

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR AVICULTURE.

Minutes of the National Council for Aviculture Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 8th April 2017 at the Charnwood Arms Hotel, Coalville LE67 1TB.

1. **Chairman's welcome.** The Chairman, Chris Smith opened the meeting at 10.40 by welcoming those present.
2. **Attendees.** The following were in attendance:
Chairman: Chris Smith
British Bird Council: None of the BBC Representatives were in attendance
Budgerigar Society: Ghalib Al-Nasser, Beverley Hutt, John Cosby
Canary Council: Brian Hogg, Terry Salt, Saviour Camilleri, Barry Mills
Foreign Bird Federation: Dave Paine, Dennis Webster

Together with: Adam Kendall, CBS Liaison Officer

Apologies Received from: Bob Partridge, Robb Brown (British Bird Council), Graham Lee (Foreign Bird Federation), Maurice Roberts (Budgerigar Society) and representatives of South Notts CBS, Hastings BS, Swansea & Morriston CBS, Hetton & Houghton CBS, North East Lizard Canary Club.

3. **Minutes of the 2016 AGM held on 9th April 2016.** The minutes of the 2016 AGM were checked for accuracy, and approved on a motion by Dave Paine, seconded by Barry Mills.
4. **Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising other than those covered by the agenda.
5. **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman tabled a written report (appended). Main points were:
 - He started his report by thanking the Secretary/Treasurer, Minute Secretary and Publicity Officer for their work during the year.
 - At the 2016 AGM Chris Smith had indicated his intention to resign as Chair. However after reflection on the challenges to bird keeping following Brexit (including possible changes to Border Controls), the on-going issue of ring sizes for British Native species, the possibility of bird keepers needing to register and other legislation affecting bird keepers, breeders and exhibitors, he indicated that if no-one wished to stand for Chair he would be prepared to continue.

- The status of the Canary Council is under scrutiny by its members. Chris proposed to put to the NCA Management Committee the idea of invoking the NCA ring membership scheme to allow the CC to start issuing rings for 2018. Adam Kendall referred to the situation of the Canary Council, and suggested that the NCA revise its Constitution to allow more canary clubs to become involved. This was referred to a future MC meeting for discussion
- The NCA supported the Parrot Society's 50 year Anniversary with special diplomas for the National Exhibition. He felt that we should continue to support the "National" and offer 5 tier large rosettes for best in each section. Similarly he congratulated COM-UK for gaining so many medals at the 2017 World Show. It was reported that High Wycombe and South Bucks have fully organised and equipped themselves to be able to exhibit in Continental Europe.

- 6. Treasurer's Report.** (The Balance Sheet is appended). Ghalib Al-Nasser reported another profitable year, with income exceeding expenditure by £447.48. Both insurance-only and insurance with affiliation showed an increase (total £300) as more Societies have applied for the NCA Insurance scheme. However income from the sales of badges and diplomas has dropped considerably.

In October 2016 we invested the sum of £25,000 with the Cambridge Bank as a 3-year Bond at 1.9% gross interest. This should yield £1,450 over the three year term.

The meeting felt that the statement of accounts was good, and they were accepted on a motion by Barry Mills, seconded by Dave Paine.

Barry Mills proposed that we should scrap the insurance-only scheme, and just have the insurance with affiliation. This will be discussed further at a future Management Committee meeting.

- 7. Secretary's Report.** Ghalib Al-Nasser apologised that his written report (appended) was late, so gave his report to the meeting verbally. Main points were:

- Since the 2016 AGM the Management Committee had met on four occasions, and a key point of discussion at each meeting had concerned DEFRA/SUN and the ring size issue for British Native Birds.
- At the 2017 World Show in Almeria, Spain, there was an increased entry (229) from COM-UK, resulting in 14 gold, 9 silver and 5 bronze medals, the highest tally in the history of COM-UK. Total number of exhibits was 25,953 from 3,124 exhibitors and 22 countries.
- He wanted to record his thanks to Chris Smith, Barry Mills, and Dennis Webster for their work on behalf of the NCA, and to welcome Adam Kendall as CBS Liaison Officer.

- The Public Liability Insurance Scheme is still popular with both Specialist and Cage Bird Societies, 128 have so far taken out this insurance, which is a record.
- Since the last AGM Colin O'Hara, Bryan Reed, Dave Ross, John & Val Ward, and Dennis Webster have been added to the NCA Roll of Honour, and Ernie Gallimore, Chris Allaway, and Roy Stringer to the Hall of Fame. Last year there were no applications for the Long Service Award badges.

In discussion, Chris Smith asked for suggestions of items that the NCA could sell profitably, and Dave Paine suggested that some money should be spent updating the website. This to be discussed further at the Management Meeting.

- 8. Inauguration of the 2017 President.** As agreed last year, Beverley Hutt was duly inaugurated as NCA President for 2017.
- 9. Election of the President-Elect for 2017.** Ghalib Al-Nasser read out a letter from the Foreign Bird Federation proposing Dave Paine as the President-Elect for 2017. This was accepted on a proposal of Barry Mills, seconded by Terry Salt. Dave will assume the Presidency from the 2018 AGM.
- 10. To Appoint Honorary Life Vice Presidents.** It was proposed by Ghalib Al-Nasser and seconded by Dave Paine that the 2016 President, Brian Hogg, should be added to the Life Vice Presidents. All agreed.
- 11. To Receive the Names of the Management Committee.** The following names were put forward:

BBC: Bob Partridge, Robb Brown, Craig Walker, Julie Walker.

CC: Brian Hogg, Terry Salt, Saviour Camilleri, Barry Mills

BS: Ghalib Al-Nasser, Beverley Hutt, John Cosby, Maurice Roberts

FBF: Dave Paine, Graham Lee, Dennis Webster
- 12. To Elect the Auditor.** Paul Tiller, the current auditor was re-elected for 2017 (proposed John Cosby, seconded Beverley Hutt).
- 13. To Determine the Rate of Subscriptions.** As there will be discussion of the Constitution and Ring issue it was decided that subscription rates should be part of this discussion.

14. To Consider any Matter Referred to the AGM by the Management Committee.

None referred.

15. To Consider any other Relevant Business. Returning to the issue of the NCA allowing its ring membership concept to be used to issue rings for the Canary Council, it was proposed that if agreed with the CC at its AGM on 7th May, orders could be taken from October 2017 for 2018 rings. Profits from this would go to the Canary Council.

Ghalib Al-Nasser then proposed that the NCA will allow the CC to use the NCA name to issue rings, money to go to the Parent Body. This was seconded (subject to CC agreement) by Dave Paine.

16. Date and Venue of the 2018 Annual General Meeting. This was agreed as **Saturday 7th April 2018, at the Charnwood Arms Hotel.**

The Chairman thanked those attending, and closed the meeting at 12.45