



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2002
HELD AT DUNDEE UNIVERSITY
2nd MARCH 2002
AT 13:30

The Chair, Anne-Marie Smout (AMS), welcomed members to the AGM.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Keith Bland, J. Greenwood, Paul Kirkland

2. Minutes of previous AGM (17/3/01) at Inverness Museum

Proposed by Gordon Corbet and seconded by Tom Huxley the minutes were approved by the meeting.

3. Chair's Report (Previously circulated with Newsletter)

AMS highlighted main points in the report. Also, the forthcoming BRISC publication on the Natural History Societies in Scotland which should be available in the Spring of 2002. AMS reported that the distribution of the Source Book on CD or floppy disk was still to be actioned. Members were asked to complete the SWOT analysis (previously circulated) which the Committee hoped would prove useful in highlighting key issues for consideration for the next year.

The members congratulated AMS on the high quality of the Newsletter.

4. Membership Secretary's Report

Membership Secretary, Lesley Brown, gave a breakdown of the current membership. Total members stood at 122 (66 down on 2001) made up of 33 corporate, 83 individual, 7 reciprocal and 10 outside Scotland.

Members were asked to encourage membership of BRISC wherever possible and to distribute the new leaflets as widely as possible.

5. Treasurer's Report (Previously circulated with Newsletter)

The Treasurer, Mark Simmons, answered questions from the floor concerning some confusion about the layout of the Accounts and the relative balances compared to previous years.

6. Website

The Website Manager, Andy Wakelin, gave a report on the current state of the Website and indicated that it need to be restructured to accommodate the material currently available (notably the bumblebee survey). The change of ISP from PlusNet to Supanames had gone smoothly and should be a considerable saving in costs. Visitor statistics were ,on average, 8 per day. Members were encouraged to use the website and make suggestions for further enhancements.

7. Report on Strategic Document

AMS highlighted the fact that most of the objectives set out in the Strategic Document had been met but a few had not been achieved (see Chair's Report). These would be tackled by the Committee in the coming year.

8. Development Officer's post

News of the success of the bid to the Esmie Fairburn Trust and to SNH for matching funding was reported to members. The BTCV will employ and provide office accommodation for the new post, but direction would come from a sub-committee of the main BRISC committee. AMS clarified the financial arrangements for this post in answer to questions from the floor.

AMS asked that anyone interested in applying for the post should "register an interest" with the Committee as soon as possible.

9. Election of Committee

AMS appealed for a volunteer for the position Treasurer to replace Mark Simmons who had indicated his wish to stand down. Jon Mercer volunteered and was proposed by Ross Spalding and seconded by Richard Weddle. Ross Spalding thanked Mark for all his hard work as treasurer over the past 6 years.

Julie Bett (Fife Nature) had volunteered to be a committee member and was proposed by Mark Simmons and seconded by Gordon Corbet. David Beaumont (RSPB) had agreed to be co-opted.

Steve Hunt indicated that he could not continue on the Committee due to pressure of work.

The remaining members of the Committee were elected en-bloc.

10. Approval of Auditors

An offer to examine the Accounts was received from ????????

11. A.O.C.B.

No matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 14:15