

BRITISH ORCHID COUNCIL

Registered Charity N° 1002945
Web Site - <http://www.british-orchid-council.info>

Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting held on Sunday 3rd July 2011
at The Great Barr Hotel, Pear Tree Drive, Newton Road, Great Barr, West Midlands, B43 6HS.

1. Attendance & Apologies for Absence

Officers and those in specific Roles		
President	Max Hopkinson	Present
Vice Presidents	Peter Ball	Apologies received
	Brian Edwards	Apologies received
	Sue Lane	Apologies received
	Cedric Maunder	Present
	John Spires	Present
Chairman	Ian Parsons	Present
Vice Chairman	Chris Barker	Present
Hon Secretary	Richard Baxter	Present
Hon Treasurer	Arthur Deakin	Apologies received
Minutes Secretary	Rod Wells	Present
Chair Conservation Working Committee	John Spires	Present
Chair Communications Working Committee	Ian Parsons	Present
Chair Judging Working Committee	David Ridgeway	Apologies received
Slide / CD Librarian	Max Hopkinson	Present
Website Manager	Graham Smith	Apologies received
Lecturers List Manager	Betty Barber	Present
Organisations & their Delegates		
Birmingham & Midland Orchid Society	Steve Penzer	Present
Birmingham & Midland Orchid Society	Alan Luckman	Present
Bournemouth Orchid Society	Joy Eng	
Bournemouth Orchid Society	Graham Smith	Apologies received
Bristol & West of England Orchid Society	Peter Ball	Apologies received
Bristol & West of England Orchid Society	Ian Parsons	Present
British Orchid Growers Association	Peter White	Apologies received
British Orchid Growers Association	Malcolm Moodie	Present
British Paphiopedilum Society	Brian Walker	Apologies received
British Paphiopedilum Society	Jo Walker	Apologies received
Cambridge Orchid Society	Peter Johnson	Apologies received

Cambridge Orchid Society	Ron Pearson	Present
Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Orchid Society	Anthony Cumming	
Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Orchid Society	Jean Lewis	
Central Orchid Society	John Spires	Present
Central Orchid Society	Mike Bull	Present
Cheltenham & District Orchid Society	Tom Price	Apologies received
Cheltenham & District Orchid Society	Rod Wells	Present
Cheshire and North Wales Orchid Society	Denys Morten	Apologies received
Cheshire and North Wales Orchid Society	Iain Wright	Apologies received
Chester Zoo	Mark Sparrow	
Chiltern Orchid Society	Lydia Cobb	Apologies received
Chiltern Orchid Society	Betty Barber	Present
Cumbria Orchid Society	Tom Golphin	
Darlington & District Orchid Society	Chris Barker	Present
Darlington & District Orchid Society	Jean Barker	Present
Devon Orchid Society	Sue Lane	Apologies received
East Anglia Orchid Society	Colin Thorburn	
East Midlands Orchid Society	Celia Hopkinson	Present
East Midlands Orchid Society	Brian Woodward	Apologies received
Eric Young Orchid Foundation	Chris Purver	
Fenland Orchid Society	Jane Boosey	
Fenland Orchid Society	Ron Pearson	Present
Glasgow Botanic Garden	David Menzies	
Hardy Orchid Society	Celia Wright	Apologies received
Hardy Orchid Society	Iain Wright	Apologies received
Harrogate Orchid Society	Jack Lavin MBE	
Hinckley & District Orchid Society	Richard Flemming	
Hinckley & District Orchid Society	Keith Bates	
Lea Valley Orchid Society	Gillian Radley	Apologies received
Lea Valley Orchid Society	Michael Radley	Apologies received
Mid Sussex Orchid Society	Maria Firth	
Mid Wales Orchid Society	Fiona Miles	Apologies received
Mid Wales Orchid Society	Audrey Houghton	
North Bucks Orchid Society	Roger Sewell	
North Bucks Orchid Society	Leonie Sewell	
North East of England Orchid Society	Jean Barker	Present

