

# WADER STUDY GROUP

BULLETIN No. 37

APRIL 1983

## MINUTES OF THE WADER STUDY GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN DURHAM, U.K. ON 23 OCTOBER 1982

The Chairman, G.H. Green, welcomed members to the meeting.  
Apologies were received from R.McAndrew, D.O'Connor, P.Prokosch.  
The minutes of the meeting 12 September 1981 were accepted as a true record.  
The Officers' reports, published in Bulletin 34: 1 were presented in summary with some additions.

### Chairman's Report (G.H.Green)

In addition to the published report the Chairman stated that negotiations were in hand with the Nature Conservancy Council and the British Trust for Ornithology on the future of the colour ringing register. It was likely that the WSG would become the official designated organiser for colour ringing of waders in UK. It would then become obligatory for UK ringers to have proposed schemes approved by WSG before work commenced. Such arrangements would improve the control and use of colour ringing to everyone's benefit. Members approved such a development. Dr.D.J. Townshend will be maintaining the register in future.

Recent proposals for EEC funded agricultural improvements in the Outer Hebrides were leading to WSG involvement in a census of waders breeding on the islands. The meeting approved the Group's involvement in this work.

### Secretaries' Report (N.A. and J.A.Clark)

The Secretaries had nothing to add to their published report.

### Treasurer's Report (S.J.Sutcliffe)

The Treasurer drew attention to the published accounts and the deficit predicted for the end of 1982. In view of the increased costs of producing the bulletin and possible expenses in running the colour ringing register the Treasurer recommended that the subscription increase to be discussed later in the meeting be accepted.

### Editor's Report (M.W.Pienkowski)

The Editor said that analysis of the questionnaires so far returned showed that members regarded most items in the Bulletin as important. Nothing was universally unpopular. The results would be used as a guideline for future Bulletin contents and the results would be published in the April 1983 Bulletin.

### Election of Officers

No further nominations other than those proposed by the Officers in Bulletin 34 had been received. The following were elected unopposed: Chairman G.H.Green, Vice-chairman M.W.Pienkowski, Treasurer S.J.Sutcliffe, Editor N.C.Davidson, Assistant Editor G.H.Green, Co-ordinator Th. Piersma, Committee members W.J.A. Dick, H.Galbraith, H.Hotker. (The Secretaries had not completed their term of office.)

The Chairman thanked previous Officers/Committee members W.J.A.Dick (who retired as Co-ordinator but remained in the committee), B.E.Murray and A.J.Prater for their help in the past.

### Subscription increase

The reasons for the need of a subscription increase had been set out in Bulletin 34. The Chairman reported that of 103 replies (20% of the membership) to the questionnaires 81% favoured a subscription increase to £10 (or more) per annum. He explained the various expenses involved in producing the Bulletin including typing, photocopying, printing, envelopes, postage and the Editor's expenses relating to telephone calls etc. The Group also needed some funds to administer its Projects and the colour ringing register. If the Bulletin remained the same in size, format, etc and if inflation did not increase, a £10 per annum subscription should cover these costs for three years.

On behalf of the Group's Committee the Chairman proposed a new annual subscription of £10, commencing 1983. The proposal was seconded by B.Witts and carried unanimously.

It was suggested and agreed that Banker's Orders be introduced for subscription payments by UK members.

A Bank Giro facility for international payments had previously been requested. The Treasurer reported that this had now been organised.

### Any other business

The Chairman stated that (by popular request) WSG would produce a car-sticker and invited members to comment on two designs available at the meeting.

### Date and venue for the AGM 1983

An invitation to hold AGM 1983 in the Delta region of the Netherlands was gratefully accepted.