



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE
HELD AT 65 DID-DELL STREET, ULLADULLA
FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2021, 2 - 4 PM**

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: Brett Davis, Karen Davis, Rob Dunn, Phil Hendry, Mike Jefferis

Apologies: Yolande Cozijn, Oisin Sweeney

Comments on the papers by Yolande and Oisin had been circulated prior to the meeting.

2. Acceptance of the agenda – Two additions on a potential Osprey platform & nesting boxes

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting - Approved

4. Business arising from the previous minutes

The action items from the previous meetings were agreed as completed, except for

- action 4 from the 29 January meeting, re. bird walks on web-site
- action 1 from the 30 July meeting re. Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens exhibition
- action 6 from the 30 July meeting re. changes to the Conservation section of the web-site

It was agreed that the various actions to promote the Jervis Bay KBA would now be covered as a standing agenda item.

5. Updates and related issues

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

Action 1 - It was agreed that Rob should submit an article on the BLS Bushfire Research Project for the proposed book by Occupational Therapy Australia and that given time constraints did not need to be approved by the Committee.

Action 2 – Rob to review the guidelines for the 2021 BirdLife Distinguished Service awards and get back to the Committee to decide if a nomination should be made.

b. Conservation Co-ordinator report - refer papers sent with the agenda

It was agreed that while the role of Conservation Co-ordinator was working well, it still warranted a new Committee member to take on the position. **Action 3** – Rob to follow up with a possible candidate suggested by Karen.

c. Secretary report – Mike had been approached by the Bundanon Trust for BLS to run bird classes and walks for schools. **Action 4** - Mike was prepared to take this on and would follow up what would be required with the Trust.

d. Communications report – Brett outlined our on-going problems of the inaccuracies in the weekly members' list received from National Office. This had caused problems recently when Brett sent an email to lapsed BLS members to discover one of these, who was a prior donor, had changed to become a Wildlife Protector. It was agreed that BLS would now not follow up lapsed members, but rather transfer them to the BLS supporters list and instead encourage supporters

to join BirdLife in the BLS magazine and emails, at events and on the web-sites. **Action 5** – Rob to inform National Office of this decision.

- e. **Treasurer report** – The income and expenditure for the year to 20 October 2021 was noted. The meeting thanked Yolande for her effort in setting up the BLS Shop on Red Bubble.
- f. **Recent media, presentations & events** – Yolande had given four radio interviews since the last meeting on 2ST and ABC Illawarra on magpies & cuckoos and the Aussie Backyard Bird Count.
- g. **Birding activities updates** – There was nothing to report re. OH&S issues and it was confirmed that Covid guidelines were being adhered to with the recommencement of the BLS bird walk calendar.

6. Approval of the 2022 Action Plan

It was agreed not to seek funding from BirdLife for 2022. The proposed 2022 Action Plan included in the papers was approved and Rob would transfer it into the BirdLife template and submit it to National Office. **Action 6**

- 7. **Action plan to raise the profile of the Jervis Bay KBA** – The action plan table in the papers showed that no progress had been made, though Brett had placed a JBKBA research overview paper on the web-site. The delay was primarily due to the decision at the last meeting to wait to hear from Chris MacGregor on whether evidence is solid enough on his revised estimate of the EBB population to make a submission to the recent draft Recovery Plan.

- 8. **Further ideas for use of funds on hand – Action 7** - The meeting agreed that the following ideas for the use of funds on hand would be further explored by Brett & Karen and referred back to the Committee for final approval:

- a. Purchase of more of the laminated sets of six bird posters
- b. Design and printing of new larger laminated bird poster, drawing on a selection of birds from the existing six posters
- c. Design and printing of a bird list
- d. Design and printing of a bird ID brochure for beginners
- e. Purchase of 10 pairs of 10 x 32 binoculars

It was agreed that, while Oisín's suggestion of an audit of trees had obvious merit, the main issue would be the resources required to achieve the desired outcomes. This is likely to need a dedicated 'owner' and sub-committee to oversee the project.

It was agreed that funds did not need to be retained for signage in Booderee National Park, as this would be at least 12 months away and could be funded by BirdLife's emerging grants program.

9. Committee positions & AGM and other 2022 events –

Committee positions - Two potential candidates to join the BLS Committee as General Members were discussed and agreed as good candidates. **Action 8** - Rob & Phil to follow up.

AGM – In regard was agreed that:

- Date – Monday 7th or 14th February, subject to availability of guest speaker
- Timing – 4pm to 8.00pm
- Format – Bird walk (1.5 hours), dinner (1), formalities & PowerPoint presentation by Rob on what we do (0.5), guest speaker (1). There would be no trivia quiz this year.
- Guest speaker – Hopefully Nicholas Carlile is available to speak on rat eradication on Lord Howe Island, which he has offered to do recently.

- Venue – Shoalhaven Heads, ideally at the Bowling Club, which avoids the need to organize catering

Action 9 – Rob to move forward with arrangements for the AGM.

Other 2022 events – It was agreed that other than the AGM, no events for the rest of 2022 should be scheduled, as regardless of the easing of COVID restrictions, attendance could still be impacted by people's unwillingness to attend events. This would be monitored through the year.

10. BLS Bushfire Research Project update – The update provided in the papers was noted.

11. BLS Birds on Golf Courses update – The update provided in the papers was noted.

12. Other business

Karen talked about her approach to Telstra about having them install an osprey nesting platform on their communications tower in St Georges Basin. She was awaiting a response.

Rob said that through a BLS member he had heard about a Men's Shed in Culburra, who were making nesting boxes for specific birds, gliders and gliders. He had spoken to the project leader and he was interested in putting an article in the next BLS magazine. Rob had since heard Beth Mott from BirdLife speak at the Shoalhaven Landcare AGM about problems with nesting boxes and Landcare's complete lack of success in their own nest box projects. It was agreed that BLS should stay silent on the issue in the magazine.

13. Next meeting – The next meeting was set for Friday 28 January, 2-4pm.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

29 January 2021 meeting

Action 4 - Mike to discuss with Brett – a.) producing a one-page sheet of the bird walks for easier distribution to interested members, in addition to the walk calendar & b.) including a bird list of the birds seen on each of the walks on the web-site.

30 July 2021 meeting

Action 1 – Phil to continue to liaise with Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens exhibition in March-April and organize best approach for photo printing and hanging.

Action 6 – Brett to make relevant changes to the Conservation web-site, following changes to our approach to conservation projects, as outlined in the minutes.

5 November 2021 meeting

Action 1 - Rob to submit an article on the BLS Research Bushfire Project for the proposed book by Occupational Therapy Australia.

Action 2 – Rob to review the guidelines for the 2021 BirdLife Distinguished Service awards and get back to the Committee to decide if a nomination should be made.

Action 3 – Rob to follow up with a possible candidate suggested by Karen for the role of Conservation Coordinator.

Action 4 - Mike to contact the Bundanon Trust to follow up exactly what would be required to run bird classes and walks for schools.

Action 5 – Rob to inform National Office of the decision that BLS would not now follow up lapsed members.

Action 6 - Rob to transfer the approved 2022 Action Plan into the BirdLife template and submit it to National Office.

Action 7 – Brett & Karen to further [explore the following items and refer back to the Committee for final approval](#) - more laminated sets of six bird posters, a new larger laminated bird poster, a bird list, bird ID brochure for beginners and 10 pairs of 10 x 32 binoculars.

Action 8 - Rob & Phil to follow up with two potential candidates to join the BLS Committee, as General Members.

Action 9 – Rob to move forward with the agreed arrangements for the AGM.