

Sat 7 Nov, 2020, 11.00 ZOOM

Chair: Simon Saville

Attendance **21** (quorum 15); email voters **22**

1 Apologies Graham Revill

2 Minutes from 2019 AGM

Approved.

Michael Friend objected that there was no record of the discussion of our “no dogs” policy for field trips, and that the policy has never been formally agreed.

SS replied: This was part of the Q & A.

There were no resolutions, and no votes, so no decisions were made.

3 Matters arising none

4 Chair Report see slides presentation on <https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/surrey-and-sw-london-branch/surrey-sw-london-agm-members-days>

5 Treasurer

Outgoing Treasurer Peter Camber summarised his report and statement that was in the Autumn Skipper.

6 Committee unanimously re-elected:

Clive Huggins, Francis Kelly, Paul Wheeler

SS thanked PC for his nine years service.

A new Treasurer is needed. The job is less onerous than it used to be since HO assumed control, and does not require specialist accounting skills.

SS thanked FK for this work on the Skipper and the savings in effort and cost that the online policy has delivered.

7 Any Other Business

David Hasell: I would like to register my discontent about last year’s Photo Show winner. It should never have been a valid entry. It was not a natural setting, the Long-tailed Blue having been brought from another site. And it goes against the spirit of the competition — taking photos of butterflies you come across in Surrey.

FK replied: I shared some of David's reservations, but the magnificence of the

photo was the overwhelming factor in my accepting it as an entry.

Ken Owen thanked Sanctuary Homes for sponsoring 400 butterfly ID posters, initially for distribution to schools etc in the Merstham area.

More details in the Spring Skipper.

8 Q & A

Ken Elsom: Why has BC has suspended work parties during the November lockdown when other organisations are continuing?

Bill Downey replied: It is up to individual organisations how they interpret the unclear rules. Surrey Branch is subject to the policies of BC HO. Additionally, as we own no land of our own, we have to comply with rules set by various land managers which may differ from those issued by BC. Thus we have not been able to hold any work parties on National Trust land so far this year.

Caroline Woodley asked about the London Sub-Committee mentioned in Chair’s report.

SS replied: This includes connected organisations, e.g. LWT. Its activities will be influenced by the decision in December regarding funding for the Big City Butterflies project (Skipper, page 4).

Mike Weller encouraged members to look for the Wall Brown, especially in the Colley Hill area. The species may be making a return to Surrey.

Nigel Jackman would like online talks or additional newsletters to balance the loss of events caused by Covid-19.

BD said new contributors would need to step forward. We plan a search on Epsom Common for Hairstreak eggs, Black & Brown, when Covid rules allow.

● Meeting closed: 12.05