



Kent Ornithological Society - Executive Committee

7.30pm, 3 June 2026

Attending: Andre Farrar, Peter Eerdmans, Murray Orchard, Barry Wright, Gary Howard, Keith Privett, Mike Henty, Craig Sammels

Apologies: Robin Mace, Gerry Thomas, Chris Roome

1. Key Matters for decision or discussion

- 1.1. Purpose and set up of Engagement committee **CR**
 - 1.1.1. CR wrote a detailed overview of the discussions within the Engagement Committee on its role and how to take things forward. To be discussed when CR can attend
- 1.2. Newsletter **AF/MO**
 - 1.2.1. We realise a lot of work on the Newsletter falls on a single person (Norman), and we are very appreciative of the work he does. Perhaps someone can help Norman. It feels we can also help create more content, e.g. more regular contribution from AF, as well as with formatting of some content (e.g. create a pro-forma?).
 - 1.2.2. **Action: AF to check with Norman how we can help him**
- 1.3. New Archivists **CS/GT**
 - 1.3.1. CS/GT has been given excess to Cobra2, but needs more training on how to get data into the database. KBR data deadline typically end of September.
 - 1.3.2. **Action: CS to organise a face-to-face meeting with RM (and GT) for proper hand-over and training**
- 1.4. BoK Update **PE**
 - 1.4.1. PE updated on progress: over 300 species done in draft, many photos uploaded, Brendan has written a draft intro and we are enlisting KBR writers for edit.
 - 1.4.2. Previous points made by Exec are all being incorporated.
 - 1.4.3. **Action: MO to decide what data to request from BTO and then send to Chris Dee.**

2. Updates

- 2.1. Membership **CR**
 - 2.1.1. No update as CR not present
- 2.2. Treasurer's update **GH**
 - 2.2.1. GH spoke to CR on how they work together on membership money
- 2.3. Editorial and Records Committee **BW**
 - 2.3.1. Obvious records with photo will now go through very quickly, Chris Hindle will look at this and decide if it can go through or goes to full committee.
 - 2.3.2. eBird record filters on Rare Breeding Birds working well.
 - 2.3.3. Should we try and download data from iRecord?



- 2.3.4. Jamie Partridge will join BBRC, which is great for us given his link with Kent.
- 2.3.5. KP gave a progress report on KBR. BTO breeding bird data is looking really good. But still waiting for three writers to deliver their reports. And for some writers KP has had to take over. So may run a bit late this year.

2.4. Surveys and Conservation Committee MO

- 2.4.1. Birds in Green Spaces has gone out to members. Will run another year, so maybe we can do more via the Engagement committee on this later
- 2.4.2. Lesser Spotted Woodpecker work being done again
- 2.4.3. Bit better news from the Medway on Sandwich Terns and Little Terns, but some reserves very low on water, especially Cliffe (hurting wader breeding), but Elmley has had a good year for Lapwing at least.
- 2.4.4. Old Park in Canterbury update: city may buy the site, which could be good news.
- 2.4.5. Broad Oak Water Reservoir: AF on stakeholder group. Sticking point is water extraction from Little Stour. Desalination at Reculver also planned.

2.5. Engagement Committee CR

- 2.5.1. Dungeness Days: February and May ones were quite quiet. We would like to give the August one a bit more oomph.
- 2.5.2. We need to keep looking for new engagement committee members, including a new chair
- 2.5.3. **Action: AF to check in with CR how we manage August day and Migration day now that CR has stepped back from chair role (PE can help out for August as well).**

3. **Administration matters**

- 3.1. Minutes of last meeting (11-3) attached PE
- 3.2. Minutes of 2026 AGM attached PE
- 3.3. Upcoming meeting dates PE
 - 2 Sept
 - 2 Dec

4. **Any other business**

- 4.1. Ravi has written a little story for website about him winning Young Birder of the Year.
Action: BW to send Ravi story to PE to publish.
- 4.2. New Hastings Rarities book can be ordered for those interested
- 4.3. Charity Commission Guidance: nothing too specific
 - 4.3.1. **Action: MH to register CS and GT.**
 - 4.3.2. **Action: MH to change 'designated contact. for the commission to GH**
- 4.4. **Action: PE to start Exec WhatsApp group**