

**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR AVICULTURE**  
**Minutes of the National Council for Aviculture Annual**  
**General Meeting**  
**held on Saturday 31st March 2012 at the Charnwood Arms**  
**Hotel, Coalville.**

1. Chairman's Welcome. Chris Smith opened the meeting at 10.35 hrs and welcomed all attending delegates, in particular the representatives from the British Bird Council.

**2. Attendees**

Chairman: Chris Smith (Canary Council)

Budgerigar Society: Ghalib Al-Nasser

British Bird Council: Julie Walker, Craig Walker, Robb Brown

Canary Council: Brian Hogg, Terry Salt, Denis Glasby, Barry Mills

Foreign Bird Federation: Dave Paine, Dennis Webster

Apologies were noted from: Bob Partridge, Janice Al-Nasser, Alec Woan, Gordon Grist, Dave Allen, Len Thompson, Dennis Norton, Mick and Hilary Flint, Delia Smith.

3. **Minutes of the AGM** held on 2nd April 2011. These were agreed as a true record, proposed Dave Paine, seconded Dennis Webster.

4. **Matters Arising.** There were none raised

5. **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman tabled a written report (attached to these minutes). Main points were:

- • Members of the Management Committee were thanked for their support throughout the year. He had written to Dave Whittaker to thank him for his work as Secretary and Treasurer.
- • The visibility of the NCA had been heightened by having the NCA stand at three County shows, the BS Woking event, and two Stafford events. The "Welcome to Birdkeeping" booklet continued to be well received. A Power-Point presentation on the NCA is being revised and will be made available for talks at bird clubs etc.
- • Pleasure was expressed that the BBC had re-joined the NCA, and we look forward to helping the British Bird keepers understand and comply with legislative requirements. The concept of self-certification will be discussed by the MC.
- • Links with DEFRA have been maintained through the NCA membership of SUN, in spite of a 20+% cut in DEFRA funding by Government, and dialogue has been initiated with Natural England in relation to relaxing the "72 hour" rule.
- • A priority for the next year will be to get more closely aligned with Cage Bird Societies. It may be necessary to advertise for someone to fill the CBS Liaison Officer role.
- • In collaboration with the IOA, COM-UK has been successfully launched, and several good meetings have been held. More British judges are required to pass the COM OMJ examination; congratulations were offered to Gary Mann who had recently been successful in doing so.

A discussion followed concerning NCA links with Government organisations, and the BBC expressed concern that such discussions, particularly those that could affect the keeping of British Birds, should be run past the BBC (Bob Partridge) before any commitment. The Chairman agreed that the BBC should be an integral part of any future discussions with DEFRA.

6. **Treasurer's Report.** Ghalib Al-Nasser expressed his thanks to Dave Whitaker for his work as Treasurer over recent years, and said that he (GAN) had taken over the responsibility from 1st January 2012. The accounts for 2011 show a loss of £3,870, but included a number of "one-off" items. Ghalib reported that the NCA Public Liability Insurance scheme is still popular, and that by the day of the AGM there were 12 affiliated CBS's, 26 affiliated CBS's who had also taken Insurance, and 51 societies who take insurance only; other societies may yet apply. He further advised that in March he had deposited £5,000 in the Bank.
7. **Secretary's Report.** Ghalib Al-Nasser circulated a written report (appended), the key points of which were:
  - He had taken on the role as Secretary at the 2011 AGM, and in the year the Management Committee had met four times.
  - The highlights of the past year for him had been the return of the BBC to the NCA, and the formation of COM-UK. The January 2012 World Show had resulted in 5 gold, 1 silver, and 3 bronze medals being won by UK exhibitors.
  - A letter, Balance Sheet, and AGM Agenda had been sent to 65 NCA Life Members, as well as Affiliated Societies. Three letters to Life Members were returned indicating that they had moved away, or had died. It is still important to keep the list of life Members updated.
  - Many Societies have applied for NCA awards following recent publicity. Roger Carr, Reuben Girling, and Barry Mills have been added to the Roll of Honour, Don Bargett, Fred Rix and Raymond Sawyer have moved to the Hall of Fame after passing away, and a number of Long-service Lapel Badges have been applied for by Buntingford CBS and the Budgerigar Society and Zebra Finch Society.
8. **Inauguration of the President.** The outgoing President, Denis Glasby, said that it had been an honour to have been chosen President by the NCA for 2011, that despite his hearing difficulties he had enjoyed attending the meetings, and that the NCA was a more progressive organisation than in the past. He congratulated the in-coming President Barry Mills, commenting that Barry had followed on from him in a number of roles over the years. Likewise Barry expressed his pleasure at becoming President for 2012, and duly received the Chain of Office.
9. **Election of President-Elect.** The only nominee was Roger Carr, who was therefore confirmed as President-Elect for 2012.
10. **To Appoint Honorary Life Vice Presidents.** Following his year as President, Denis Glasby was unanimously appointed a Life Vice-President.
11. **To Receive the Names of the Management Committee.** It was pointed out that each Parent Body could nominate any number of names to form a "pool" from which attendees at Management Committee meetings could be drawn.

BBC: Robb Brown, Bob Partridge, Craig & Julie Walker

BS: Ghalib & Janice Al-Nasser, Gordon Grist, Alec Woan

CC: David Allen, Brian Hogg, Gary Mann, Terry Salt, Len Thompson,

FBF: Peter Collins, David Paine, Dennis Webster.

12. **To Elect the Auditors.** It was suggested that Paul Tiller, a qualified accountant and treasurer of the London & Southern Counties BS be approached by the Treasurer to undertake this task
13. **To Determine the Rate of Subscriptions.** On a proposal from Dennis Webster, seconded by Brian Hogg, it was agreed to maintain subscriptions at the 2012 level. The question of the need now for Ring Membership was referred to the Management Committee.
14. **Rule Change** – to Amend Rule 9(i). The proposal was to reduce the number of delegates from each of the Parent Groups from 4 to 3. This was agreed unanimously.
15. **To Consider any Resolution Submitted** in Accordance with Rule 13. None received.
16. **To Consider any Matter Referred to the AGM** by the Management Committee. Two items were discussed:
  - (i) The Honorarium to the Secretary to be £300, and to the Treasurer £200, and to a combined Secretary/Treasurer £500. This was confirmed.
  - (ii) New signatories were required for the Bank. This was agreed and completed.
17. **To Consider any Other Relevant Business** Notified to the Secretary at Least 14 Days Before the Meeting. None received.
18. **Date and Venue of the AGM 2013.** It was agreed to hold the meeting at the same venue, but to refer the date to the Management Committee, in order to avoid unfortunate clashes (eg with the IOA AGM).

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12.05 hrs.