



Registered charity number: 501384

**HAY BRIDGE NATURE RESERVE SOCIETY**  
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**The 46th Annual General Meeting of the Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society will be held at the Study Centre on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 2.30pm.**

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of the 2018 AGM Minutes
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Annual Accounts
6. JSCF Report
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Announcements
9. Any Other Business

The meeting will be followed by a presentation by Richard Tanner from the National Trust about dragonflies.

Tea and refreshments will be available.

*There will be a raffle, to be drawn after the meeting –donated prizes welcome*



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## Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society Annual Income and Expenditure Accounts 2018

### HBNRS ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - 2018

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	11518.01	JSCF Rent	3600.00
Donations	122.98	Cleaning	1538.95
Interest	8.16	Newsletter	1078.36
AGM Raffle	48.00	Stationery	299.23
		Postage	266.00
		Refreshments	160.20
		Website	489.60
		Chris Berry	74.80
		Bird Food	274.55
		Hog Roast	331.56
		Rusland Show	50.00
		Leaflet re-print	197.84
		Other	55.58
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	11697.15		8416.67
 <b>BANK BALANCES</b>			
NWB	232.87	Bal. B/fwd	7777.18
CBS C/A	9956.59	Receipts	<hr/> 11697.15
CBS D/A	771.68		19474.33
PETTY CASH	96.52	Payments	8416.67
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	<b>11057.66</b>		<b>11057.66</b>



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## **Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society AGM 2019**

### **Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society AGM 2018 Held at the Study Centre, Low Hay Bridge on Saturday 28th April 2018 Minutes of the Meeting**

**In the Chair:** Robin Cope

**In attendance:** 34 members of the Society

The meeting was opened at 2.30pm by Roderick Smith, President of Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society (HBNRS). He welcomed the Trustees of the John Strutt Conservation Fund (JSCF) and members of HBNRS to the 45<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Society and explained the proceedings of the meeting.

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Sir Martin Holdgate, Andrew and Barbara Sykes, Annie and Vince Warwick, Colin Black, John Archibald, Hugh and Nina Kingston, Sarah Bradley, Stephen Ward, Richard de Robeck, Susan Smith and Paul Cass,

**2017 AGM Minutes:** These were approved as a true record of the 2017 AGM.

**Proposed: Jane Chaloner    Seconded: John Mounsey.**

**Matters arising:** There were no matters arising from the 2017 AGM minutes.

**Chairman's Report:** As usual, I would like to start by thanking everyone who has been a part of our committee this last year for all the time and work that they have given. I won't mention everyone by name but our work wouldn't be possible without all.

Helen Loxam has continued to work as Treasurer and Membership Secretary though she would like to step down as we have announced at our AGMs for several years.

Nick Chaloner, our secretary, has continued to act as our secretary as well as organising events throughout the year and writing our Newsletter.

Another person that I would like to mention is Bernie Young. Bernie has continued with her work as leader of the Natural History Group supported by a group of volunteers who give their time as free. They are measuring the changes that are occurring within the moss and they are putting together an interesting pack of information.

As last year, the seasonal walks, which are led by Chris Berry and organised by Nick Chaloner have continued to be very well attended. In addition to the walks, we have held several other events such as taking a stall at the Rusland Show.

All the events are popular and well attended so please register for email if you can as that is the main way in which we send out event notifications. As I said before, they are also advertised on the website and in the newsletter, where possible.

I would also like to thank Marion Brown who stepped down from the committee during the year after several years. I would particularly like to thank her for organising the painting and writing competitions and for acting as our liaison with Rusland Horizons.

There are though some changes which have affected us on the operational side. Our current website ceases to function as of 1st May. Steve Miller who has worked for several years putting together and updating the site is stepping down from this year. Steve has done a marvelous job. We have asked Design Works who are based in Kendal to run the site in future and they have copied over the content and images.

Another change is to do with data protection. An email will be coming out from Hay Bridge shortly to ask you to confirm whether you are happy for us to continue using your email address to send out notices of the AGM, details of events and of course Newsletters. It will be entirely up to you whether you allow this to continue. Though we send out our Newsletter to all those who haven't given us their email address, details of future events are only sent out to those on email, though details of the events are also added to our Newsletter. There have been considerable postage savings over the past years as people have given us their email addresses which we have used principally for the Newsletter distribution.

Of course there are always spaces for new committee members and if you are able to give some of your time to us then that would be much appreciated. During the year we meet four times for about two hours; it is an essential role that keeps the society together.

Again, as for many a previous year, I would like to thank Keith for all the work that he has undertaken on the reserve and whose passion for the estate enables us all to enjoy it at its best throughout the year. I still hold that this is a unique

spot and a greater part of this is due to the work that Keith undertakes on the reserve.

I would also like to thank again all the members of the committee who have put in a tremendous amount of work over the past season and without whom nothing would be possible and I would like to thank our membership, you, without which none of this would be possible.

