68th Annual General Meeting of the Members of Kent Wildlife Trust

Company No: 00633098

Held in person at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve
Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3DH
and online via Zoom Webinar
on
Saturday 11th July 2026 at 10.30pm.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Present (Trustees and Senior Executive):

Jane Ibbotson (trustee & Council Chair)
Evan Bowen-Jones (Chief Executive Officer)
Tom Woolgar (trustee)
Paul Hadaway (Director of Conservation & Engagement)
Sarah Jordan (Director of Fundraising & MarComms)
Lee Mason-Baldwin (Deputy Director, Education & Engagement)
Nick Barter (trustee & Vice Chair)
Jon Kirkpatrick (trustee)
Ben Dart (Chief Operating Officer)
Greg Steel (trustee-elect)
Vincent Ganley (Managing Director, Adonis Blue Environmental Consultants)

Present (other members):

Sarah Arnott
Peter Barville
Hannah Bongers
Margaret Chapman
Ethna Cooke
Stuart Dove
Victoria Golding
William Haines
Mike Hatton
Judy Hollis
Stephen Langford
David Mead
Jenny Barville
Leslie Berry
Guy Carter
Steven Coates
Jane Donaldson
Linda Du Preez
Elizabeth Haines
Ian Harris
Mary Hill
Hanah Langford
Angelene Logan-Overy
Janet Merza

Jane Moore	Nicholas Morrison
Penny Morrison	Mary Parker
Barbara Phelps	Catherine Sharp
Deborah Sims	John Suchar
Barbara Taylor	Sarah Thompson
Caroline Tomlinson	Joanna Towers
William Turrell	Victoria Vose
David Watson	Chris West
Kate Wheaton	

Apologies received:

Rachel Hoey (trustee & Honorary Treasurer)	Liz Lowe (trustee)
Kiran Rayner (trustee)	Alison Mings (trustee)
Kim Barton (member)	Andrew Crowson (member)
Bill Hunter (member)	Chris Kemsley (member)
Paul and Gill Ledger (members)	Ali Lee (member)
Alexa Michael (member)	

1. Welcome from the Chair of Council, Dr Jane Ibbotson	
AGM26.001	The Chair welcomed the members attending the 68th Annual General Meeting of Kent Wildlife Trust. In addition to normal housekeeping matters, the following points were noted: [a] The meeting was being recorded. Anyone present in person who did not wish to appear on the recording should make themselves known to a member of staff. [b] More than 30 persons entitled to vote had joined the meeting. The meeting was therefore quorate. [c] Resolutions would be put to a vote by a show of hands for those attending in person, and by a Zoom poll for those attending online. Resolutions would pass by a simple majority. [d] The Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements had been published to members on the KWT website in advance of the meeting. [e] Members had been invited to submit questions in advance; however, no questions had been received. Further questions could be submitted to staff or via the Zoom chat function and would be answered within the published minutes of the meeting. [f] Technical problems should be made known to staff via the Zoom chat function.
2. Minutes of the 67th AGM held on Saturday 12 July 2025	
AGM26.002	The minutes of the 67th AGM held on Saturday 12th July 2025 were put to the members for confirmation. A vote to accept the minutes was held, and the minutes were confirmed as a true record with no corrections or amendments.

3. Presentation of the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the Year ended 31st December 2025.	
AGM26.003	Members received the Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025, a copy of which had been published in advance on the Trust's website.
3.1 Chair's annual report on the year	
AGM26.004	The Chair of Council, Jane Ibbotson gave her annual report, the recording of which would be made available on the Trust's website. The Director of Fundraising and MarComms, Sarah Jordan gave thanks to members and outlined the additional opportunities available to support the work of the Trust.
3.2 Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025	
AGM26.005	The Honorary Treasurer, Rachel Hoey was unable to attend the meeting. In her place, Jon Kirkpatrick who was trustee and member of the Risk and Finance Committee presented the financial report, the recording of which would be made available on the Trust's website. The financial statements were consolidated Group statements and had been audited by the Trust's auditors BHP.
3.3 Appointment of auditors	
AGM26.006	Jon Kirkpatrick reported that the Risk and Finance Committee had reviewed the performance of the Trust's auditors BHP, who had been in post for six years. The Risk and Finance Committee had recommended to Council that a market-assessment be undertaken to confirm value for money and commercial fit during the second half of 2026, ready to be appointed and in place to conduct the FY2026 audit. An auditor would be proposed for appointment by the Council in accordance with the Trust's Articles of Association.
4. Retirement and Rotation of Trustees	
4.1 Trustees retiring by rotation and standing for re-election	
AGM26.007	a] Nick Barter was retiring by rotation and standing for re-election having served a term of three years since his last election. b] A vote was held and Nick was duly re-elected for a second term of office.
4.2 Trustees retiring by rotation and not standing for re-election	
AGM26.008	Alison Mings retired by rotation and did not stand for re-election having served one term of office.
4.3 New trustees – motion to elect Greg Steel as a member of Council	
AGM26.009	a] Greg Steel, having been recruited via an open recruitment process, was proposed by

	trustees for election as a member of Council. Greg's professional background spanned over thirty years in senior leadership roles within large, complex and highly regulated organisations, most recently at HSBC. His career, which started in the British Army has involved working closely with senior boards and executive teams to establish effective governance frameworks, oversee organisational risk and support the delivery of challenging strategic programmes. He had particular expertise in data governance, AI risk and digital strategy. Greg had experience as a charity trustee and was a local resident of Kent. b] A vote was held and Greg was duly elected for his first term of office.
5. Report from the Chief Executive Officer	
AGM26.010	The Chief Executive Officer, Evan Bowen-Jones gave a presentation outlining some of the Trust's plans, the recording of which would be made available on the Trust's website.
6. Questions from Members	
AGM26.011	No questions had been submitted by Members in advance however members were invited to submit questions to staff in-person after the meeting or via the online chat function. Unfortunately, due to a technical problem, the online chat transcript was not recorded. [Secretary's note: Attendees were invited to re-submit their questions by email along with their event feedback on 15 July 2026. An addendum to the minutes would be published with answers to questions received.]
7. Closing remarks, Chair of Council, Jane Ibbotson	
AGM26.012	The Chair of Council gave her closing remarks and gave her thanks to those attending. Particular thanks were given to the Trust's staff, volunteers and partners. The formal business was concluded and the meeting was closed. Members were invited to stay for feature presentations given by members of the Trust's staff team on areas of their work.