

Cambridge Conservation Forum Council Meeting 2018 AGM 2018

17.30- 19.00, Tuesday 27th November 2018

Venue: Common Room, David Attenborough Building

Chair: Humphrey Crick

Present

Humphrey Crick	Chair (Natural England)	HC
Roger Mitchell	Treasurer (ARCT; ARC-ESL; RSB)	RM
Josie Chambers	Membership Manager (UoC Geography)	JC
Keri Russell	Anglia Ruskin University	KR
Angelika von Heimendahl	CCF Secretary (Cam Cattle)	

Wendy Blythe	(FeCRA)	
Barbara de Waard	Biodiversity Business	
Edward Darling	Redlist Revival	
Marcelo de Lima	TBA/Conservation Connectivity Group	
Laura Friedrich	UNEP-WCMC	
Aunald Jopling	CPARG	
Jeremy Lindsell	A Rocha	
Peter Pilbeam	Cambridgeshire Mammal Group	
Adeline Serckx	TBC	
Thomas Starnes	RSPB/GIS group	
Stephen Tomkins	Cam Valley Forum	
Kit Stoner	BCT	
Flora Tiley	(Verisk)	
Charles Turner	Cam Valley Forum	
Faye Vogely	BTO	
Sue Wells	Marine Group	

Apologies

David Allen	IUCN
Louise Bacon	Cambridge Bird Group
Richard Barnes	Knysna Basin Project
Harriett Bartlett	UoC Zoology
Alice Bucker	Fauna & Flora International
Sam Buckton	UoC Nature Society
Amy Burden	The Biodiversity Consultancy
Pete Carey	UoC Plant Sciences
Tom Clements	WCS
Lizzie Duthie	Fauna & Flora International
Kevin Hand	CNHS
Pippa Heylings	Talking Transformation
Kevin Hughes	BAS
Vince Lea	Country Restoration Trust
Martin Lester	National Trust

Hannah Lintott	Shepreth Wildlife Park
James Littlewood	CPPF
Derek Murphy	Dep of Zoology, UoC
Lydia Murphy	Fauna & Flora International
David Noble	British Trust of Ornithology
Richard Phillips	BAS
Hugo Rainey	WCS
Lucas Ruzowitzky	Citizen Zoo
Judith Schleicher	CCF Vice Chair (UoC Geography)
Hazel Thornton	UNEP-WCMC/CCF Marine
Keith Virgo	TAA
Ed Wombwell	CPPF

1. Introduction (HC)

1.1. Introduction from every member to establish voting eligibility (i.e. Representation of CCF Organisational Member)

2. Minutes of the Previous Full Council Meeting from the 19th march 2018 (HC)

- Vote to approve the Minutes: Approved nem. con.

3. Treasurer's Report (RM)

Current balance as of the 27/11/2018 is just around £5,000. We are holding a higher balance in the bank than usual to pay for updating the website. It has gone up from slightly from last February.

The CCF would like to thank Will Simonson in particular for his generous donation again this year from his teaching fee on the Conservation Leadership MPhil course.

Vote to approve the Accounts (proposed by Edward Darling, seconded by Marcelo de Lima): Approved nem. con.

Wendy Blythe asked about the pricing of the re-wilding event was raised – she was concerned that it was too expensive and not accessible to members of the public who would like to participate. HC responded to explain why the fee was higher this time (e.g. speaker's travel costs and high costs due to the size of the conference) and that this is an unusually large event for CCF and that it was designed to be for a conservation professional audience, rather than the general public.

Sue Wells asked about how to book rooms in the DAB for the marine group.

Action: Tom Starnes said that he would send relevant information to the various working groups.

4. Organisational Membership

4.1. Three applications for membership were received:

- Synchronicity Earth
- Bat Conservation Trust
- Kingfishers Bridge Nature Reserve

We heard from representatives of all three of these groups about their main strategic objectives, why they wish to join CCF and what they would contribute.

Teresa Mulliken questioned whether we have suitably defined criteria for membership; in terms of geographic boundary, and criteria for maintaining membership by an organisation. It was also questioned whether people who don't have departments or headquarters based in Cambridge but live/work here should have organizational or individual membership. HC and RM noted that these issues had been discussed at previous councils meetings with respect to the revision of the CCF Constitution. It was noted that we had decided to keep the criteria slightly flexible, to allow Council discretion when approving applicants. However, it was also noted that we don't monitor the active involvement of CCF member organisations at the moment, but that this ought to be reviewed to assess whether some inactive members still wish to be a part of CCF or whether they no longer feel this is useful and would like to resign. Laura Friedrich suggested the possibility of having an "active membership" versus a "collaborative membership".

