised, an BD expressed his apologies that the full accounts were not yet fully completed. A summary of estimated figures was presented, as follows:

In brief:

Income totalled ~£125,000

Expenditure totalled ~£140,000

Total net assets were estimated at £63,000

5. Resignation of Directors

Lara Goulson had given notice of her intension to stand down as a Director (on rotation)

6. Election of Directors

Lara Goulson had also given notice of her willingness to be re-elected. Ben Darvill therefore nominated Lara Goulson to be re-elected as Director, the motion was seconded by Matthew Tinsley, and unanimously agreed by those present. LG was therefore re-elected as Director.

7. Other Relevant Business

There were no other matters raised

8. Thanks and closing comments

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

Approved and dated this Twenty-fifth day of August 2009

Approved by:
