

# THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR AVICULTURE

**NCA Annual General Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2010 at Charnwood Arms, Coalville, Leicestershire.**

**Present:** Dennis Webster (Chairman, ZFS, FBF), Dennis Norton (President, CC & LM), Mrs. Norton (M.A.CBS), Barry Mills (CC & LM), Chris Smith (CC & LM), Andrew Triolo (CC), Terry Salt (CC), Denis Glasby (LM), Dave Whittaker (Secretary/Treasurer, BS), Roger Carr (BS), Ghalib Al-Nasser (BS), Gordon Grist (BS).

**1. Chairman's Welcome:** Dennis Webster opened the meeting at 10.40am and welcomed all those present. He apologised for the postponement of the AGM which was due to the previous venue being double-booked.

**2. Apologies:** Mrs Hilary Flint (South Notts CBS) M. Flint (Ollerton & Bevercotes CBS), , Dave Paine (FBF/ZFS/Gainsboro CBS), S. & T. Wright (Preston & District AS) Mrs. Delia Smith (LM). [The Chairman read out Mrs Delia Smith's letter which complimented the NCA on the high quality of the 'Welcome to Birdkeeping' booklet].

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM of 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2009:** Having been previously distributed to members these were passed as a true record by those present on a proposal by Ghalib Al-Nasser, seconded by Barry Mills.

**4. Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.

**5. Chairman's Report:** Dennis Webster spoke to his 2<sup>nd</sup> written report as Chairman which was distributed to all present and which included the following points:

- The 'Welcome to Birdkeeping' booklet has been very favourably received by the fancy and the public. Printed supplies are available for free distribution to members and to the public. A version can also be downloaded free from the NCA website.
- The new exhibition stand made its debut at the Stafford Spring Show and will be at the National Bird Show of the Year in October.
- NCA contribution continues to the work of the Animal Welfare Strategy Group though progress is currently limited by the change in government and uncertain future of DEFRA.
- NCA Insurance scheme remains popular with affiliated clubs who recognise good value for money.
- The Management Committee is recommending today a number of amendments to the 2007 constitution in response to requests from affiliated clubs and in the light of experience.
- The NCA is affiliated to the Confederation Ornithologique Mondiale (COM). Some of the Management Committee met with the IOA and COM at the World Show in January. The next step is a meeting with the IOA to discuss forming a federation.
- The NCA website continues to develop under Ghalib Al-Nasser's management. It includes reports of all management meetings.
- Additions to the Hall of Fame were Ian Hinze and George Coe. Additions to the Roll of Honour were Bill and Alan Taylor, long-term editors of the ZFS Magazine, and Don and Irene Bargett, well-known Foreign Bird Exhibitors.
- The British Bird Council has suspended affiliation for the current year but it is hoped they will return as one of the four "Parent Bodies" soon.
- The Chairman expressed his personal thanks to the Management Committee for their hard work over the past year.

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**6. Treasurer's Report:** George Booth (BS) was Treasurer until 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009 and he submitted a written report detailing the NCA's sound financial situation, its income and expenditure over the year.

- Major items of expenditure were the 'Welcome to Birdkeeping' booklet and the exhibition stand which represent investment in the NCA's contribution to the hobby.
- Income continued to rise from affiliation subscriptions and the insurance scheme.
- Modest interest earned on all accounts reflects the national picture.

The report was adopted unanimously on a proposal by Dennis Norton, seconded by Andrew Triolo. A vote of thanks to the outgoing Treasurer, George Booth, was proposed by Dennis Norton and seconded by Barry Mills. All in favour.

Following George Booth's retirement from the post, the Secretary, Dave Whittaker, has assumed the role of Treasurer and will update the Management Committee on the financial situation at its next meeting in August.

