



Jersey Biodiversity Centre
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JERSEY BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

Seventh Annual General Meeting

13.00-14.15 17th July 2023, Societe Members Room

Attendees

Jersey Biodiversity Centre: Jonathan Rault JR (JBC Manager), Sarah Maguire SM (Education Officer)

Officers of the Charity (Committee): Anne Haden AH (Chair), David Tipping DT (Vice Chair), Andrew Koester AK (Treasurer), Ruth Urben RU (Secretary).

Elected Members of the Charity (Committee): Kevin McIlwee KM, Yvonne Rabet YR, Tim Wright TW.

Government Representative (Committee): Marc Woodhall MW.

General Members of the Charity: Millie Butel, Annette Cabot, Rose Anne Mitchell, Richard Perchard

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the AGM, welcoming all who had spared the time to attend and thanking them for their interest and support.

2. Apologies

Elected Member of the Charity (Committee): Deirdre Shirreffs

General Members of the Charity: Rebecca Bailhache, Fiona Cassels-Brown, Jill Tompkins, David Walwyn

3. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted

Proposer David Tipping

Secunder Tim Wright

4. Financial Report to 31st December 2022 (Andrew Koester)

- Main issues needing resolution were:
 - > loss of access to the JBC NatWest International accounts, which bank was slow to sort out; the Société Jersiaise very kindly funded the staff wages for the period.
 - > change in JBC- Société Jersiaise agreement, requiring JBC to register as a business with Social Security and Revenue Jersey and to contract in a consultant for payroll and HR services. HR Now Ltd have been appointed.

- Income and Expenditure Account
 - > £15,000 income generated from agreement with the Government of Jersey, Dept of Infrastructure, Housing and Environment.
 - > £11,260 income from commercial activities (data base searches for local environmental consultants)
 - > £41,208 expenses for staff costs (this is the highest cost) .
 - > £9,001 cost for website development.
 - > £2,254 education support costs.
 - > £555 insurance renewal cost. This will triple for 2023 to comply with the increased public liability cover required by the new Agreement for the Provision of Services (APoS) with the Government.
 - > Net loss for 2022 of £30,351, funded by a transfer from the Funds Account.
- Funds Account
 - > £92,896 at year start; plus £32,086 additional funds; less £30,351 transfer to the Income and Expenditure account (above); result £94,631 year end closing balance.
- Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022
 - > £92,372 at NatWest International.
 - > Plus £2,562 (debtors).
 - > Less £303 (creditors).
 - > Result £94,631 Net Current Assets.
 - > With no Fixed Assets, the Total Year End Assets are the same figure of £94,631 which equals the Funds Account balance.
- Notes are included with Financial Statements which explain the various lines in the accounts.
- Comments and questions were invited: none arose.

The 2022 financial accounts were accepted.

Proposer	Yvonne Rabet
Seconder	Rose Anne Mitchell

5. Chairperson's report 2022 (Anne Haden)

- Another successful year for JBC. It continues to strengthen and develop and is steadily building on the recording, educational, financial, procedural and administrative activities of the centre. For example:
 - > strong financial position and management;
 - > an additional 22,000 records;
 - > increased income from commercial searches;
 - > rebranding package in readiness for updated website;
 - > new part-time staff member, Simon Swain, continues with the data entry and management he has been expertly handling during his years of volunteering with JBC;
 - > continuing progress on data and website linkage with other Channel Islands and the National Biodiversity Network (NBN).
- Sadly, Michelle Grey resigned as JBC Manager, with considerable regret, for health reasons. She had made great improvements to JBC management and policy development and had successfully bid for a £56,000 Fiscal Stimulus Fund package for the website development that is now in progress. We look forward to her continuing support for JBC.
- Jon Rault was recruited as Manager at the end of 2022. With years of conservation experience working for the National Trust for Jersey and the Government of Jersey, Jon is ideal to build on Michelle's and Sarah's work and to progress JBC. Although not in post until 2023, he will present the report on the JBC activities and achievements of 2022.

