

MINUTES OF THE BORDER CONVENTION
2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Sunday, 11th March 2018

At The Roman Way Hotel, Watling Street, Cannock, Birmingham

1. MEETING OPENS

The Meeting was opened at 10.45 a.m. by the Chairman George Eltringham and the Secretary Colin Egner. The chairman welcomed all attendees and observers to the meeting. The attendees stood for a minutes silence in remembrance of past members.

2. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from: - I Perrier and H Kershaw and the EAST of ENGLAND BFCC

3. APPOINTMENT OF TELLER.

Ivan Austin (North Staffs BFCC) was appointed as Teller. There were 17 clubs represented.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2017 A.G.M. (2nd April 2017)

The minutes from the 2017 AGM were accepted as a true record
No matters arising..

5. CORRESPONDENCE.

The secretary C Egner read out a letter from NSBFCC

Regarding the date for their show clashing with the IBBA show, with only 10 miles between shows.

This will make the 6/7of October a weekend with 3 all border shows. whilst we accept this is not the fault of the IBBA with the date being forced upon by the Parrot Society, we feel that the IBBA should cancel their show with the reasons being exhibitors would have to choose which show to attend ,the show manager B Martin is show manager to both shows forcing him to choose or having to do both shows one on the Saturday and one on the Sunday

,one of our judges for our show is also an IBBA delegate ,may we point out that our show date for last 20 years has always been the first Sunday in October ,we feel like in the days of falling exhibitors and exhibits anyone with an amount of common sense would see that this will cause an adverse effect on one or both clubs lastly the IBBA has not corresponded with NORTH STAFFS on this matter apart from a passing comment at last year's show so how can it be fair that another club could take your show date without any consideration because if this was happening to your club how would your club feel. We hope this matter can be sorted out fairly yours sincerely A Grocott NORTH STAFFS BFCC.

R Morgan pointed out there is a rule or unwritten rule that if a club changes its date then it should not happen but due to the IBBA having its date forced upon them this was a difficult situation Ray went on to suggest that the clubs amalgamate for this one show or cancel the IBBA show for one year .M Barnett responded saying clubs have clashed before and that the show date for NORTH STAFFS last year was the 1st of OCTOBER and that if they took the 30th of September its only one day different but went on to say that the IBBA was tied to the parrot society using their facilities and staging without those things the IBBA couldn't hold a show its just one of those things that happens and that if they cancelled their show they might lose the show all together with other societies waiting in the wings .A Grocott said until M Barnett took over they couldn't get anyone to run the border section at the National .a long discussion took place on the subject with points of view from a number of members .G Eltringham suggested that the IBBA cancel their show for one year only which was backed up by R Morgan ,M Barnet responded saying that its one of those things and that he felt he couldn't cancel the show because they might lose it. A further long discussion took place on this matter with G Eltringham summing up saying that there is no winners on the matter and that there will be both clubs holding a show on the same weekend this year.

The secretary C Egner read out a second letter from P Dewland

I would like to nominate Mr R Morgan for chairman/chairperson of the border convention, I think he deserves the post after his long service to the convention and as vice chairman for so long to George, he has served the border fancy and convention for so long now and people tend to forget just how long he has been with the convention,

He has always put the fancy first and a lot of the time before his family as he will tell you his self and even now at the age of 82 years he still shows at six or seven shows a year, i think it would be a natural progression for him to step up from vice chairman to chairman he has done the job before when George was unable to do it so it won't be strange to him.

6. PRESIDENT'S/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

I would like to thank the Border Convention for the privilege of being President it was an honour that i have enjoyed ,my term of two years has flown over .I should say in my case 23 months now that we have brought forward the AGM by one month. I would like to thank the secretary and all of the officials and committee for the contribution they have put in to try to make this hobby of ours run in a smooth way .May I say that I hope the next President enjoys his term as much as i have

George Eltringham

As you will see from this year's agenda the nominations for the position of Chairman apologise for the way this came about, I did ask at the January committee meeting if nominations were forthcoming to which there were none. It was after the meeting in discussions with Ronnie Sillitoe he said he would be interested that's how this nomination resulted being on the agenda ,I realise this was not intended and should have been in by the 31st of December 2017 or at least the January meeting, may i offer my humble apologies for the way this came about.