**7. Secretary's Report:** Dave Whittaker presented a written report to the meeting which contained the following points:

- Since the 2009 AGM there have been 6 Management Committee meetings looking at aspects of aviculture in UK and Europe.
- 79 clubs have taken up the public liability insurance scheme and 42 clubs have affiliated.
- 2009 Officers were: President Dennis Norton, Chairman Dennis Webster, Vice-Chairman Andrew Triolo, Secretary Dave Whittaker, Treasurer George Booth, Minutes Secretary & Publicity Officer Barry Mills, Web Controller Ghalib Al-Nasser, CBS Liaison Officer Steve Nesbitt. Awards Panel: Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary & Minutes Secretary.
- A website link to the parent bodies' judges lists was agreed.
- Production of Bird Welfare Sheets, 'Welcome to Birdkeeping' booklet and purchase of new display stand.
- Additions made to Roll of Honour and Hall of Fame (see website).
- COM membership approved from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 for one year after which we will be required to form a federation with the IOA.
- Constitution amendments in line with decisions made at the AGM 2009 approved for recommendation to AGM 2010.
- Treasurer George Booth & CBS Liaison Officer stood down from their elected positions in December 2009.
- NCA contributions to the Bird Welfare Strategy Group are "**Bird Welfare Guidelines (for UK Birdkeepers)**" and care sheets (both available on NCA website).
- There are other on-going issues which once concluded should bring greater harmony within the fancy.

The Chairman thanked Dave Whittaker on behalf of the whole Council for his work for the NCA both as Secretary and now as Treasurer. This was particularly appreciated at a time when Dave had not enjoyed the best of health.

**8. Election of President:** Dennis Norton declared himself willing to serve as President for another year. On a proposal by Dave Whittaker, seconded by Andrew Triolo it was agreed unanimously that Dennis Norton be elected for 2010 and that Denis Glasby (Life Member and former CC delegate) be President elect for 2011.

**9. Honorary Life Vice Presidents:** No nominations were received.

**10. Management Committee 2010:**

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**Budgerigar Society** representatives: Dave Whittaker, Roger Carr, Ghalib Al-Nasser, Gordon Grist (reserves: Alex Woan, Maurice Roberts).

**Canary Council** representatives: Barry Mills, Chris Smith, Andrew Triolo, Terry Salt. (reserves: David Allen, Len Thompson).

**Foreign Bird Federation** representatives: Dennis Webster, David Paine, Peter Collins.

**11. Election of Auditor:** Grant Findlay was duly elected unanimously on a proposal by Barry Mills, seconded by Andrew Triolo. The Chairman thanked Grant Findlay on behalf of the NCA for his excellent service in the past and for his continued help in the coming year.

**12. Subscription Rates:** On a proposal by Andrew Triolo, seconded by Terry Salt it was unanimously agreed that subscription rates remain as now for a further year. Dave Whittaker requested that future subscription rates be an agenda item for the Management Committee meeting in August.

### **13. Recommendations from the Management Committee:**

A number of amendments to the constitution resulting from decisions made at the previous AGM were discussed and approved unanimously on a proposal by Ghalib Al-Nasser, seconded by Barry Mills:

- i. To item 3(i) regarding membership the following sentence was added: In the event of any of the above named organisations being unable to fulfil their obligations they can be replaced by a like-minded umbrella organisation representing in broad principle the objectives of that parent body subject to the payment of the appropriate fee.
- ii. To item 7(i) Now reads: Parent Organisations 4 votes each. The parent body votes to be allocated so that each of the four members representing the parent body has 1 vote.
- iii. To item 11(ix) Now reads: To consider any resolution submitted to the secretary prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year preceding the meeting by the Management Committee, a Parent Organisation or two or more Affiliated Cage Bird Societies. Such resolutions to be circulated to the membership by the 7<sup>th</sup> January in the year of the meeting. Amendments to the resolutions will be accepted provided they are submitted in accordance with the first sentence of rule 11(ix) and are received prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> January in the year of the meeting.
- iv. To item 12(v) Now reads: An EGM will only be valid if each Parent Organisation or Affiliated Cage Bird Society requesting the meeting is represented. In the event of Parent Organisations requesting a meeting they will need to be represented by four members from each organisation requesting the meeting. In the event of Affiliated Cage Bird Societies requesting a meeting they will need to be represented by one member from each society requesting the meeting. Duplicate representation by members of Affiliated Cage Bird Societies will not be permitted.
- v. To Item 12(vi) Now reads: A Quorum at an EGM shall be a minimum of 30 voting members of the NCA.

### **14. Any other Business notified to the Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting:**

- i. The Secretary had secured assurance from Knights solicitors that our postponed AGM date and the business conducted on it remain lawful since the postponement was due to circumstances beyond our control.

**15. Date and Venue of next AGM: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2011 at the Charnwood Arms Hotel, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 1TB**

Ghalib Al-Nasser proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for conducting the meeting and the Chairman formally closed the 2010 AGM at 11.55am.