

**Butterfly Conservation East Scotland Branch  
Committee Meeting 23 November 2021 (via Zoom)**

**1. Attendees**

Apithanny Bourne, Suzanne Smith, Colin Whitehead, Richard Buckland, Elspeth Christie, Gillian Fyfe, Helen Rowe, Katty Baird, Michael Scott, David Lampard, Colin Edwards

**Apologies**

Cathy Caudwell, Glyn Edwards, Mark Cubitt

**2. Approval of last minutes**

Minutes of last meeting approved.

**3. Outstanding actions from last meeting**

Grant winners have sent in photos of the butterfly gardens they have created.

There is a chairs meeting on 17 January and Apithanny will raise how the head of Wales Scotland and Northern Ireland will split his time.

**4. General update on BC**

Paul Brooks and Nigel Voaden have stepped down from the committee, though they are still active volunteers.

Anthony McClusky has been looking at the type of volunteers we need. We asked for 3 school volunteers (to talk to schools/groups), and events coordinator and a social media volunteer. The next step is to hold a training session for new volunteers.

There is a new Scottish trustee, Glenn Allison, who is keen to meet branch members.

BC have invested in a new database to make things easier in terms of tracking membership etc. However, they are having a few teething issues.

The 2026 strategy has been set. It gives the senior leadership team targets to work towards. The impact statements and aims were written by the trustees and passed to the SLT, they were then finalised as a group. There is some good relationship building going on between the SLT and trustees. There will be workshops on how the branches can support the new strategy. BC has found a new voice in terms of campaigning issues, the environment and youth engagement.

BC's goals are:

1. Halve the number of the UK's threatened species of butterflies and moths
2. Improve the condition of 100 of the most important landscapes for butterflies and moths
3. Transform 100,000 wild spaces in the UK for people butterflies and moths

They want to work with other charities and landowners to achieve these goals.

Tom and Anthony will be running workshops next year for the branches to help plan a strategy to meet these goals. Habitat management will be discussed at these workshops and tailored to each branch's needs.

We could have a mini workshop at our next meeting to gather ideas.

### **5.Branch Finances**

We have £4900 in the bank

We have £1800 unspent budget from this financial year. Our main expense was the £3000 given to the Scottish office and £1000 spent on equipment.

Michael asked about getting some branded publicity stuff, bunting, signs, banners, sweatshirts? Apithanny will find out what we have and the company that makes them for us. There is a person down south who organises orders for polo shirts if anyone wants one. Shona's contract has been extended for a year and her role added to grant applications.

### **6.Future committee meetings**

It was agreed that we should try for an in-person meeting in Edinburgh in the Spring and an online meeting in Autumn.

### **7.Regional updates**

Richard and everyone agreed that the Fife report we received from Gillian and Elspeth was very good.

Gillian and Elspeth had a good day at Tenstmuir doing habitat management. There were about 13 people there including staff from Nature Scotland. Anthony wants to arrange a couple of follow up sessions.

Michael is attending a workshop with Anthony about running events. It was suggested that we should have a presence at the Fife show that is usually the third Saturday in May and the Union Show on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July. There is also an environment day at Duthie Park.

Ninewells community gardens have had several successful moth trapping events.

If anyone has any ideas for student projects, let Apithanny know.

### **8.AOB**

We are still missing chunks of data to complete the distribution maps. We have been waiting a year for this information. Apithanny will email Julie. Gillian will let Apithanny know exactly what data we need

### **Circulation of Minutes**

All Committee members, Diane Garland, Sarah Foden, CMRs, CBRs.