I have enjoyed my time as chairman but have felt restricted on many occasions as it is not possible to engage in some discussions as a chairman needs to be rather neutral. On occasions I have found it necessary to try and make a point but if no one gets the point being made then as chairman you can't pursue it. This i have found quite frustrating at times ,so being relieved of this position gives me more opportunities to have my say from the floor .I have always had the best interests for the fancy and the Border Convention at heart and always will ,but feel the time has come for me to vacate the chair. If I can be of any assistance to whoever takes over I will be only too pleased to help.

Thank you.

George Eltringham

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Firstly I'd like to thank the other members of the committee for their support throughout the year , it is a lot easier to do this job when there are others i can contact for information and views on issues that arise between meetings in particular Malcolm Scott who is a great asset to the committee.

The Border Convention and the hobby in general success or failure can be summed up by the show season, and overall it seems to have been a successful time with many clubs reporting sustained numbers of entries and in a few cases a slight increase

Further good news is that Sussex & Kent and Cumbria are hoping to have a show again this year having managed to recruit some new members to their committees.

As to the exhibitors there have been twenty seven different best in show winners, with Brian Chandler being the most successful with 4 wins Malcolm Barnett second with 3 wins and Paul & Billy Heathcoate with 2 wins In the novice category we have had 20 exhibitors who have taken a Best Novice award,the most successful of these being Alan Differ with 5 wins which takes him into the champion category for next season, followed closely by Nigel Leader with 4 wins a creditable success as one of his wins also took best in show ,quite a feat having just come back into the hobby Gary Marshall and Paul Mortledge share 3rd place with 2 wins ,Gary will also be joining the champion section next year.

Those are the successes but there are still a lot of clubs struggling to find committee members i know i am preaching to the converted to those in the room today but I'd like to send a message to the fancy don't just show at a club but get involved

The best clubs don't shout how good they are, they ask how can we make it better.

9. JOURNAL EDITOR'S REPORT

Simon Tamman said that reports were slow coming in and he hoped clubs could try to get them to him as soon as possible ,he went on to thank Colin Egner for all of his help and hoped that more people would get more involved and send in more stories of interest. Simon then asked for suggestions for the journal a few people came forward with ideas that Simon would look at .Simon said that the journal needed the fancy to use the journal to promote the hobby.

Linden Evans proposed a vote of thanks to Simon.

10 WEBSITE

Colin Egner reported than the website had almost a 100,000 hits this year this is up from last year which was 78,000 which shows the importance of the website Colin went on to say since he took over the website the total hits was in excess of 361,000 .The site was visited by between 300 -500 different people each month this goes up during the show season as people from the continent want to see who's winning the shows in the U.K..

The reason for the success is down to all the people sending in show reports and news items and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sent items in ,and please keep it up we need and welcome your input ,If anyone has any ideas for the website please contact me as we have 5000mb capacity and we are only using 500mb so this is one tenth of what we could put on so send whatever you have and I can put it all on the website .So this is my plea to all clubs use the website to promote your clubs and if anyone has any difficulties send anything to me and I can put it on for you .It is best to use a computer to go on the website as I pads and mobile phones don't let you see everything on the website ,if you don't have a computer send info to me and I will do it for you .It was pointed out to Colin they couldn't get access to the site and Colin would look into it.

11. PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2017 ACCOUNTS.

Malcolm Scott handed out copies of the 2017 Border Convention Balance sheet and then explained the background to some of the financial entries. Journal

The balance sheet was proposed by M Barnett and seconded by J Aitcheson as a true reflection of the Border Convention accounts, this was carried.

A copy of the accounts can be requested by clubs

12. SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2019.

It was proposed by R Morgan and seconded by J Rance that the Club Affiliation remains the same at £25 and payable by all clubs. This was carried unanimously.

