Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the European Interests Group of Butterfly Conservation held on 25 October 2014 at the Millenium Memorial Hall Littleton.

There was a total of 30 members present.

In the absence of the Chairman the Secretary welcomed members, introduced the Committee members present and explained the format for the day.

1. Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Simon Spencer, Mike Williams, Neil Thompson, Martin Davies, Peter Bygate, David Dennis, Terry Whitaker, Jean Cheesman, Marion Thomas, Richard Stott, Rob Parker, Crispin Harvey, Stephen and Lucy Lewis and Maurice Avent.
2. Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting. The Secretary read the Minutes and subject to one amendment pointed out by Dr Watts acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Dudley Cheesman, seconded by Roger Kemp and unanimously approved. The Secretary advised the meeting that the Minutes of the 2014 AGM would be posted on the EIG website.
3. The Secretary then read the Chairman’s report (copy attached) .
4. Treasurer’s Report (Report and Accounts are attached)

Dudley Cheesman advised that he was, pending the election, Acting Treasurer and thanked Nigel Peace for handing over the files and accounts in such a tidy and organised manner. Dudley Cheesman presented his report and proposed adoption of the accounts which was seconded by Laurie de Whalley and passed nem con.

1. Committee re-elections

In accordance with BC rules one third of Branch Committee members are required to retire by seniority and be eligible for re-election. In addition any members co-opted onto the Committee shall offer themselves for election at the following AGM Accordingly Neil Thompson, Dudley Cheesman and Nigel Peace stand down by rotation and all seek re-election. Roger Gibbon stands for election having been co-opted during the year. The re-election and election were proposed by theSecretary and seconded by Anne Spencer and approved unanimously by the meeting.

1. Any Other Business

There followed a brief discussion on the costs of assisting with conservation work in Europe versus serving the membership with the Newsletter with particular reference to the increased cost of the most recent edition. The Secretary advised that this issue would be brought to the next Committee meeting for discussion.

Lynn Formison suggested EIG should consider having a representative in each branch to further its aims and promote increased membership. The Secretary and other members endorsed this idea and agreed to consider the idea further.

Martin Warren endorsed EIG’s policy of assisting with conservation work in Eastern Europe and explained that seedcore funding in those countries allowed a modest amount of funding to achieve greater results than equivalent funding in Western Europe.

The meeting was closed at 1.55 after which EIG members joined Hampshire and Isle of Wight members for illustrated talks by Martin Warren, Nick Greatorex-Davies and Dan Hoare.