North East of England Orchid Society	Barry Firby	Present
North Hampshire Orchid Society	Patricia Garner	
North of England Orchid Society	Ken Russell	Apologies received
Orchid Society of Great Britain	Betty Barber	Present
Orchid Society of Great Britain	Roy White	Present
Pleurothallid Alliance	Alan Luckman	Present
Pleurothallid Alliance	John Spires	Present
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Philip Griffiths	
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Christopher Ryan	Apologies received
Royal Horticultural Society	Johan Hermans	
Royal Horticultural Society	Clare Hermans	
Scottish Orchid Society	Chris Barker	Present
Sheffield & District Orchid Society	Richard Baxter	Present
Sheffield & District Orchid Society	Silvia Maunder	Present
Solihull & District Orchid Society	Keith Wall	Present
Solihull & District Orchid Society	Anthony Johnston	
Somerset, Wiltshire & Dorset Orchid Society	Peter Hunt	
Somerset, Wiltshire & Dorset Orchid Society	Simon Pugh-Jones	Present
South East Orchid Society	David Thurtle	
South Wales Orchid Study Group	Patrick O'Reilly	
South Wales Orchid Study Group	Susan Parker	
South West Orchid Society	Ian Parsons	Present
Southern Counties Orchid Society	Carole Wybrow	
Southern Counties Orchid Society	Ian Wybrow	
Suffolk Orchid Society	Val Smith	
Sussex Orchid Group	Valerie Pugh	Apologies received
Sussex Orchid Group	Val Micklewright	Apologies received
Thames Valley Orchid Society	Barry Cook	
Thames Valley Orchid Society	Christine Cook	
Wessex Orchid Society	Jonathan Watson	
West Cornwall Orchid Society	Ron Lindsay	
West Cornwall Orchid Society	Kit Lindsay	
York and District Orchid Society	Tim Lewis	Apologies received

2. Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 6th March 2011

Minutes of the meeting of 6th March 2011 having been circulated were agreed as an accurate record and signed by Ian Parsons.

2.1 Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda

Photographic Competition - Malcolm Moodie asked how many entries there had been in the 2010 Photographic Competition (Ian Parsons reported 40 entries) and asked that this information be available in the future so that entries could be compared year on year.

BOC 'Delegate' Badges - Chris Barker asked if the BOC 'Delegate' Badges had been found. Max Hopkinson said that Iain Wright had them and that it was hoped they would be available at the next meeting.

Future Meeting Venues - Ian Parsons reported that he had made enquiries with the Greswolde Arms Hotel (High Street, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands, B93 0LL) and outlined the costs and facilities.

John Spires proposed, 'Future meetings, starting with the meeting on Sunday 6th November 2011 be held at the Greswolde Arms Hotel.' This was seconded by Max Hopkinson and agreed by all.

Actions:

Ian Parsons to book Greswolde Arms Hotel for Ordinary meeting on Sunday 6th November 2011 and AGM & Ordinary meetings on Sunday 4th March 2012.

John Spires to cancel provisional bookings for Great Barr Hotel.

3. Secretary's Report

Contact - Richard Baxter

E-mail - bocsecretary@ineedbroadband.co.uk

Richard Baxter reported as follows,

"It must be an exceptional year for flowering our native orchids because I have had many enquiries from the public for information following sightings. Native orchids are not a specialist subject of mine so I have referred several of these enquiries directly to Jeff Hutchings.

The new Constitution remains outstanding, but hopefully the remaining issues will be agreed at this meeting ready for the final version to be tabled at the AGM next March.

Managing nominations for the vacancy of President has taken quite a lot of time because some people, although nominated, were not willing to stand for office. Anticipating the usual sparse numbers at this meeting, the number of absent delegates who have not been inclined to express any preference for the proposed nominees is very disappointing.

