

British Ornithologists' Club
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
12 JUNE 2012

A Special General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club was held in Room SALC 3, Sheffield Building, Imperial College, London SW7 2AZ on Tuesday 12 June 2012 at 5.40pm with Miss H. Baker in the chair. Thirteen members were present. Apologies were received from Mr K. F. Betton, Mr S. E. Chapman, Mr S. P. Dudley, Revd. T. W. Gladwin, Mr S. M. S. Gregory, Dr J. P. Hume, Mr G. M. Kirwan, Mr P. J. Oliver, Mr R. C Price, Dr P. Rudge and Mr P. J. Wilkinson.

Item 1 Special resolution to propose the adoption of the new Rules for the Club in accordance with the draft special resolution attached.

The Chairman reminded members that the proposed Rules, the special resolution and the Agenda for the Special General Meeting had been published in the *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 131: 225-232. All present had a copy. She explained that current Rules dating from 2000 needed to be amended as permitted under Rule 40. The proposed Rules were based on the latest model produced by the Charity Commission. During their preparation the Committee had been advised by a solicitor whose areas of expertise included charity law. He had drafted the special resolution. The Chairman referred to a table of destinations which provided guidance as to where provisions in the current rules could be found, highlighted substantive changes and explained why certain provisions had not been carried through.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions. Mr S. A H. Statham asked:

- whether Rule 7(4), under which a list of members' names and addresses must be made available to a member on request, was compatible with the data protection legislation. The Chairman said that this was taken directly from the Model Rules and the solicitor had confirmed that, bearing in mind the nature of the Club, it was appropriate.
- whether the Committee was now maintaining the official record electronically. The Chairman said that at present records for the Club archive were all on paper.
- why, if the Chair did not arrive, there was a waiting period of 15 minutes at a general meeting (Rule 12(3)) and just 10 minutes at a meeting of Trustees (Rule 18(11)). The Chairman said that these were the times in the Model Rules.

Mr F. M. Gauntlett asked whether Rule 16(1)(a) would be problematic if for example a stockbroker was appointed as a Trustee. The *Hon. Treasure* explained that this provision related to Trustees in their role as Trustees of the Club.

It was resolved unanimously by the members present:-

1. That the Rules of the Club be amended and adopted in accordance with the draft annexed hereto pursuant to Rule 40 of current Rules of the Club and the new rules shall operate until further amendment.
2. That the Committee shall forthwith notify the Charity Commission of the changes in accordance with the current procedure set down by the Charity Commission.

No votes by post or e-mail had been received.

Item 2. Subject to the adoption of the new Rules the adoption of the Bye-Laws made under Rule 26 of the new Rules.

The proposed Bye-laws had been published in *Bull.Brit. Orn. Cl.* 131: 230-231. The members present agreed unanimously to adopt the proposed Bye-laws made under Rule 26.

The meeting closed at 5.58pm