

Shores of South Devon (marine life interest group)

Steering Group Minutes

3rd Meeting

27th August 2020 19:30 h, by Zoom

1. Note: There are actions for **TS**, **MP** and **CH** in these minutes
2. Present: Toby Sherwin (co-chair), Mike Puleston (co-chair), Rob Morgan (Treasurer), Peter Jonas, Anne Gwynn, Celia Hadow
3. Apologies: Andrew Burgess
4. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved
5. Matters arising:

A small amount of work has been done on the website. The “Code of Conduct on the Shore” and “Group Aims” sheets have yet to be posted on it. **CH** was invited to join the Steering Group.
6. Membership report (**TS**):

So far we have 11 members (including two members of the steering group who haven't officially joined yet!). Only three people are not linked to the steering group. It was suggested that **TS** resend the invitation to join as the lack of members was hindering the group from undertaking more actions (see below). Action **TS**.
7. Treasurer's report (**RM**):

As at end of business on 26 August, the balance of the bank account stood at £80.00. We also hold £17.85 cash. This brings our total holdings to £97.85. Since the last meeting income has been from 6 further membership payments as follows:
E Gwynn £5; P Jonas £10; LR Jameson £5; Aryanna Japhayel £5; J Agate £5; Shields & Hadow £5
Total membership payments since inception now total £50.
8. Safaris and Zoom talks:

A safari was held at Bundle Head, Shaldon on 22nd July that was attended by members of the Steering Group: MP, TS, AG, CH and RM. It was agreed that another safari be held at a date and venue arranged by **MP** and **TS**. The size of the safari would probably be limited to 10 people who would all need to be members of SoSD.

Action: **MP** and **TS**.

The Steering Group had a wide ranging discussion lead by **MP** about reaching a wider audience, encouraging people to join SoSD (in addition to the Facebook site) and holding live Zoom talks during the Covid19 restrictions. There were a number of topics:

Facebook. The Facebook site is proving very active with 421 followers at the last count.

Twitter. **MP** said that many of the scientists at the MBA use Twitter to communicate their observations and he thought it might be an idea for SoSD to join Twitter. Since none of the other members of the Steering Group had experience of Twitter he was asked to investigate it further.

Zoom talks. **MP** has approached one or two members of the MBA about giving a talk via Zoom and the group agreed that this suggestion should be pursued. **TS** pointed out that we would need to set up a Zoom account to do this which would cost £120 for an annual subscription, more than we have in the bank. He said that we would need more members first. **PJ** suggested that as a loss leader Steering Group members should underwrite the cost of the first talk (this was agreed). **MP** said that he approach the Rockpool Project to see how they organise their talks. [Post meeting **RM** discovered that we could subscribe to Zoom for one month at a time for only £12]. **TS** said that he had approached Coastwise North Devon about collaborating on live Zoom talks (**MP** is giving one in November). Whilst not specifically being able to collaborate at the moment they will be delighted to invite our members to join their talks which take place in the morning on Thursdays. We should reciprocate and invite their members to join ours.

Action: **MP** to investigate Twitter and to collaborate with **TS** to set up a Zoom talk in September, which will be paid for with a £12 subscription to Zoom and invitations made on the SoSD Facebook site and to Coastwise members.

9. AOB

CH was asked to talk to Teignbridge DC officers to discover how things stand with the hiring / purchase of beach huts at Dawlish and to clarify the procedure and potential costs. Action: **CH**.

10. Next meeting:

There will be another Zoom meeting on Thursday October 1st at 19:30 subject to confirmation.

11. The meeting ended at 20:40 h.