Steering Group Minutes

22nd Meeting

9th May 2022 19:30 h, by Zoom

1. Present: Toby Sherwin (co-Chair and Secretary), Mike Puleston(co-Chair), Rob Morgan (Treasurer), Pete Jonas, Sue Watson-Bate
2. Apologies: Anne Gwynn
3. Minutes of last Meeting and Matters arising:
The minutes were accepted. **TS** stated that he had not yet submitted any data from the Facebook site to Paul Naylor for the SWME annual report. The SoSD logo and banners have been produced, collected and paid for. The article about the Corbyn Head Bioblitz that **MP** submitted to the Mid-Devon Advertiser has yet to be published.
4. Chairman’s report
All matters are discussed below.
5. Treasurer’s report and Membership (**RM**):
As of close of business on 6 May 2022, the balance of the bank account stood at £397.97 Expenditure consisted of payment of £264 to Swiftprint for banners. Income was £6.88 in card payments for meeting/lecture attendance. The cash holding remains at £93.15, making our total holding £491.12.
6. Facebook
The Facebook site continues to be well supported and has recently had some excellent postings. There have been a few attempts at inappropriate posts but these have been comfortably handled by the administrators. Applicants who had applied to join and did not answer the questions and rules were usually rejected, and those few who were reminded to answer the questions invariably failed to do so.
7. Talks and speakers
Heather Buttivant’s Zoom talk about inter-tidal sea slugs on 19th April was well received and has been posted on the Youtube channel. Matt Slater of the Cornwall Wildlife Trust will give the final talk of the Spring season on 10th May.

Sarah Greenslade of the Seal Project gave a live talk at the Royal Torbay Yacht Club on 14th April which was well received. The meeting was rearranged in the Conference Room at the club and the easy proximity to the bar meant it was well used. The new logo and banners were displayed at the meeting. Nigel Mortimer of the the South Devon AONB will give the next live talk in the Billiard Room at the RTYC about on 19th May. In order to allow people to get to the bar before the talk doors will open at 1900 h and Steering Group members are asked to arrive before then to help with arrangements and to register attendees. As the main Corinthian Room is being used that evening, visitors are asked to get their drinks from the club Members’ Bar and to return with them to the Billiard Room. **TS** will provide copies of the membership forms, card reader, petty cash and other material for the doorkeeper as well as the Wonders of our Shore display boards. The order of events will be as before:

a) (1930 h) Welcome and introduction to SoSD (TS)
b) Talk (NM)
c) Questions
d) SoSD announcements
f) (2115 h approx) Finish

The talk will be publicised on our Facebook site as well as on Torbay Nature and details will be sent to Association members. (Actions for **all**).
8. Autumn speakers
**MP** intends to produce a programme of Zoom talks this Autumn and is lining up speakers. So far: Belle Heaton will be talking about her research on Pacific Oysters in the South-west; a Dutch bryozoan expert is being approached and **TS** has been tasked to approach Mike Burrows at the Scottish Association for Marine Science.
For live talks **TS** will approach Paul Naylor, Rob Hughes, Georgie Bull
9. Rockpool Project Bioblitzes
(Note: the Rockpool Project have removed the prefix ‘mini’ to their bioblitzes). The Bioblitz at Bundle Head, Shaldon went very well with **TS**, **AG**, **PJ** and **MP** attending and over 70 species recorded. There was a minor problem with uploading all the data which has yet to be resolved. Ordinary SoSD members were invited to attend, but none came.

The next Bioblitz will be at South Milton Sands, South Hams, on Sunday 15th May. LW (Plymouth) is at 1211 h and we will meet at the National Trust car park at the southern end of Thurlestone Sand (TQ7 3JY) at 1000 h. The Bioblitz will be open to all Association members. **TS** will upload the results.
10. “Turn the Tide” stand
A discussion was held about the forthcoming stand at the Queen’s Jubilee celebration to be held on Thursday June 2nd on the Lawn, Dawlish. Dawlish Town Council will be providing a Gazebo and two tables. Our stall will need to be manned between 1000 and 1600 h and **MP**, **AG** and **TS** will definitely be there. Other members of the Association will be asked to join if they can. **TS** will separately produce a paper detailing the SoSD arrangements. It was agreed that **TS** should buy two display boards from SoSD funds (guesstimated cost £120).
11. Other business
**MP** and **RM** will collaborate to produce a SoSD ‘Shore Code’ in time for the Turn the Tide event,
12. Next meeting
The next meeting will be at 1930 on Tuesday 7th June 2022.
13. The meeting ended at 2100 h.