- While not within the 2022 reporting year, I should mention our imminent loss of another dedicated JBC staff. A stalwart member of the team for 6 years, Sarah Maguire will resign in August for a full-time lectureship at Highlands. During her tenure, she has supported 3 new JBC managers, initiated many schemes with the community, strengthened volunteer input to JBC, encouraged record submission, verified entries and, for inter-manager periods, has singlehandedly maintained JBC progress. We owe her a large debt of gratitude and wish her all success in her Highlands role. Our sincere thanks and appreciation, Sarah.
- I also wish to thank the JBC committee for their continuing support in their different and varied ways. Special mention to David Tipping for always being willing to pick up the phone and offer far seeing ideas coupled with sound advice, and to Andrew Koester whose hard work and accounting expertise has transformed the JBC financial management and reporting.
- JBC has achieved much during the year, as Jon will report. We have become the 'go to' authority for Jersey wildlife records and we will build on this success. All of you fully understand that we must record what we have to have a chance to preserve it. The pressures on Jersey wildlife will only increase: JBC is determined to do all it can, with the community, to protect our flora and fauna.

Thank you all.

6. JBC Report 2022 (Jon Rault, Manager)

- JBC database: data submission, verification and use
 - > 517,122 records in the JBC database.
 - > 133,442 protected species records in the JBC database.
 - > 22088 records entered into the JBC database for 2022; approx. 1000 Seasearch records pending.
 - > Birds, flowering plants, butterflies, moths are consistently the most recorded groups.
 - > Of the top 8 most recorded species, all but one are butterflies (UKBMS), with hedgehogs in position 4.
 - > 83% of all records in the JBC database are JBC general records, with other major record sources being UKBMS (10%), Seasearch (4%), and iRecord website and apps (2%).
 - > JBC general records accounted for 53% of all records submitted for 2022, with other major record sources for 2022 being UKBMS (28%), iRecord website and apps (15%) and iNaturalist (2%).
- Staffing
 - > Simon Swain appointed as part time Data Officer
 - > 2 internships – Digital design (Jessica); Biodiversity (Genny)
 - > The number of regular volunteers increased from 1 to 5, contributing 745 hrs in 2022.
 - > Student placements (Highlands) contributed 336 hrs.
- Education and Outreach
 - > General
 - Educational visits to in schools and colleges reached 414 learners aged 5-18.
 - Events aimed at reaching older teenagers and adults reached 481 individuals.
 - In addition to in person events, JBC staff and volunteers developed a number of resources to support PondWatch themed lessons. This included a pond maintenance guide and a school Pondwatch pack.
 - JBC, GROW and the National Trust for Jersey partnered to run a stand at the Healthy Living and Lifestyle event in November. The focus of the stand was 'gardening for wildlife' with a focus on communicating the key messages of the pollinator project. 207 people visited the stall over three days.
 - > Training and Workshops
 - Pondwatch. Held in February. Consisting of a public day for level 1 and level 2 recording and a new level 3 surveyors training.
 - Ponds and pollinators workshop held in March.
 - Marine mammal identification. Held in April.

