



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE HELD BY ZOOM ON FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER, 2 – 3.45 PM

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: Yolande Cozijn, Rob Dunn, Chris Grounds, Mike Jefferis

Apologies: Brett Davis, Karen Davis, Oisin Sweeney

- Rob noted the resignation of Gary Brady from the BLS Committee since the last meeting.
- Rob commented that while there was a majority in attendance, he still preferred to allow those members not attending to provide input by email on any decisions made.

2. Acceptance of the agenda – Addition of BirdLife Australia Swift Parrot conservation campaign

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting - Approved

4. Business arising from the previous minutes

The action items from the previous meeting were agreed as completed. Action 1 from the 1 May 2020 meeting remained partially complete.

5. Updates and related issues

a. President's report - refer papers sent with the agenda

The potential article in the Australian Geographic magazine being facilitated by Council Tourism was discussed.

Action 1: Rob to clarify if birds will be just one element of a wider nature article and either suggest a visit to Lake Wollumboola, after discussion with Frances, or bring back to Chris if there is scope for wider conservation messages to be covered. Rob to also offer our bird photo library to be used.

b. Conservation Officer report

Refer paper distributed by Chris before the meeting.

The meeting agreed that:

- BLS through Chris should attend the Shoalhaven Environment Alliance Zoom meeting of on 21 November and Chris will advise on progress to allow us to better consider our association with SEA
- No amendment to our own identity statement to include "charity" was required.

Chris provided updates on other issues, including Manyana EDO Report now on BLS website, HEST Minister submission related to JBNP and JB-KBA, logging campaigning by BLA related to Swift Parrot arising from Fiona Blandford contact and Shoalhaven Brooman residents' campaigning re logging in burnt forest

Action 2: Chris to write to Minister Kean on a moratorium on logging in all fires zones, referring to Swift Parrots and the Ulladulla to Merimbula KBA

c. Secretary report – Nothing of note to report.

d. Communications report

In Brett's absence, Rob noted that following inclusion of registrations for the 'Dinner with the Birds' talks that the BLS distribution list was now over 950.

The meeting noted the prior approval by email for the transfer of the BLS web-site to a new server for a minimal annual fee.

e. Treasurer report –

No Treasurer's Report had been tabled for the meeting.

f. Recent media, presentations & events - refer papers sent with the agenda

g. Birding activities updates – None provided

Rob raised the issue that the latest Magazine and web-site calendar did not show any future bird walks. Mike said that MUD Birders were deciding on their next walk one at a time and providing details to their list. Yolande pointed out that bird walks were a good way to involve new members. She had spoken to people about them organising walks near where they lived to which experienced birders would attend. **Action 3:** Yolande, Mike & Karen to liaise on producing a schedule of walks ahead of each magazine with the potential for a bird walk co-ordinator passing details to Brett.

6. Shoalhaven Environment Alliance – covered under 5b.

7. New Leaves New Lives - refer papers sent with the agenda

The meeting agreed that:

- we proceed to progress all five opportunities mentioned in the papers, noting:
 - Brett could already have enough photos of birds in a fire setting
 - We should explore potential of selling the photos for fundraising purposes
 - Chris was willing to provide a talk based on his article in the winter magazine
- Subject to confirmation with Karen of the available funds, BLS makes a financial contribution to the event of \$1,000 and allocate a further \$300 for our own costs.

8. Bushfire Research Project update - refer papers sent with the agenda

The meeting agreed that:

- A BRP Sub-committee is established, comprising Gary Brady, Chris Macgregor and Rob.
- The sub-committee will provide a report to each BLS Committee meeting through Rob.
- The BRP Sub-committee only has the authority to commit to expenditure, once it has been approved by the BLS Committee. Currently this is only \$800 for Filemaker software licence.
- The BRP Sub-committee may hold meetings and seek input from others as they require.

9. Arrangements for AGM - refer papers sent with the agenda

The meeting agreed that:

- The AGM would be held on Monday, 8 February.
- It would comprise of a bird walk (4pm), dinner (6pm), meeting (7pm) and trivia format (8pm).
- Bay & Basin was the preferred location. **Action 4:** Rob to approach the St Georges Basin Country Club
- Despite the resignation of Gary, the BLS Committee should continue with a membership of seven, establishing sub-committees as required, subject to existing members being willing to continue in their current roles.

- 10. Approval of 2021 Action Plan and Progress against the 2020 Action Plan** - refer papers sent with the agenda

The meeting agreed that: the 2021 Action distributed with the papers should be submitted to National Office with the addition of three points under “Advocate for bird and habitat conservation...”:

- Communication of conservation issues in the BLS quarterly magazine
- Networking with other Shoalhaven conservation groups
- Responding to requests for support from other Shoalhaven conservation groups

Action 5 – Rob to amend the draft 2021 Action Plan, insert it into the National Office template and submit it, referring to Karen on the financials.

The meeting agreed that we do not seek a grant from National Office for 2021 for the reasons stated in the paper.

- 11. Bird walks, talks & events** - - refer papers sent with the agenda

Covered under 5g.

- 12. Distribution of Birds of the Shoalhaven Posters**

It was agreed that: the posters should be brought to the AGM and members asked to distribute them to schools and other public venues.

- 13. Shoalhaven Landcare project update**

The update in the papers sent with the agenda was noted.

- 14. Next meeting** – Confirmed as Fri 29 January, 2-4pm at Mike’s

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

1 May 2020 meeting:

Action 1 – Rob to email former BLS members to ask if there were any particular reasons for their decision not to renew, adding how support for the national organisation also benefits our own work.

30 October 2020 meeting

Action 1: Rob to clarify if birds will be just one element of a wider nature article in the Australian Geographic and either suggest a visit to Lake Wollumboola, after discussion with Frances, or bring back to Chris if there is scope for wider conservation messages to be covered. Rob to also offer our bird photo library to be used.

Action 2: Chris to write to Minister Kean on a moratorium on logging in all fire zones, referring to Ulladulla to Merimbula KBA.

Action 3: Yolande, Mike & Karen to liaise on producing a schedule of walks ahead of each magazine with the potential for a bird walk co-ordinator passing details to Brett.

Action 4: Rob to approach the St Georges Basin Country Club as the venue for the AGM.

Action 5 – Rob to amend the draft 2021 Action Plan, insert it into the National Office template and submit it, referring to Karen on the financials as required.