

Minutes of the European Butterflies Group Annual General Meeting held at 2.00 pm on 25 October 2025 at Ibis Hotel Birmingham.

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

The Chair introduced the Committee members present – David Moore, Simon Spencer, Mike Williams, Nick Greatorex-Davies, Marian Thomas, Roger Gibbons, Bernard Watts, Dave Plowman and Martin Davies.

Apologies for absence were received from Nigel Peace, Martin Partridge, Karen Goldie-Morrison, Tim Arnold, Sheila Ragg, Kevin Tolhurst, Sam Ellis and Dudley and Jean Cheesman.

The Chair outlined the agenda for the day which comprised the Chair's report, the Honorary Treasurer's report and the election and re-election of Committee members. Following which the Chair would seek support from the meeting for a statement to be put to Trustees of Butterfly Conservation. There would then be time for any additional points or questions members wished to raise.

After the formal business there would be two talks: Dr Dan Danahar would give a talk on the development of Corfu Butterfly Conservation – a project which EBG had been happy to support.

Following a break for refreshments and networking Martin Davies would give a talk entitled "The Butterflies of the Atlantic Islands". Before that Dr Stuart Young would give a brief overview of the project that he was leading on the reintroduction of the Kentish Glory (*Endromis versicolora*) and seek help from members.

The Chair advised that minutes of the last AGM which was held on 26 October 2024 had been posted on European Butterflies Group website and he proposed to take them as read. Simon Spencer proposed that the Minutes were approved and Keith Woonton seconded the motion. The meeting approved the Minutes.

The Chair advised that the minutes of the AGM will be placed on the EBG website.

The Chair delivered his report (attached).

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2024/25 and advised members that although we had a healthy bank balance as at March 2025 no sums had been

carried forward to the current year. Butterfly Conservation had approved our budget for the current year with commitments to spend funds on Southern Hermit (*Chazara prieuri*), Danube Clouded Yellow (*Colias myrmidone*), Sardinian Blue (*Pseudophilotes barbagiae*), Nevada Grayling (*Pseudochazara williamsi*) and Nogel's Hairstreak (*Tomares nogelii*) but he could not be certain about what would happen moving forward and whether the balance from the previous year-end would be restored.

In accordance with BC rules one third of Branch Committee members are required to retire by seniority and be eligible for re-election. Accordingly, Dudley Cheesman, Dave Plowman, Nick Greatorex-Davies and Martin Davies stand down by rotation. Sadly, Dudley Cheesman has decided to stand down and the meeting unanimously recorded their vote of thanks to Dudley for his sterling work since the founding of EBG. Martin, Dave and Nick all sought re-election. Keith Woonton proposed the re-elections seconded by Simon Spencer and approved by the meeting.

Prior to the Chair opening the meeting for questions he read a statement to the meeting which the Committee proposed to send to the Trustees and sought the backing of the meeting the statement read as follows:

We are seriously concerned at the current absence of any international strategy for Butterfly Conservation and urge Council to address this. We believe it is essential that the conservation of butterflies and moths internationally, as well as in the UK, forms a significant element of BC's future strategy, and in particular that BC resumes its previous leading role in conservation in the whole of Europe.

We further request Council to ensure that our subscriptions to the European Butterflies Group, which are donated for the specific purpose of butterfly and moth conservation in Europe, are applied solely to that purpose, and not to the general purposes of BC.

This statement was put to the meeting and approved by a unanimous show of hands.

The Chair closed the formal business of the meeting at 2.30pm.