- Pollinators in education teacher training event held in October (supported by Ogier).
 - Bee hotel building workshops held in June and August (supported by Ogier) with the resulting bee hotels distributed to local schools.
 - Biological recording training day for the staff of the National Trust for Jersey.
 - > Walks and Talks
 - Towards the beginning of the year our chair Anne Haden hosted a Spring wildflower walk at Grosnez.
 - In May John Poland delivered a talk about the rare plants of Britain while visiting the Island.
 - Reptiles and Pollinators of Gorey Castle and the surrounding area. 2 walks per day over the course of a week in July. Run in partnership with Jersey Heritage.
 - Bee walks in Howard Davis Park, Millennium Park and Parade gardens In July and August (supported by Ogier).
 - Sarah organised and delivered a talk entitled “The secret life of bees” in October.
 - > Art and Photography
 - Wildlife photography exhibition in Link Gallery throughout January.
 - Wildlife art evenings held throughout the year.
 - > Communications and Media
 - The JBC newsletter has grown slightly to 110 subscribers.
 - The JBC’s social media following has grown to 1650 Facebook followers and 812 Instagram followers.
 - Articles were published in the Jersey Evening Post in February and May.
- 2023 and Beyond
 - > Database work.
 - Errors, duplicate records, missing data.
 - Monitoring dataset audits. Missing data e.g Farmland Birds survey 2014-17. Important to dedicate some resources to auditing the data that the JBC holds that comes in from Jerseys monitoring schemes.
 - Verification. Important that the JBC dedicates some resources to tackling some of the issues surrounding record verification.
 - Increasing taxonomic coverage. Encourage and support people in recording the less popular groups. Possible solution would be to invite experts to lead training and field recording.
 - Adding functionality. Alerts system tool cloned from iRecord. This allows the governments biosecurity team to receive alerts when a record of a species of biosecurity concern is submitted, which helps ensure a quick response.
 - > Data access.
 - Local stakeholders. E.g. Societe sections, staff role for the National Trust for Jersey that will enable them to directly access records relating to land in their care to inform their site management plans.
 - NBN (National Biodiversity Network).
 - > CiRecord partnership.
 - Really positive developments this year in terms of how records centres work together across the Channel Islands. Meeting to discuss how records centres can share knowledge and resources. Going forward we will continue to share the costs of developing the infrastructure that we need.
 - Website development. Bailiwick of Guernsey adopting the same indicia database system used in Jersey. Two linked websites, one for Jersey and one for the Bailiwick of Guernsey (to serve Guernsey, Alderney, Sark).

- Shared branding. JBC secured funding to develop its branding and a new website theme. Branding and website theme is being made available for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Biological Records centre to use.
 - Looking in to developing Channel Island recording apps.
- > Projects.
 - Call for project proposals.
 - Identify priority projects.
 - Provide support to implementers of selected projects.
- > Stakeholder consultation and survey.
 - The JBC will be undertaking a survey later in the year which will help guide the future direction of the organisation.
 - Government.
 - Professional consultants.
 - The biological recording community.
 - Land managers.
- > JBC management.
 - Business plan development.
 - Review staff roles and job descriptions.
 - Explore funding opportunities.
- Questions? None arose.

7. Election of Committee

Officers

The current elected officers in the posts of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary have completed their term. In the absence of other nominees, all are willing to stand for re- election.

Chair	Nominee	Anne Haden		
	Proposer	Kevin Mcllwee	Seconders	Tim Wright
Vice Chair	Nominee	David Tipping		
	Proposer	Yvonne Rabet	Seconders	Kevin Mcllwee
Secretary	Nominee	Ruth Urben		
	Proposer	Tim Wright	Seconders	Andrew Koester
Treasurer	Andrew Koester, the current office holder, agreed at the end of AGM 6 (July 2022) to fill the vacant post but was not formally elected.			
	Proposer	David Tipping	Seconders	Yvonne Rabet

Other elected members

Three current committee members remain in post. Kevin Mcllwee is willing to stand for re-election

Nominee	Kevin Mcllwee
Proposer	Yvonne Rabet
Seconders	Andrew Koester

8. 2023-24 committee

Chair	Anne Haden
Vice-Chair	David Tipping
Treasurer	Andrew Koester
Secretary	Ruth Urben

Member	Kevin McIlwee
Member	Yvonne Rabet
Member	Deirdre Shirreffs
Member	Tim Wright

Government representative	Marc Woodhall
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9. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Close of Business

The AGM closed at 14:15. The Chair thanked all for coming, encouraging all to find and record wildlife.

Supporting documents

Financial Accounts to 31st December 2022
Treasurer's Report
Chair's Report
Manager's Report