MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BIRDS SA

held on 19 January 2018 at the

CHARLES HAWKER CONFERENCE CENTRE, WAITE ROAD, URRBRAE

OPENING

John Gitsham (President) welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2018 at 7:50 pm.

APOLOGIES

Peter Gower, Penny Paton, Bea Rogers

MINUTES

Merilyn Browne moved that the “Minutes of the General Meeting held on 24 November 2017 as posted on the website be accepted". Seconded by Merinda Hyland. Carried.

NEW MEMBERS

John Gitsham asked if any new members were present to show their hand.

MOTION

John Spiers said that we have been lucky for many years to have one of our own members audit the accounts for Birds SA but it is now difficult to get someone to continue.

John Spiers moved that "Andrew Willing, Chartered Accountant be appointed the auditor of Birds SA for the financial year ended December 31, 2017 and that his quote for audit services of $700.00 plus GST be accepted". Seconded by Brian Walker. Carried

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Tolderol bird monitoring day is on Tuesday, 20 February.

A “Birds and Bikkies” event will be held this Sunday at Thompson Beach from 8.00am-11.00am.

John Gitsham said that the trip to Gluepot Reserve from 20-22 April was almost booked out but there was still two spots left. We will be staying at Waikerie.

John Gitsham summarized the successful talks with BirdLife Australia's Affiliation Team about Birds SA's affiliation. BirdLife Australia had been planning to set up a branch in Adelaide, but won’t happen now. Once the affiliation goes through, both associations’ logos would appear on all combined activities publicity about birding events in South Australia.

SPEAKER

John Hatch introduced the speaker Colin Rogers. Colin gave a talk on "Birding the Seychelles, Mauritius and Reunion, 19-30 October 2017". In the Seychelles islands visited were Mahe, Praslin Cousin, La Digue and Aride. From Mauritius visits were made to Rodrigues Island and Round Island (Île Ronde). He discussed the difficulty in identifying a pale morph of the Trindade Petrel found off Round Island. Colin's final word was "Don't go with other professional twitchers."

BIRD CALL (Graham Carpenter)

Graham said that with the weather warming up it is worthwhile looking for swifts. There had been recent reports of Pacific Swifts.

Tolderol – Oriental Pratincole

Hallett Cove, Seacliff – Hooded Plover – successful breeding

Fox Lake / Pub Lake, Robe – Latham's Snipe

Whites Road Wetlands – Glossy Ibis

Magazine Road Wetlands – Musk Duck

Laratinga Wetlands – Elegant Parrot

Prospect – Pacific Koel

Goolwa – Curlew Sandpiper – flagged blue/yellow (Bohai Bay)

Bald Hill Beach – Grey Plover

Thompson Beach – Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone, Lesser Sand Plover

Port Clinton – Grey-tailed Tattler, Common Greenshank

Port Parham – Banded Lapwing

Port Wakefield Caravan Park – Common Sandpiper

FIELD TRIPS (Lynton Huxley)

Lynton gave the sad news that Bill Mountain's funeral was held on Tuesday. He was a great supporter of Paiwalla Wetlands.

The field trip to the Onkaparinga Wetlands was cancelled due to the high temperature. The next trip is to Paiwalla Wetlands on 28 January. Trips are cancelled if the forecast temperature is over 36**°.** All trips are on the noticeboard.

Thanks were given to John Edmeades from the Friends of Aldinga Scrub who helped out on the recent field trip.

CONSERVATION

Jeff Groves provided a summary of what the Conservation Sub-committee has been doing:

* Thompson Beach crabbing – letters have been sent to Ministers Bignell and Hunter.
* The link to an article (Forty Things to Do) about crabbing on the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources has been removed.
* A submission has been made on the Management Plan for Monarto Parks (Kinchina, Monarto Woodlands, Monarto and Ferries-McDonald Conservation Parks).
* William Brooker has been looking at the impact of the Gillman land sale on the Whicker Road wetlands.
* Brian Blaylock and Jeff Groves attended the Duck and Quail Hunting meeting. A key point is that the quail season is not based on any scientific data.
* The Conservation Sub-committee is looking for new members.

John Gitsham said that Primary Industry and Resources SA (PIRSA) have stepped up their compliance.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Birds SA have become a partner with BirdLife Australia in the SA Shorebird Alliance to promote Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges projects to protect habitat. The Alliance will seek funding from the Australian Government.

A discussion took place on Membership Cards. Most members supported the continuation of cards being provided. The Management Committee will look at the best way of doing this.

NEXT MEETING

John Gitsham closed the meeting at 9:15 pm. The next meeting is on 23 February 2018.

Signed……………………………………………….. Date………………………