It was therefore decided to approve the three organizations and postpone any further discussions of membership criteria for a later date. All three were approved by vote.

Action: Given that the CCF strategy document expires soon, a group should be convened to refresh the strategy, during which this issue could be considered further.

JC raised the idea again of having 4 CCF member organized events per year, planned and hosted jointly by 3 CCF organizations on a voluntary and rotating basis (using raffles if need be). People were positive of this idea and several offers were made to organize events. Edward Darling offered to invite people to visit Redlist Revival next June, and Barbara de Waard offered to organize an event around the challenges of engaging oil palm businesses in Indonesia.

Action: An email needs to be sent around to all CCF reps explaining this new plan, and we need to follow up with Edward and Barbara to select a date and facilitate their contact with other organizations, as well as clarify the rules for how to choose/match organizers, and set up an online sign up sheet to start planning for future months.

4.2. Resignations (*de facto*):

It was explained that 5 groups were effectively resigning from CCF because it had been found that they had disbanded or moved away from Cambridge. RM said that Great Ouse Valley and Washes AONB Group has now reformed as a new group (the Great Ouse Valley Trust) and thus should be invited to rejoin.

5. CCF organisational matters

5.1. The revised constitution has been updated and people voted to approve it.

Jeremy Lindsell suggested that an addition was required to allow the chair to co-opt CCF members to hold CCF positions if required.

Teresa Mulliken suggested an addition in section 4.2, to add “with staff” to the phrase on criteria “based or working in Cambridge” (i.e. so it’s clear they don’t have to have a department based in Cambridge in order to be accepted).

Action: The Constitution should be finalised, with these minor amendments.

5.2. CCF Committee

All current people holding CCF executive committee positions have decided to stand for re-election. This was unanimously approved nem.con.

Tom Starnes raised a concern: he was envisioned an “iceberg” moment in 2020 when all of the committee members must be replaced because they cannot be re-elected more than once. Thus perhaps it would be strategic to replace half of the committee in 2019 and get more people involved so that the leadership is more continuous.

5.3. New Logo

The new logo was unanimously approved.

6. CCF Activity

6.1. Discussion of reports from CCF

- GIS group update: (Tom Starnes) Mapathons are a success and very well attended; there are plans for a connectivity analysis (involving Marcelo)
- Management and Restoration Group (RM): Made a plea for members to send them restoration challenges so they can go to the sites and discuss them

Brief reports were provided about recent CCF events given the meeting was already over time. JC encouraged everyone to send out emails to their organizations about the CCF/CCI Christmas party if they haven't already.

Barbara de Waard said it would be good to ensure that the media impact is maximized for the re-wilding conference. AvH said that they are planning to engage with the Guardian and BBC.

6.2. Reports on Newsletter, twitter and facebook accounts

KR: There are currently 2,226 newsletter subscribers and many followers on twitter and facebook; thus, reaching a large audience. Linda Amanyha has stepped forward to be a deputy newsletter working with KR. Hilary Conlan is doing a good job coordinating the newsletter moderators, but we need more moderators. They need more news items from the various reps and groups of CCF; it would be ideal if each person could send one newsletter item per month.

6.3. Discussion about future of the website

The new website (squarespace design) is being set up; just need to now get it up and running.

Laura Friedrich: There is a new head of informatics at UNEP-WCMC (Ben) who expressed an interest in helping with the CCF website if this is needed.

6.4. Cambridge City Council advice

No time to discuss this point – saved for future council meeting

6.5. History of CCF

No time to discuss this point – saved for future council meeting

7. The relationship between CCF and CCI and the use of the DAB

CCF is allocated one hot desk located in the library on the third floor because usage of the 4 desks had been relatively low, but the cost was high. CCI had provided CCF members with the facility to book one of the small DAB meeting rooms for meetings, but Barbara noted that she had had problems in booking such rooms

Action: The Committee to investigate room booking at the CCI reception.

8. Date, time and venue of next meeting:

Tba, but probably march 2019

8. Any other business

RM noted that the new Endangered Landscape Fund has \$600,000 available with grants of up to \$100,000 offered, with a March 2019 deadline