

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR AVICULTURE

Minutes of the National Council for Aviculture Annual General Meeting held via Zoom on Saturday 8th May 2021.

- 1. Chairman's welcome.** Chairman Chris Smith opened the meeting at 11.02am by welcoming those present, in particular Keith Ferry & Terry Tuxford attending for the first time and thanking them for attending. The Chairman thanked Bev Hutt for her past time on the Management Committee.

Attendees: The following were in attendance:

Chairman: Chris Smith

British Bird Council: Robb Brown, Bernard Williams

Budgerigar Society: Ghalib Al-Nasser, John Cosby, Terry Tuxford

Canary Council: Barry Mills, Keith Ferry

Foreign Bird Federation: Apologies sent.

- 2. Apologies received from:**

MC: Saviour Camilleri, Bob Partridge, Dennis Webster, David Paine, Keith Barker.

- 3. Chairman's Report:** Chris Smith spoke to his written report. As a Life Member serving the NCA for forty years, the past ten years as Chairman, he was deeply honoured to be asked to become President. He was grateful for the support of the Management Committee and those officers with specific responsibilities. The pandemic commencing March 2020, Brexit and its aftermath, and internal divisions had damaged the hobby. It was a task of the NCA to help heal those divisions and support struggling clubs. Our relationship with DEFRA is crucial to help re-open the possibilities of showing and co-operating with fellow fanciers in Europe and beyond. There is a chance that the National Exhibition and the Stafford hobbyist day in December can be rescued which the NCA should support. The ring scheme continues to serve members and raise funds.
- 4. Treasurer's Report & Approval of Balance Sheet:** The Balance Sheet for 2020 was circulated beforehand showing a profit of £58.33 over the year; proposed by Bernard Williams, seconded by Barry Mills and accepted unanimously.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that HSBC account stood at £14,941.88 as of 30th April. So far only 24 societies have applied for our insurance scheme. The payment made to our insurance broker MEAD was £2,820 to cover the first 60 societies and further payments will be made if we exceed that number. Also, MEAD made a refund in January of £1,344 for last year's losses.

- 5. Secretary's Report:** Ghalib Al-Nasser said that we would all like to forget 2020 and we pay tribute to all those who have lost family members and friends due to the pandemic which caused the death of more than 127,000 people. Ghalib also paid special thanks to Chris for his services as our Chairman over the past 10 years. The Secretary also informed the meeting that since our 2019 AGM the following have been added to our Hall of Fame; Brian Hogg, George Lewsey, Denis Glasby, Val Ward and Dennis Norton. The Roll of Honour additions were made to Alan Jordan, Joe Coakley, Ron Hill, Colin Patterson.

The Secretary read out a letter from Wednesbury AS who, after approximately 90 years, has ceased to continue as a society. There was correspondence, by email, from 2 affiliated societies who were

asking for clarification about the Sales Days which are not included in the Public Liability Insurance Policy. The Secretary to send the M.C. copies of the various documents that he has received from MEAD regarding the insurance scheme, for information and clarification.

6. Inauguration of the President for 2021

Outgoing President Bernard Williams metaphorically transferred the chain of office across cyber space to Chris Smith who was pleased to accept the honour and thanked Bernard for his service as President.

7. Election of President Elect: As per our Constitution there was a nomination back in December 2019 for Ghalib to be President Elect; proposed by Dennis Webster, seconded by Chris Smith and accepted unanimously.

8. Election of Officers: The following officers were elected as follows:

Chairman (3 year term) – Barry Mills; proposed by Ghalib, seconded by Robb and accepted unanimously.

Vice Chairman – Chris Smith

Secretary & Treasurer – Ghalib Al-Nasser

Publicity Officer – Barry Mills

Awards Panel – Robb Brown, John Cosby, Chris Smith, David Paine

9. To Appoint Honorary Life Presidents: **Bernard Williams** was awarded this title upon retirement from the Presidency.

10. To receive the names of the Management Committee: The following were elected unless informed otherwise by their Parent Body:

BBC – Robb Brown, Bob Partridge, Bernard Williams

BS – Ghalib Al-Nasser, John Cosby, Terry Tuxford and Chris Snell (reserve)

CC – Keith Barker, Saviour Camilleri, Keith Ferry, Chris Smith, Terry Salt

FBF – Graham Lee, Dave Paine, Dennis Webster

11. To elect the Auditors: **Paul Tiller** was duly elected unanimously

12. To determine the rate of subscriptions: The following rates were accepted:

CBS rate: £20 affiliation only

Organisations with up to 500 members: £50

Organisations with up to 1000 members: £100

Organisations with over 1000 members: £200

13. COM-UK report: According to the COM-UK Constitution this is the change-over year (should have been last year) where the NCA will provide the 4 delegates and the following officers were elected:

President: Ghalib Al-Nasser Vice President: Chris Smith

Treasurer: Robb Brown Committee Member: Saviour Camilleri

The I.O.A. will provide 3 delegates of which there will be a Vice President and Secretary

14. DEFRA Update: Robb Brown reported on the working party he serves on which is concerned primarily with CITES. Since Brexit we are now a “3rd Country” and are subject to an array of regulations regarding movement of animals to and from the UK to the EU. These regulations include registration as a recognised breeder with inspected premises, veterinary certificates, quarantine of animals before and after visits abroad e.g. to shows. They are given in full on the DEFRA website.

In practice this means no participation in the World Show for 2-3 years until a practical simplification of the regulations can be negotiated.

15. No other business had been referred to the Secretary by affiliated clubs.

16. Date & venue of the 2022 AGM - It was agreed that the Annual General Meeting should be face-to-face whenever health regulations allow and that the second meeting of the year be held via Zoom for convenience and to save on travel and expense. The Secretary would consult with members of the Management Committee and suggest a date for the next meeting, probably in October, which can be held during the week or Saturday.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their co-operation and contributions to debate and closed the meeting at 12.10pm.