



Shores of South Devon

Minutes of AGM November 6th 2024

TAAG 4/5 Northumberland Place, Teignmouth

Chair's Report

1. **Welcome** everyone and guest speakers, Laura Roberts and Stuart Collier
2. **Attending:** Toby Sherwin (meeting Chair and co-founder SoSD), Mike Puleston (co-Founder), Pete Jonas (acting Treasurer), Anne Gwynn (Steering Group), Lynne Jonas, Graeme Smith, Celia Hadow, Justine Davies, Liz Hampton, Duncan George
3. **Apologies:** Roger Wooten, Caron Ruse, Sam Smith
4. **Introduce** self and Mike, Pete and Anne.
Three SG members have **stepped down** - Sue Watson-Bate, Rob Morgan and Belle Heaton - and the Chair thanked them for contributions over the years.
It was intended to discuss the **implications** after the talk, but given the time available this discussion had to be postponed.
5. The **Minutes** of last years meeting were unanimously approved
6. The chair then repeated SoSD **aims**
7. The Acting **Treasurer's report** was presented (see Appendix) along with a summary of membership numbers
In 2024 there were a little more than 37 paid up members (down from last year)
New tables and chairs were acquired for the hut at Coryton Cove (total £448.33) and between £100 and £150 has yet to be paid for outstanding expense claims. The total cash going forward is £250.
The Treasurer's report was accepted without dissent.
8. The **Facebook** site remains the main public face of Shores of South Devon with 2200 followers. It is Administered by Mike, Toby, Sue Watson-Bate and Jana Fischer. The rules about what is posted is strictly enforced and in general has little abuse.

9. In 2024 10 **Shoresearches** were held on beaches ranging in location between Goodrington, Paignton in west and Langstone Rock, Dawlish in east. A total of 60 people attended them and an average ~64 species per search were found; all the data have been downloaded to the DWT database.
In addition Mike organised a **Barnacle Bonanza** at Corbyn Head where people were taught about the various barnacles that are found at mid-shore.
10. **Stalls and Hut.** A total of 4 **stalls** were held to display the wonders of the shore to lay adults and children at Dawlish, Newton Abbot, Combeinteignhead and Slapton Ley. During the summer SoSD took occupation of a small **Beach Hut** at Coryton Cove, Dawlish in partnership with Dawlish Against Plastic, thanks to a donation by Teignbridge District Council. The hut will be used as a base for occasional displays about life on our local shores. Celia Hadow helped with the stalls and Ian Shields helped with fitting out the hut.
11. The Chair thanked all who had contributed to SoSD activities in the last year, especially Celia Hadow and Jana Fischer for helping out at stalls and administering the Facebook Site respectively.
12. In conclusion the chair stated that given that since three members of the Steering Group had resigned in the last 12 months and no replacements had been found the future of the Association was precarious. There was not enough time for a discussion at the AGM and it was proposed that an Extraordinary General Meeting be held in December to decide how to proceed.

Invited Talk

13. After the Chair's report Laura and Stuart Collier of Conservation Chat UK gave a talk about the Porpoises of Berry Head which was well received.
14. The meeting ended at 2100 h.

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Acting Treasurers Report for the period 1st October 2023 to 31st October 2024

Opening Balance on 1st October 2023: £574.82

Assets Held as: Bank Account	£463.17
Petty Cash	£111.65

Income over Period 01/10/23 to 31/10/24

	£
Donations (Shoresearches, walks, etc.)	34.00
Meeting Attendance Fees	42.00
Membership subscriptions	370.00

Total **446.00**

Expenditure over Period 01/10/23 to 31/10/24

	£
Public Liability Insurance	64.42
Zoom Fees	112.39
2 Tables and 2 Chairs for events	448.33

Total **625.14**

Balance as of 1st November 2024 **£395.68**

Assets Held as: Bank Account	£284.03
Petty Cash	£111.65

Comment

The SoSD assets remain reasonably healthy despite some quite significant expenditure on tables and chairs to support work at events, particularly with activities on the shore at Dawlish using the shared beach hut at Coryton Cove, which was generously provided by Teignbridge District Council. Membership subscriptions remain a major source of revenue to the Association and support its outreach activities.

Dr Peter Jonas
Acting Treasurer, Shores of South Devon