



**DRAFT Minutes
CCF COUNCIL MEETING
1 PM, 22 April 2009
British Antarctic Survey**

1. **Present:** Andrew Clarke, Chair; Val Kapos, Secretary; Shaenandoa Garcia-Rangel, WRG; Gustavo Canale, WRG; Helen Temple, IUCN Red List; Sarah Moon, CCI; Keith Virgo, TAA; Pamela Abbott, NE; Rachel Austin, FFI; Guy Norton, Treasurer; Toby Gardner, Zoology; Mark Eaton, RSPB; Louise Bacon, CBC; Richard Phillips, BAS; Bill Sutherland, Zoology.
2. **Apologies:** Rosie Trevelyan, Deputy Chair; Pete Carey, CEH; David Chivers, Wildlife Research Group; Teresa Mulliken, TRAFFIC;
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved
4. **Matters arising:** none, apart from items covered below.
5. **CCF elections:** The meeting included a quorum of CCF member organisations and in addition TBA and TRAFFIC had registered absentee votes. Therefore, all candidates were elected with immediate effect. The CCF Committee is now composed of the following officers:
 Chair: Pamela Abbott, Natural England
 Deputy Chair: Pete Carey, friend
 Secretary: Valerie Kapos, friend
 Treasurer: Toby Gardner, Zoology Dept
6. **2010 symposium** There is an active Symposium committee of 6 members. The date for the 2010 Annual Symposium has been set for 8th January, and facilities have been booked at Murray Edwards College. A preliminary notice has gone out requesting offers of presentations. The aim of the symposium is for CCF members to share info on activities and issues of current interest and the timing of the symposium at the beginning of the International Year of Biodiversity provides an additional opportunity and impetus. Contact points for the symposium committee include: Keith Virgo (keith.virgo@btinternet.org) and Fiona Riggall (fiona.riggall@fauna-flora.org) and Jilly Mcnaughton (jilly.mcnaughton@fauna-flora.org).
7. **Summer excursion:** Plans are going ahead for the CCF summer excursion, which has been scheduled for 3rd June and will visit the private nature reserve owned by Tony Martin & Gilly Banks. A first announcement was included in the April newsletter. Further arrangements will be finalised and updates will follow. **Action:** Andrew Clarke agreed to continue with the arrangements for the excursion including arranging a coach and catering and further announcements and booking process.
8. **Themed Symposium** – Council discussed the desirability of building on the success of the Agriculture Symposium to hold a regular themed symposium. It agreed this is a good idea, while recognising that it is too late to arrange a summer one for this year. The suggestion was made that themed symposia should be held in alternate years. However, Climate Change Adaptation, which is the front running idea for the next themed event, has particular relevance this year, so it was agreed to investigate the feasibility of pulling together a themed symposium on this topic for late September or Early October 2009. Alternatively it could be organised for June 2010. There was also some discussion on possible sources of funding and it was agreed that it could be worthwhile approaching LWEC for support. **Action:** Sarah Moon agreed to try to form a small committee, assemble list of potential speakers & check for their interest and availability.

9. Other CCF events/activities: A CCF-hosted seminar has been requested for the series of consultation events on CCI being organised by Mike Rands. This would give an opportunity for CCF members that are not core CCI members to provide input to how CCI develops and learn more about the process and their own possible roles. It should be attended primarily by individuals in a position to engage on behalf of their organisations. Council recognised that there might also be interest from people at other levels within CCI member organisations. CCI aims to complete the series of seminars before 19th July ; for some CCF members, it will be easier to attend after 25th June. **Action:** Sarah Moon/Mike Rands to propose a date after 25th June. Val to circulate an announcement, which should make it clear that the event, though open, is primarily for non CCI members and instruct CCF nodes to identify and encourage relevant individuals within their organisations to attend, rather than just forwarding to their normal circulation lists.

Council agreed that the title relating to forest carbon and REDD is of the greatest general interest for the CCF seminar on 5th May. **Action:** Val to communicate this to the speaker and publicise seminar.

10. Applications for membership – The committee had not yet generated the clarifying text proposed in January. However, further discussion of the three applications for membership that were pending then led Council to approve all 3. Therefore the following are new members of CCF

Environment Africa Trust
Institute of Biology – East Anglia Branch
A Rocha

Action: Val to notify applicants and make needed website changes. Andrew Clarke agreed to draft relevant text as previously agreed.

11. Financial Report & fundraising: The current financial status of CCF is far better than it appeared in January, with approximately £4000 in the Anglia Ruskin University account. ARU's accounting formats are very confusing, providing further reason to move as soon as possible to a Co-op Community Account. Council agreed that an account should be opened with transactions requiring any 2 of 5 signatures (officers + outgoing treasurer). Options and motivations for fundraising were discussed and it was agreed that fundraising through the Cambridge business community would be a promising avenue. **Action:** Toby to open Co-op account and explore fundraising options.

12. AOB:

It was noted that the CCF website was down due to a hardware problem. The problem has since been corrected and the site is active.

The possibility of evening discussion meetings including wine were discussed and it was agreed that (especially in the light of improved financial situation) these would be a good idea. **Action:** Bill Sutherland will suggest topics and speakers

Pamela Abbott raised the possibility of using audioconferencing/webconferencing for some CCF discussions and/or for CCF to make such a facility available (i.e. CCF key & password). **Action:** Pamela to investigate possibility of an arrangement through the same supplier as, and/or facilitated by, Natural England.

Council agreed a warm vote of thanks to outgoing officers Andrew Clarke, Rosie Trevelyan and Guy Norton.

13. Next Meeting: 9th June at FFI