The Executive has not met since the AGM.

Finally, will all delegates please note that my email address has changed to bocsecretary@ineedbroadband.co.uk ."

Action: Delegates (and anyone reading these minutes) please note Secretary's change of email address.

3.1 Request from Writhlington School Orchid Project to join BOC

Richard Baxter read out a letter from Writhlington School Orchid Project requesting membership of BOC. Ian Parsons thanked Simon Pugh-Jones for a very strong proposal in support of the request.

John Spires proposed, 'Writhlington School Orchid Project be allowed to join the BOC.' This was seconded by Silvia Maunder and agreed by all.

3.2 Revised Constitution

Ian Parsons outlined the reasons for revising the constitution and the way in which the Executive Committee went about the process prior to delegates being supplied with a draft copy for observations and this further discussion.

Richard Baxter said that the only points for discussion were those highlighted in the 'Notes for discussion' document circulated with the agenda. Following contact with the Charities Commission the Executive Committee had agreed to retain, unaltered, the wording of Purpose (Section 2).

Delegates then discussed the sections highlighted in the 'Notes for discussion' document and the following was agreed:

Section 4.3 Executive Committee - To allow for continuity the following wording will be added, 'When the end of terms of office for Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary coincide one of those Officers may continue for an additional year.'

Section 4.4 Executive Committee - This section will be deleted.

Section 5.3 Appointment of Vice Presidents - This section will be retained and not amended.

Section 7 Working Groups - The term 'Working Groups' will be retained.

Section 7.4 Working Group membership - This section will be retained and not amended.

Section 7.5 Provision of Working Group Leader responses at BOC meetings - This section will be amended in order that if a Working Group leader or representative is not available to attend a BOC meeting a full report will suffice.

Section 7.7 Executive Committee contact with Working Groups - This section will be amended to read the Working Group leader must keep the Executive Committee informed.

(It was also agreed that the Terms of Reference for Working Groups would be published in the Policies & Procedures Manual being prepared by Ian Parsons and also published on the BOC website)

Section 10.2 In case of BOC dissolution, passing all BOC monies & trophies to the RHS - Richard Baxter reported that he had been in contact with the RHS and that he had received a reply from the Director Generals Office, they would accept any remaining assets and use them for orchid purposes.

John Spire said that RHS confirmation of this should be requested every 5 years. This and a copy of the letter would be included in the Policies & Procedures Manual.

The discussion on the revised constitution was concluded by Richard Baxter who said that when he had made the amendments and they had been agreed by the Executive he would circulate the 'New Constitution'. He also outlined what voting arrangements he would put in place to ensure all delegates voted prior to the AGM in March 2012.

4. Treasurer's Report

Contact - Arthur Deakin

E-mail - arthurlomasdeakin@yahoo.co.uk

The Treasurer had sent apologies and the following report was read out on his behalf by Rod Wells,

The bank balances are as follows:

Current A/c	£1871.00
Gold A/c	£5607.41
Investment A/c	£20,000.00

I have opened an investment account, via CAF bank with Scottish Widows Bank. This is to allow BOC to get some interest on funds not required in the near future. We have to give 90 days notice to withdraw money, but we get 1.7% interest. Whilst this is not great it is eight times better than we were getting in the Gold A/c.

Subscriptions have been received from 34 societies and £680 has been banked. I will begin the process of chasing the others towards the end of July.

The only expenditure since the last meeting has been £5 to set up the Investment A/c and £45.24 for BOC judging scheme expenses. Although I have still to pay our EOC subscription of 35 euros. I have also put details of last year's accounts on the Charity Commission web-site. BOC finances remain in a healthy position.

5. CITES

Contact - John Spires E-mail - johnspires@mac.com

John Spires reported as follows,

'I have received the minutes of the last SUN meeting which seem to reflect reasonably well what went on. The next meeting is on 4th October in Bristol. I won't be able to attend. If anyone else can, please feel free to do so.