In three weeks' time on Saturday, 19th May, the John Strutt Conservation Foundation is holding an Open Day to celebrate twenty years of their ownership and management of the Hay Bridge Nature Reserve. Helen Loxam and Nick Chaloner have been organising our side of this event and, if you are interested in attending as members of the Hay Bridge Society, then please do let Nick know that you want to join us.

Finally, I would like to thank the John Strutt Conservation Foundation for the way in which they have looked after the reserve and, as we all know, without whom the Hay Bridge Nature Reserve Society would also not be possible.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Annual Accounts were circulated. The Treasurer noted that there was a healthy balance of £7,777.18 at the year end. Several anonymous donations had been made to the Society during the year which had been used to purchase a new 'recycled' bench for the area outside the Study Centre.

It was also noted that current memberships stood at 782, of which 488 were family memberships.

It was proposed to approve the Annual Accounts.

**Proposed: Nick Chaloner    Seconded: Harry Ashcroft.**

### **JSCF Report:**

It has been a busy twelve months on the Reserve once again.

The bunding work for re-wetting Hulleter Moss is now complete. There is still some ditch re-alignment work to be carried out, but that has been postponed until after the bird-nesting season, with particular attention on the ground-nesting birds – Lapwing and Curlew, both of which have arrived back this year and are of course being encouraged.

The various hedges, both new and refurbished, continue to improve, and this year has seen the replanting of the old boundary hedge between Littlelands and Hay Bridge Pool Meadow. The planting work has been funded by Rusland Horizons and carried out by their apprentices, including standards every 20

metres, and a further 60 standards planted on the banking. The whole banking area has been deer-fenced until the planting becomes established.

Further collaboration with and funding by Rusland Horizons led to the planting of 6200 wildflower plugs in Newlands, Fogmire, Sammyfield and Littlelands, by various voluntary groups, many of the plugs had to be replanted by Keith however after the deer pulled them out. Meadow Restoration will continue this year and will see plugs planted in White Moss Tarn field, including some wetland marginals, along with wildflower seeding in High Moor, again funded by Rusland Horizons.

The Rusland Horizons Apprentices have also become involved in Coppicing this year, working in the southeast corner of the Coppice Wood; Owen Jones has also been doing some coppicing in various places.

Hard landscaping projects have included the relaying of the terraced area to the front of the Study Centre, rebuilding the stone wall in the same area and by the driveway to High Hay (thanks of course to Byron) and refurbishment work to the car park steps. Recorded CCTV has been installed around the buildings, giving some peace of mind with regard to security.

One or two potentially unstable trees have been felled where there has been the likelihood of serious damage or injury if left to the mercy of the gales, along with substantial branch clearance along the road.

Forest Schools continue regularly, including a nursery, and the Warden has hosted several visiting groups throughout the year. Work is ongoing to improve the area used in Crooked Dale Wood and further work is planned to ease the access, especially for the children confined to wheelchairs. We have also hosted four Woodcraft Weekend courses, three for adults and one for children, along with Scything courses (again, in collaboration with Rusland Horizons). More scything is scheduled for the coming year.

Wildlife activity continues unabated, with the return of the usual migrants along with our resident populations. The welcome return of the Ospreys is a highlight of course, both chicks fledged successfully last year, and we hope for a repeat this year. This is obviously becoming a success story for South Cumbria – we actually had five Ospreys trying for the platform a couple of weeks ago – a spectacular sight, especially with two of them carrying fish. However, much more detail on this topic from Mike after the refreshment break.

Once again, the JSCF would like to thank Byron for his much-valued assistance, and also the Minton Brothers for their assistance with tree projects.

**Election of Committee:** The current Committee stood down. It was noted that Marion Brown had tendered her resignation. The remaining members of the Committee then stood for re-election en bloc:

Robin Cope, Helen Loxam, Chris Berry, Hazel Dole, Nick Chaloner, Bernie Young.

In addition Colleen Henshaw stood for election to the Committee.

**Proposed: Nick Chaloner                      Seconded: Harry Ashcroft.**

It was further proposed that the following Committee members be elected to serve as Officers:

Chairman:	Robin Cope
Treasurer and Membership Secretary:	Helen Loxam
Secretary:	Nick Chaloner

**Proposed: Steve Miller                      Seconded: Harry Ashcroft.**

**Announcements:** There were no further announcements.

**Any Other Business:** It was noted that the Reserve would be hosting a third year student from Cumbria University who would be carrying out a survey of moth trapping. Members were invited to participate if they so wished.

The revised Society Constitution was presented to Members and it was highlighted that the changes made were that the annual accounts (Clause 7) were to be self-audited as agreed at the 2010 AGM and that a clause on Data Protection (Clause 10) had been added. This was duly noted by the meeting.

The formal part of the meeting was then brought to a close at approximately 3.00pm.

Members then retired for tea, coffee, cakes and sandwiches.

This was followed by a detailed and interesting presentation made by Mike Thornley, Regional Officer for BASC Northwest and previously Forestry Commission Head Wildlife Ranger at Grizedale. Mike delivered a talk on Raptors and the new Osprey Conservation Project in Cumbria.

Finally a raffle of prizes generously donated by members was held and which raised £48 for the Society.

The AGM then concluded.