



Kent Ornithological Society - Executive Committee

7.30pm, 11 March 2026

Attending: Andre Farrar, Chris Roome, Peter Eerdmans, Murray Orchard, Barry Wright, Gary Howard, Keith Privett

Apologies: Robin Mace, Mike Henty

1. Key Matters for decision or discussion

1.1. BoK Update

PE

1.1.1. Good progress. BoK is available for selected admins on KOS website. All species are there. Further development requirements are relatively modest, main thing a nice 'landing page'. Key focus now on content, three parts:

- Intros on history, sites, habitats: tbc
- Species accounts: PE with help of AI creating first draft
- Photos: Brendan uploading, advertising a Flickr page

1.1.2. Next steps:

- PE to finish AI Species Accounts, editors to start editing these. Once we have done a few, we can see how time consuming this is. **Action: PE to send Wildfowl to MO for a first look how much editing is needed.**
- Chris Dee looking to add WeBS data in tables/graphs. **Action: MO to request data from BTO.**
- Add an 'User Guide' as one of the categories to explain how the BoK website works, how people can comment, send in photos. **Action: PE to request from Chris Dee**
- AF: make it more obvious on the main website? **Action: PE to raise in working group**
- Need disclosure we used AI.
- When can we go live? Ambitious target is Migration Day in September, Christmas probably a more realistic target.

1.2. New Archivists

AF

1.2.1. Handover from Robin: Robin had a good first meeting with Gerry and Craig and started to consider a way forward.

1.2.2. We suggest both Gerry and Craig join the Exec, they can take turns in attending if they want. Robin to formally stand down. **Action AF to invite them and make sure they are officially appointed as trustees, etc.**

1.3. AGM

CR

1.3.1. AGM 29 April at 7.30pm via Zoom

1.3.2. **Action: PE to set agenda and send to CR/AF. CR to send to members within a week.**

1.3.3. **Action: PE to do Review of the Year again at AGM**

1.4. Broad Oak



- 1.4.1. Reservoir is back on agenda. Site is owned, pump water from Stour into reservoir. Public Consultation on going. Doesn't seem to be a big anti campaign from locals, it is relatively small. Fill up by 2032/2033 most likely.
 - 1.4.2. Focus on quiet enjoyment and nature it seems. Nature development around reservoir still very generic. Might be a visitor centre.
 - 1.4.3. AF has drafted initial KOS response focusing on key habitats (needs feedback from BW/MO this week). Looking to join the key stakeholder group.
 - 1.5. Rare Breeding Bird guidelines communication
 - 1.5.1. We decide to go ahead with draft guidelines. MO to let Dave know.
2. **Updates**
- 2.1. Membership **CR**
 - 2.1.1. Steady around 770
 - 2.2. Treasurer's update **GH**
 - 2.2.1. GH taking over accounts from 1 Jan, MH closing 2025.
 - 2.2.2. We received the £300 payment for the Nightingale data
 - 2.2.3. We are in good health with KBRs coming out cheaper than budgeted typically.
 - 2.3. Editorial and Records Committee **BW**
 - 2.3.1. Gerry and Craig to join meetings going forward
 - 2.3.2. Chris Hindle will monitor any public photos of rarity records, which will then get accepted without/ahead of formal submission
 - 2.3.3. KBR 2024: data sheets were only available early January (much later than normal due to illness). Still aiming to get editors inputs back by end of April, so we can publish end of July/early August.
 - 2.4. Surveys and Conservation Committee **MO**
 - 2.4.1. Made £100 donation for BTO Acoustic appeal. Keep BTO talk for next Winter Talk season
 - 2.4.2. Survey this year: Spring/Summer Survey birds of green spaces. We can encourage new people for this.
 - 2.4.3. Atlas 2027-2031 work starting up, both Breeding (start 1 April 2028) and Winter (start 1 Nov 2027). MO/AF had meeting with BTO how they can support county bird clubs to develop this. Need lots of volunteers, need to start thinking about recruiting and training. Key is to get updated atlas maps on BoK and analyse trends.
 - 2.4.4. Last week Lesser Spotted Woodpecker conference, more work to be done this year.
 - 2.5. Engagement Committee **CR**
 - 2.5.1. Haven't had meeting yet. Need more people – will make a plea at next week's talk. CR also looking to step down as chair, but stay a member.
3. **Administration matters**
- 3.1. Minutes of last meeting (3 Dec) attached **PE**



PE

3.2. Upcoming meeting dates

3 June

2 Sept

2 Dec

4. **Any other business**

4.1. Ravi Grewal won young birdwatcher of the year at Spurn September last year. Our second winner after James King. **Action: BW to reach out to Ravi to ask if he can write a little story for website about it. CR to publish.**

4.2. Obituaries: very difficult to decide which to write and which not. Perhaps easy to stick to people who have been on committees or been a KBR writer.