Otherwise, nothing to report.'

6. Congresses

Contact - Sue Lane E-mail - sue@laneroger1.orangehome.co.uk

6.1 25th BOC Congress 2012 proposal from Writhlington School

Simon Pugh-Jones gave a digital presentation in support of Writhlington Schools proposal to host the 25th BOC Congress; a transcript of this is attached at 'Appendix A'.

Ian Parsons thanked Simon Pugh-Jones for his detailed presentation and it was agreed that Writhlington School would host the 25th BOC Congress in 2012.

7. Working Committee Reports

7.1 Judging Working Committee

Contact - David Ridgeway Email - davidridgeway@btinternet.com

David Ridgeway had sent his apologies and the following report was read out on his behalf by Rod Wells,

'New Trainees:

No new trainees have joined the scheme since the last BOC meeting.

Tatton Park Symposium:

A successful Judges Training Symposium took place on Saturday 21st May 2011 at Tatton Park. This event was attended by thirty-four Judges and seventeen trainees.

New Judges:

Four new Judges have now qualified: Chris Bulpitt, Baccus Paulesu, Hayley Shellard and Malcolm White.

Future events:

A symposium will take place in conjunction with the Devon Orchid Weekend on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th October 2011.'

Silvia Maunder said that no symposiums had been arranged for 2012 yet because they were waiting for show dates to be confirmed.

7.2 Congress Working Committee

Contact - Sue Lane E-mail - sue@laneroger1.orangehome.co.uk

Ian Parsons said that Sue Lane was aware of the Writhlington School proposal; otherwise there was nothing to report.

7.3 Communications Working Committee

Contact - Ian Parsons E-mail - ian.parsons@virgin.net

Grower's & Buyer's Guide 2012 (Golden Guide)

Member Societies/Organisations will have to update the BOC database by the 1st September 2011. The Golden Guides will be available for collection from the BOC Meeting on 6th November 2011 & BOGA Pre Christmas Fayre on 12th November 2011.

Member Societies/ Organisations are asked to try and identify someone who will attend either of the above venues to collect their Golden Guides, or liaise with a neighbouring Society who may be prepared to collect them on your behalf.

More importantly, please ensure your nominated BOC database web contact has updated your information before 1st September 2011 – ONLY INFORMATION TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE BOC DATABASE WILL BE USED in the Guide.

Malcolm Moodie said that the size of the Society didn't seem to reflect on the number of guides requested, some societies appear to request too many. Richard Baxter said he would contact all societies regarding the number they required and liaise with Malcolm.

Action: Delegates please ensure the above is brought to the attention of your BOC database web contact and that your society/organization identifies someone to collect your Golden Guides.

Proposal to revise the National Orchid Week and change the name to National Orchid Festival to be held during October 2012 ending with the BOC Congress at Writhlington School

As time was pressing Ian Parsons briefly outlined details of the amended discussion document. He suggested that any Society requesting funding should send a delegate to a BOC meeting to put forward their proposal.

A copy of this document is attached as 'Appendix B'.

8. Other Reports

8.1 Lecturers' Panel

Contact - Betty Barber E-mail - betty.barber@gmail.com

Betty Barber reported that she had contacted lecturers on the list and had had a good response; she hoped to be updating the list in the next few weeks.

8.2 Slide/CD Library

Contact – Max Hopkinson E-mail - maxhopycat@aol.com

Nothing to report, although he has had one enquiry re slides.

8.3 Conservation

Contact - John Spires E-mail - johnspires@mac.com

No contact at all on this subject.

9. Any Other Business

Chris Barker mentioned a disaster at Peterborough involving Ooi Leng Sun Orchids shipment of plants which meant they didn't get released by customs until the show was over. As the plants are in the UK a list was made available and although not forming part of these minutes a copy is attached for further circulation please.

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 1630 hours.

Minutes Secretary:

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