

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of CREOS held at 8.00pm on 12 May 2016 at Hanley Lawn Tennis Club

Present: 30 Members of CREOS

1. **Apologies for absence:** were received from Mel & Karin Cairns, Joan Coleman, Tim & Sheila Denby-Wood, Mike & Shirley Geoghegan, Barry & Eva Ho, Margaret Kennedy, Jane Murhead, Paul & Deborah Perlin, Paul Secher.
2. **Minutes of the AGM held on 14 May 2015:** were approved. David Bevan commented that the Woodberry Wetlands (the subject of last year's talk) have recently opened to the public and a visit there was highly recommended.
3. **Chair's Report:** Glenys Law presented her Chair's report, copies of which were circulated. Glenys illustrated her talk with a number of photos showing the various activities and events in the CREOS area in the past year. Highlights included:
 - The new Hanley gate, which has prevented fly tipping and late-night parties in the car park
 - New bollards on the Hanley path
 - Wild garlic planted
 - The Georgians club refurbished and revitalised, with trees pollarded
 - A new fence along the Greenway footpath, giving a view to the North Middlesex cricket ground
 - A new path into the school playing field
 - New ponds

Glenys concluded by thanking volunteers and committee members, noting in particular the help we have received from TCV (conservation volunteers). She also thanked Alice Shaell who has designed the CREOS newsletter on a voluntary basis.

4. **Guest Speaker:** Glenys introduced **Tony Wileman** of **London Wildlife Trust** who gave an illustrated talk on '**Meadows: their wildlife and how best to manage them**'.

Tony described the various types of meadow and their dependence on the underlying type of soil, noting that if a meadow is left unattended it will in the fullness of time revert to woodland. Meadows are vital in supporting wildflower species (over 500), invertebrates, reptiles & amphibians, birds under threat, small mammals and bees. He described best practice for maintaining a meadow by cutting, which was of particular interest to us. Tony's knowledge of wildlife was obviously extensive, and at one point during his talk he remarked that he could hear outside a female tawny owl calling!

Unfortunately there was limited time for questions, but we were pleased that Tony stayed on and chatted to several members after the meeting. He was given a small token of appreciation for his excellent talk.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julian presented his Treasurer's report, copies of which were circulated. The report showed a surplus of £68.67 for the year to 31 March 2016. The balance of funds at 1 April 2016 was £8,028.40.

A question was asked why no gift aid was recovered this year. Julian explained that this was not done annually because of the admin involved, and any gift aid due from this year would be recovered next year.

6. **Election of CREOS Officers and Committee members:** The election was conducted by David Abram. It was agreed that the election would be 'en bloc'. All existing Committee Members, including the Officers, were re-elected and Alys Elphick was elected, unanimously.

7. **AOB:** No members raised other business. There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.45pm and was followed by informal discussion and socialising.