

# North Wales Wildlife Trust

## Minutes of the 54th Council Meeting held on Saturday 21 October 2017 at Glasdir, Llanrwst

Roger Thomas welcomed those present and introduced the President Robin Grove-White, who opened the meeting saying it was a pleasure to act as President for the Trust, whose purposes and values he identified with. He wanted to highlight 3 matters, firstly that Trust membership had topped 5000 this year, he encouraged people to sign up more supporters. He mentioned the excellent online newsletter e-Natur, and encouraged members to sign up. Secondly, the acquisition of Minera Quarry – a 100 acre area of limestone grass and woodland. Simon Mills had been responsible for the long negotiations needed to achieve this. There was also 100 acres adjacent which belonged to a Trust member, so a 200 acre site was available to manage as a nature reserve. £36K had been raised by appeal, this would be used for maintenance work. Thirdly, Geoff Radford was standing down as a Trustee after many years contributing in many roles – he thanked him for his work for the Trust.

**1 Apologies for absence:** Jane Cherrett, Tony Temple, Dr Morag McGrath, Jean Robertson, Beryl Nichols, John Good, Geoff Gibbs, Frankie Hobro, Trevor Adams. 42 members and staff attended.

**2 Minutes of 53th meeting** were accepted. (Proposed: Geoff Radford, Seconded: Les Starling, carried *nem con*).

**3 Report of Council to 31/3/17.** Roger Thomas noted that the Trust was again working in a period of great austerity, more and more organisations were chasing a smaller pot of funds, a good track record of delivery and spending was needed to get more funds. Volunteer time on reserves was up by nearly 50%, helped by 'green prescribing' – GPs looking at getting people outside instead of prescribing pills. Big Pool Wood was now being looked after by local people – this needed to be spread to other reserves. Over 20,000 people had attended over 400 events thanks to the organisation skills of staff and branches. Our Wild Coasts project had funds available through the Morgan Parry Foundation to enable people from poorer backgrounds to attend events. With the Snowdonia Society and others, we had saved the Conwy Falls, which is an unsuitable site for the proposed hydro scheme. Brexit uncertainty with regard to environmental protection was a concern, the Trust was working with MPs on this. Elizabeth Woodcock was working with the Trust on how we can work with and engage better with public bodies such as Natural Resources Wales – and persuade them that they can trust us to spend their funds wisely. The Trust had moved into a new office in Bangor and welcomed members visiting – he thanked Ian Dunsire for all his work in bringing the move about. He thanked Trustees, staff, volunteers and members for their support and hoped we could start improving biodiversity rather than just trying to halt its decline.

**4 Adoption of Reports and Accounts.** Ian Dunsire reported a successful year, with funds increased to over £1.5M in spite of austerity, and we had spent over £1M on pursuing our vision during the year. He thanked Simon Mills and the Finance Committee, also Bich Jones and Carol Gough in the Trust office for their help with the accounts. He noted that 3 years ago we had depended heavily on NRW for funds (30% of income), this was now down to 11.9% which he felt was a safer level. He thanked Enfys (£67.5K), Trading (£18.5K) and the branches (£3.2K) for their welcome contributions. He had achieved his goal in getting the Trust into decent premises in Llys Garth. At the half year point for this year, ending April 2018, we were ahead of budget by £142K and have spent over £350K on our projects so far. He urged members to keep new memberships coming in and to think about leaving legacies to the Trust. The reports were adopted, (Proposed: Kate Gibbs, Seconded: Simon Mills, carried *nem con*).

**5 Election of Council Members and Honorary Officers.** As re-elected Trustees - Gillian Coates, Ian Dunsire, Frankie Hobro, Les Starling and Roger Thomas. New trustees - Sue Allen, Lyndell Williams and John Good. As Honorary Officers – Ian Dunsire (Hon Treasurer/Company Secretary) and Sue Allen (Hon Secretary). All approved (Proposed: Jane Rees, Seconded: Penny Radford, carried *nem con*).

**6 Appointment of Auditors.** It was agreed that Bennett Brooks (formerly Tiernays LLP) be appointed as auditors (and Council authorised to fix their remuneration). (Proposed: Ian Dunsire, Seconded: Simon Mills, carried *nem con*).

This concluded the formal part of the meeting. The President awarded Gold Badges and citations to Geoff Gibbs and Kipper Davies for their work for the Trust.

**President:** Professor Robin Grove-White  
**Vice Presidents:** Goronwy Wynne, Peter Hope Jones, Howard Davies,  
Pippa Bonner

### **Council of the Trust since AGM 2017**

#### **Trustees**

Susan Allen	Simon Mills *
Gillian Coates	Steve Palin **
Howard Davies	James Robertson **
Ian Dunsire	Les Starling
John Good	Roger Thomas
Frankie Hobro	Lyndell Williams

\* Trustees reaching the end of their current term, but eligible for re-election if willing to stand

\*\* Co-opted member standing for election as a Trustee  
Any retirements during the year are shown in *italics*.

#### **Officers**

Chairman	Roger Thomas
Vice Chairman	Les Starling
Treasurer	Ian Dunsire
Company Secretary	Ian Dunsire
Honorary Secretary	Susan Allen

#### **Committee Chairs or their representatives**

Finance Committee	Simon Mills
Conservation Committee (West)	James Robertson
Conservation Committee (East)	Les Starling
Marine Advisory Group	Frankie Hobro

*Notice of resignation or nomination should be submitted in writing to the Chairman at least 14 DAYS prior to the AGM.*

# North Wales Wildlife Trust

## NOTICE OF THE FIFTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held in Carneddau Room, Glasdir Conference Centre,  
Plas yn Dre, Llanrwst, LL26 0DF on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

### Public transport to Glasdir Conference Centre

**Rail:** Direct rail services run from to Llandudno Junction at the head of the Conwy Valley. From here there is a connection to the Conwy Valley line to Llanrwst. For more information: National Train Enquiries: 08457 484950, Online: [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com) or [www.arrivatrainswales.co.uk](http://www.arrivatrainswales.co.uk)

**Bus:** A number of bus routes run through Llanrwst. For more information see: Traveline Public Transport Information: [www.traveline-cymru.org.uk](http://www.traveline-cymru.org.uk)

**Car:** It is near the centre of town next to the library, with a large free car park – LL26 0DF (SH796618)

### 12:00 LUNCH

(please complete, detach and return the booking slip below to the Bangor office by 5<sup>th</sup> October)

### 1:00 AGM

#### Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017
3. Report of Council for the year ended 31st March 2018
4. Adoption of the Reports and Accounts, together with the Treasurer's and Auditor's Report for the year ended 31st March 2018
6. Election of Council Members and Honorary Officers
7. To re-appoint Bennett Brooks of Llandudno as auditors to the Trust and to authorise Council to fix their remuneration

Roger Thomas, Chair, June 2018

**1:45 Wildlife Trust café** – an activities roundup from Wildlife Trust staff

**2:45 Tea**

**3:15** A changing world from a Wildlife Trusts Wales perspective  
– a talk by Rachel Sharp

**4:15** Close

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**AGM 2018 lunch booking slip**

Please indicate the required number of lunches required. Vegetarian options will be available.

Total number of lunches required (Selection of sandwiches and wraps), at £9.00 per head:

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(Please enclose a cheque payable to North Wales Wildlife Trust)

Name.....

Orders to be received before October 5<sup>th</sup>

**Return to: Bleddyn Williams, North Wales Wildlife Trust, Llys Garth, Garth Road,  
Bangor Gwynedd LL57 2RT, 01248 351541**