



Annual General Meeting

18th January 2022 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Item	Action by																											
<p>Apologies: Rod Blackshaw, Vicci Camm, Bobby Hughes, Mary Rush.</p>																												
<p>Minutes from the previous AGM (21st January 2021)</p>	<p>Adopted</p>																											
<p>Treasurer's Report 2021 (Rod Blackshaw)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Overview</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Opening Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">680.62</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">4392.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1130.63</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closing Balance</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">3942.93</td> </tr> </table> <p>Budget Constraints</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Tree planting funds¹</td> <td style="text-align: right;">226.25</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-op funded project²</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3058.20</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Known 2022 Expenditure</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Insurance³</td> <td style="text-align: right;">160.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Web site sinking fund⁴</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">80.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Available Flexible Funds 418.50</p> <p>Notes to the Accounts</p> <p>¹Surplus funds from voluntary donations to buy trees for community planting ²Restricted to expenditure linked to the proposed project ³Increased from £112 in 2020 ⁴CW paid for a website and domain name for 3 years at a cost of £238.44. We need to set aside funds annually to pay for renewal in 2024.</p>	Overview	£		Opening Balance	680.62		Income		4392.90	Expenditure	1130.63		Closing Balance		3942.93	Tree planting funds ¹	226.25		Co-op funded project ²	3058.20		Insurance ³	160.00		Web site sinking fund ⁴		80.00	
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<p>Chairman's Report (Dave Smallshire), incorporating the Secretary's report (Sue Smallshire)</p> <p>Achievements in 2021</p> <p>2021 had been a very successful year, despite further constraints on indoor gatherings due to Covid-19. The following are some of the highlights:</p> <p>Gardening for Wildlife – following a leaflet 'maildrop', Sue had made and distributed about 100 signs. Due largely to this increased exposure, our membership more than doubled: the mailing list is now 225.</p> <p>Chudfest Open Gardens – run this year by CW, with thanks to Bobbie and Mary; over £500 generated, as well as raising interest in, and support for, gardening for wildlife.</p> <p>Wildlife Gardening Group – Barbara Steel started up this group; an initial meeting discussed ponds and their management.</p> <p>Seed Buggy – thanks to Tess for organising this, whereby free seeds were given out on Saturdays in the spring.</p>																												

Volunteers Group – run by Tess, tasks included litter picking; planting native wildflowers and bulbs; weeding insect-friendly patches; and grass-raking and removal on the Lawn Drive verges, where relaxed mowing again and c50 Yellow Rattle plants flowered.

Bat Group – several evening meetings have included providing initial training for Teignbridge Wildlife Wardens; observing a Troarn Way Common Pipistrelle roost (106 emerged); SM4 detectors borrowed from DWT were deployed for 33 two- or three-night sessions at strategic locations; and Fiona Mathews was helped with a trial of the Motus tracking system on Greater Horseshoe Bats.

Harcombe orchid counts – seven species flowered this year, including about 300 Greater Butterfly, 161 Early Purple, 5 Southern Marsh, 6 Bee, 38 Twayblades and well over 1000 Common Spotted Orchids. We also found dozens of Common Spotted Orchids in a meadow at Holman's Wood, where 9 Bee Orchids and one Pyramidal Orchid flowered along the entrance drive. The orchids are quite an attraction to visitors there and Chudleigh Wild has provided a laminated poster, illustrating four of the species, for the reception office.

CH2 site meeting with Lord Clifford, Wain Homes and Chudleigh Town Councillors to learn about plans for new Public Open Spaces at the proposed CH2 housing development.

Batfields Reserve – we carried out management of the 'bat run' and SUDS field on behalf of DWT and held two very successful community bat evenings in August, with about 100 people attending.

Swift Watch – two evenings were held in July, thanks again to Tess.

Co-op Good Cause Fund – awarded us £3058 to create a nature trail; a route and 12 points of interest has been formulated and agreement is being sought from CTC and the Parochial Church Council.

Wildlife Wardens – Tess Frost, Sue Smallshire, Vicci Camm and now Peter Warn are WWs for the Parish; they had been asked to demonstrate what CW had done and how others in Devon might achieve similar aims.

New website – many thanks to Emma Smith for helping us to build our own website, which removes our reliance on CTC and, through the use of Mailchimp, resolves problems with bulk mailings of the newsletter etc.

Wildlife in 2021 – Exceptional is the word to describe spring 2021! April was very dry and very cold, while most of May was cold, wet and windy. As a result, insects were extremely scarce, which had implications not just for them but also for the bats and breeding birds that depend upon them. Sun and warmth finally arrived at the end of May and in June plants seemed to surge up in front of our very eyes! After discovering Firecrests in the older spruce plantations on Haldon last spring, it was nice to find them apparently breeding in Riding Parks this year. Another rare species and one that has its stronghold in South Devon, the Cirl Bunting has a toehold in the Parish and a singing bird was seen in June. We still have small numbers of typical farmland birds, like Skylark and Yellowhammer, associated with arable land. There was a remarkable record of an Otter eating a fish one evening in October in Kate Brook, viewed by the light of a mobile phone from the bottom of a garden in Millstream Meadow; unfortunately, a traffic casualty was found dead on the roadside on Station Hill soon afterwards.

Looking ahead – We will be setting up surveys of the Teign, Kate Brook and Bramble Brook as part of the **River Teign Restoration Project**. We are also organising the Chudfest **Open Gardens** again, on 25 & 26 June and a request was made for support; not only will we get a proportion of the ticket sales, but also any money raised on the day through sales of plants and refreshments. As part of the **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations** on 2-5 June, Chudfest has asked if CW would like to be involved in plans to decorate the War Memorial with flowers; volunteers were sought to help with this.

Election of committee

The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were all happy to continue.

Officers: Dave Smallshire (Chair), Sue Smallshire (Secretary), Rod Blackshaw (Treasurer)

<p>Other Posts: Audrey Compton (Events Officer), Tessa Frost (Work Party Organiser), Sue Smallshire (Newsletter Editor), John Whetman (Land Management Advisor), Emma Smith (Website and Social Media)</p> <p>ACT Wildlife Wardens: Vicci Camm, Tess Frost, Sue Smallshire, Peter Warn</p> <p>Other Committee Members: Vicci Camm, Jenny Davies, Kelly Gayler, Bobby Hughes, Greg Macqueen, Alison Phillips, Mary Rush</p> <p>All the above were re-elected en bloc.</p>	
<p>AOB: None</p>	
<p>Date of next AGM: January 2022 (TBA)</p>	
<p>After the AGM, Dave gave a talk on 'Birds of the Exe Estuary'</p>	