

Shores of south Devon (marine life interest group)

Steering Group

1st Meeting Minutes

9th March 2020 14:30 h, The Pavilions, Teignmouth

1. Present: Toby Sherwin (co-chair), Mike Puleston (co-chair), Rob Morgan (Treasurer), Anne Gwynn, Peter Jonas
2. Apologies: Andrew Burgess
3. The spirit of the meeting was one of great enthusiasm
4. The main roles for the time being are to be:
Mike: Co-chair, safaris, speakers
Toby: Co-chair, meeting venue, website, membership, secretary
Rob: Treasurer
Other members of the Steering Group were asked to help take ownership of meetings by doing whatever jobs they see needed at the time
5. Mike and Toby completed the forms required to set up the bank account by Rob. Rob will now open an account called 'Shores of south Devon' with Natwest Bank in Newton Abbot.
6. A discussion took place about membership and fees. All members of the Steering Group must be members. Members will pay £10 to join and £3 to attend a talk. Non-members will pay £4 per talk. Only members can attend a field trip / safari, but talks are open to all. Entry price should include refreshments. Members will be asked to bring an application form and cash to first talk for time being - in due course it should be possible to pay via BACS.
7. Constitution etc
TS to amend membership form and circulate it to people on his mailing list and Facebook and website before the next meeting
Rob to look over data policy statement and produce a revised one
Toby to produce revised constitution based on Andrew's suggested amendments to the Coastwise constitution, and changing 'committee' to 'steering group'.
Mike to produce a field trip protocol sheet
All these documents will be placed on the website in due course
8. Website to include the names of the Steering Group members
9. Safaris to be undertaken at own risk. No children without a responsible adult member in attendance will be allowed. One idea is to ask members for each attendee to carry a yellow identification card (that could be supplied by Mike) as used by Devon Bird Group.
10. A discussion took place about the desirability of having other venues besides Eastcliff. Other possible venues in Teignmouth are the Heritage Centre, TAAG (once refurbished) and The Ice Factory. A June talk will be arranged to take place at Heritage Centre, probably at 4 pm. Mike to arrange a speaker (possibly with help from Peter).
11. We still need to define what SOSD is for (i.e. its aims). Mike has produced an initial aims statement which may need to be expanded. (Basically Toby suggested that it should be about the coastal margin of south Devon with emphasis on the shore. As a guide to what this means I think we need look no further than the Collins book 'British Coastal Wildlife').
12. Toby is to contact TCYC to see if we can bring our own refreshments to a talk. Anne and Toby to liaise about who should do what (in addition Toby's wife, Kerry, has offered to help).

13. Coronavirus. At the moment the government advice can be summarised as 'keep calm and carry on'. If that advice change we will take appropriate action. Should a speaker not wish to come then we will arrange another date for them and adjust accordingly.
14. The next meeting will be a brief ad hoc get together after the next talk on 19th March to assess where things are and what needs to be done next.
15. The date of AGM was not decided on, but will probably in take place in the Autumn.
16. The meeting ended at 1630 h.