

Shores of South Devon (marine life interest group)

Steering Group Minutes

2nd Meeting

16th July 2020 19:30 h, by Zoom

1. Present: Toby Sherwin (co-chair), Mike Puleston (co-chair), Rob Morgan (Treasurer), Peter Jonas
2. Apologies: Anne Gwynn
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved
4. Matters arising:
MP agreed to write out “Code of Conduct on the Shore” and “Group Aims” sheets to be posted on the website
5. Treasurer’s report:
RM reported that the SoSD bank account with NatWest had now been opened. Because it is a Business account it will be run from their Honiton Branch rather than Newton Abbot. However, this should not be a problem as interaction will be by internet or personal contact in Newton Abbot. There will be no charges for transactions apart from foreign exchange (unlikely). **RM** has put £40 in the account and held back £17.85 cash which comprises takings from our first two meetings (£47.85) and £10 membership fee from **RM** himself.
6. Website:
TS reported that the Website was up and running, although there were still some pages that need expanding or updating. So far he had no bill from the service provider IONOS and thus the website has not cost us any money to date.
7. Meetings and safaris:
It was agreed that it would be very difficult to plan far ahead with meetings and safaris under the present Covid 19 situation. There will be a 6 person safari at Shaldon next week (attended mostly by SG members) and we should discuss the future of safaris after that. **MP** was very keen to emphasise the value of getting involved in Citizen Science projects and he specifically mentioned the Rockpool project’s Bioblitz and species surveys; the Marine Invaders survey; and the Seaweed Search. All are quite easy and relatively quick to undertake and would provide a good framework for SoSD

to get people involved whilst we can't meet indoors.

8. Membership:

Now that we have a Bank Account we can encourage membership of SoSD. Although we can't offer much to tempt people to join at present it would be very helpful to get a mailing list formalised. At the moment all we can offer is being able to attend any safaris, be involved in the running of SoSD and have an early warning of when talks restart. There can be no General Meeting of members for the time being. **TS** suggested that we charge a nominal joining fee of £5 to run for the rest of 2020 or until the end of Covid and meeting places (and hence meetings) open up, whichever is later. The membership form will be revised accordingly and people will be asked to pay the £5 by bank transfer and send a completed but unsigned application form to **TS** via the website. The existing mailing list will be used to alert people who had attended the inaugural meeting (and don't use Facebook), and an advertisement will be put on the Facebook site.

9. AOB

- a) SoSD has had a Blog page of 'Visit South Devon' dedicated to it following an approach by them.
- b) It was agreed that Celia Hadow, who is fronting the Dawlish Beach Hut project and has recently retired from employment with Teignbridge D.C., be invited to join the Steering Group.

10. Next meeting:

There will be another Zoom meeting on Thursday August 20th at 19:30 subject to confirmation.

11. The meeting ended at 20:25.