

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of the Seabird group held at the Duke of Gordon's Hotel, Kingussie on 19th November 2005

Mark Tasker was in the chair with Alan Leitch as secretary. Twenty-six members were present. Apologies were received from Ian Darling, Adrian Blackburn, Chris Waltho and John Davies.

1. Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 39th AGM were circulated and read by Mark Tasker. They were proposed by Mike Harris and seconded by Rab Morton.

2. Matters arising

Chris Wernham commented on seawatching in place of Chris Waltho. There had been plenty of responses, some cautionary, but not enough to set up a full seawatching community. A report will be prepared for the next AGM.

3. 40th Annual Report of the Seabird Group

The report was circulated and commented on by Alan Leitch. Bob Swann asked about the journal which was difficult to answer in the absence of Jim Reid. There were further comments from the floor on the small number which had been produced. **AP.** Mark Tasker to take back a message regarding the concerns about the small issue rate to Jim Reid. **AP** Papers for the journal are to be promoted at the conference. The report was proposed by Mike Harris and seconded by Chris Wernham.

4. Accounts and Treasurers Report

The accounts and report were circulated to all present. In the absence of the treasurer there was no discussion. The accounts were proposed by Andrew Ramsay and seconded by Sarah Wanless. The report was proposed by Mike Harris and seconded by Linda Wilson.

5. Election of Officers

An apology was made to the members about the lack of notice given about changes to the committee. Martin Heubeck was due to stand down and Chris Wernham wished to retire, but proposed Liz Humphries in her place as newsletter editor. The floor were informed that the executive committee had decided to co-opt Martin Heubeck, largely because of his invaluable expertise in arranging the conference, for a further year and to accept Liz Humphries in place of Chris Wernham. There were no objections to these decisions. The chair thanked Chris Wernham for all her work on the newsletter.

6. Any Other Business

An update was given on the next conference arrangements. In response to a question about the time of year by Mike Harris, the floor was informed that this was necessary because of the University academic year. Papers were to be called for in a few weeks, and insurance arrangements were being checked on before costs were finalised.