

Henfield Birdwatch Annual General Meeting Minutes – 25th April 2025 at 19:00

A record of attendees and apologies for absence was kept

Item	Notes and any actions
1	Chairman's Opening Remarks
	<p>The meeting opened at 19:08. The Chairman welcomed everyone to our 26th AGM and noted two further apologies for absence.</p>
2	Minutes of the Last Meeting
	<p>The Chairman commented on the similarity between the minutes of all AGMs.</p> <p>For the first time ever, an issue was raised about the minutes when Eddie Colgate pointed out the misspelling of his surname in item 2.</p> <p>The meeting unanimously agreed that (typo aside) they were an accurate record of the 2024 AGM.</p>
3	Treasurer's Report
	<p>The Audits Accounts had been available for review on the website prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The group's finances remain strong despite rising prices, including the cost of hiring the hall. We are also paying a bit more for some excellent speakers.</p> <p>We have over 300 members, which is our main source of income, along with entrance fees for non-members who come to talks.</p> <p>Money raised at the Big Bird Bash was donated to the Haven as usual.</p> <p>The main difference this year is the outlay for the Birds of Henfield book, which will be recovered across financial years.</p> <p>The meeting unanimously approved the accounts.</p>

4	Chairman's Report
	<p>The Chairman highlighted a few items from his report.</p> <p>The Anniversary year had been a significant success, with well attended talks and walks.</p> <p>The Birds of Henfield book was an outstanding success, although we had underestimated the amount of volunteer effort that it took to produce. The effort produced a book that was well worth waiting for and has sold well. Particular thanks were given to the main author, Paul Cole. The meeting showed its appreciation with a round of applause.</p> <p>The Chairman also highlighted the success of joint ventures with Sustainable Henfield.</p> <p>Finally, the Chairman thanked the committee for their work in the last year. Thanks were given to Debbie Colgate who had stood down from the committee to concentrate on projects relating to Swifts.</p>
5	Election of the Committee
	<p>With the exception of the Secretary, Debbie Colgate, all members of the committee were re-standing for 2025/26. Jane Stabler had volunteered to stand as Minutes Secretary.</p> <p>All committee members were re-elected unanimously by the meeting.</p>
6	AOB
	There was no AOB and the meeting closed at 19:17