



Provisional Minutes of the 77th

BRITISH HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday, 23rd June 2024
Venue: Amersham Community Centre
Chair: Mark Hollowell

1. Apologies for Absence

Rick Hodges, Suzie Simpson.

This AGM was quorate (24/480).

2. Minutes of the 76th AGM (2023)

The Minutes were circulated and approved without objection as an accurate record of the 2023 76th BHS AGM, proposed by Mr. Trevor Rose, seconded by Mr. Paul Eversfield.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Annual Reports

4 i) The Chairman (MH) submitted a report for 2023 supported by a presentation, and provided commentary. MH summarised annual meetings and noted other events. Membership had risen for the sixth consecutive year and we reached a milestone of 500 UK subscribers at year end.
Financial position continues to be healthy with £22K operating costs.
MH thanked Marco Pie for his editorship of the Journal, following his recent resignation from the post, and Rick Hodges for his ongoing management of the Bulletin. Suzie Simpson was also thanked for her significant contribution to the NatterJack newsletter, standing down after six years in the post.
The website was recognised as having global reach and MH noted new BHS merchandise is now available. Further details on all of these subjects can be found on the BHS website.

4 ii) The Treasurer's report (1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023) was circulated, and a narrative provided. The BHS amphibian ladder contributed a donation of £279 through ongoing sales for the financial year 2023-24.



5. Election of Council for 2023–24

Council for 2023-24 was approved as given below.
(years served in current term of office given in brackets).

President	Dr. Gerardo Garcia (5)
Chairman	Mr. Mark Hollowell (3)
Treasurer	Vacant (Mr. Michael Wise (co-opted))
Secretary	Vacant (Mr. Trevor Rose (co-opted))
Finance Office	Vacant
Research Officer	Dr. Chris Gleed-Owen (2)
Education & YH Officer	Ms. Jennie Shea (1)
Head of International Conservation and Captive Breeding Projects	Dr. Simon Townson (2)
UK Conservation Officer	Mr. Steven Allain (1)
Herpetological Journal Editor	Dr. Marcio Pie (2 – resigned mid-term)
Herpetological Bulletin Editor	Dr. Rick Hodges (2)
NatterJack Editor	Mrs. Suzie Simpson (3 – standing down)
Website & Communications Officer	Vacant
Trade Monitoring Officer	Mrs. Alexia Hesten (1)
Meetings Organiser	Mr. Paul Eversfield (2)
Development Officer	Mr. Mark Hollowell (2)
Ordinary Member 1	Mr. Stephen Copley (2)
Ordinary Member 2	Ms. Catherine Whatley (1)
Ordinary Member 3	Mr. Vince Goodhall (1)

Nominees for vacant posts:

Website & Communications Officer	Mrs. Katherine Mitchell
Herpetological Journal Editor	Dr. Kevin Arbuckle (post share)
Herpetological Journal Editor	Prof. Jelka Crnobrnja-Isailovic (post share)
Ordinary Member	Miss Maria Filippou

In absence of nominees, Mr. Michael Wise was co-opted to the post of Treasurer and Mr. Trevor Rose was co-opted to the post of Secretary, to hold posts until replacements are found.

The above Council proposed for acceptance by Mr. Mark Hollowell, seconded by Mr. Paul Eversfield, carried *nem con*.



6. 2023 Subscription Fees

In accordance with the Constitution, a review of subscription rates was undertaken at the Council meeting of 20th January 2024 in preparation for the AGM.

Income from subscriptions is up significantly since the last review due to a pleasing rise in membership numbers. However our publication and postage costs have increased due to rises in inflation, so overall the margin on subscriptions vs. operating costs is down by £842. Whilst we continue to maintain a good level of membership (662 world wide as of 2023 year end) we remain in a healthy positive position for the coming year. Therefore we do not foresee the need to increase subscription costs in 2025. We would like to make print subscribers aware that if the upward trend for printing and postage continues, we may need to consider a rise for 2026 subscriptions in some or all categories when we repeat this review next year.

7. Any Other Business

There was none.

The Chairman closed the AGM.

Signed **Date**

Position