13. HONORARIUMS.

The current Honorariums were read out by George Eltringham and it was proposed by R Sillitoe and seconded by J Aitcheson that the Honorariums stay the same. This was agreed by the meeting.

Secretary/Website	£500	-	Colin Egner
Journal Editor	£750	-	£250 per issue
Treasurer/Ring Scheme	£500	-	Malcolm Scott

14. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The chairman went through the officers individually and all officers were voted on by the attending delegates. There was a show of hands for all offices. All officers were elected unanimously.

	2017	2018 Nominations	2018 Elected
President:	Mr. George Eltringham	Mr. Colin Egner	Mr. Colin Egner
Chairman:	Mr. George Eltringham.	Mr. Ron Sillitoe.	Mr. Ron Sillitoe
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. Ray Morgan.	Mr. T Ward	Mr. T Ward

Convention Journal

A discussion was had on the payment by fanciers for the Border Convention journal as a few people had not paid, letters have been sent out requesting payment but the problem arises as some pay for their journal at shows and some when ordering rings, the committee will look into a solution.

S Tamman pointed out that any articles for inclusion in the May edition need to be in by 7 April

Promoting the hobby

R Sillitoe said that the hobby was in need of promotion to save what we have ,a good discussion was had with a few good ideas coming forward ,Linden Evans said that the Irish clubs had sent out leaflets and it had been a success and that we should consider doing the same with clubs helping out with costs, M Barnett said this should be coordinated at the next committee meeting. J Aitcheson said school talks might help but he found the children interested but not the parents,it was also suggested we use cage and aviary bird magazine these things will be looked at

C Egner said the website needs more people to send information and that we must use it more

R Sillitoe also said that the journal was a big way to advertise our clubs and a big push was needed to save the hobby by using the journal to get the message across.

We also need all clubs to help with promoting their selves with photos, articles, stories and to advertise their meetings and shows.

R Thorley suggested a reporter be appointed for shows

M Scott said he would help any club with show reports

N Leader said that Doncaster will be putting transport on to help fanciers get to shows

L Evans said that it is all the clubs responsibility to try to do more to help out with all aspects of the hobby.

C Egner asked S Tamman if he could publish in the journal the closing date for the next edition to help people get their articles in time

A Speight asked how we are going to the message across if people don't get the journal, he said we should use cage and aviary birds magazine and local papers to advertise the hobby

N Leader suggested putting unused journals at locations ie pet shops, cage bird shows etc

R Sillitoe asked for a secretary's report in every journal

A Grocott pointed out that exhibitors came to shows and only brought a few birds we need to encourage to help more

R Sillitoe said he thought that clubs could put a talk on by some of the exhibitors who would only be waiting for the show to open maybe a Q&A

M Barnett said even if clubs could try to get exhibitors having a discussion would be helpful

P Dewland said that we couldn't put people on the front of the journal only birds as this was a rule , a vote was taken and the rule was changed to allow people with their winning birds to be on the front page.

S Tamman asked about the Novice Rule, C Egner said it was up to clubs to monitor their Novices but he was looking at it as well .

Nottingham BFCC update

R Thorley said that it was a difficult meeting with the people accusing the club of cheating

Coming and causing major problems and causing distress to some of the committee

,they also said that G Eltringham had become involved ,G Eltringham said he had only told them to attend the meeting and he was not involved in any other way. R Thorley said their AGM was next week and he would update the committee of the outcome Egner would attend the meeting as an impartial observer.

Minutes

R Morgan asked if we could get the minutes out a bit earlier to help clubs make more informed choices this we will endeavour to try.

Meetings

L Evans asked if the Border Convention could be mindful of meeting dates not clashing with Mothers day etc

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Border Convention Committee Meeting is arranged Sunday 12th August 2018

The date of the January meeting 6th January 2019

The date of the AGM 10th March 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT (26):

G Eltringham (President/Chairman), R Morgan (Vice Chairman/Wessex), C Egnor (Secretary), M. Scott (Treasurer/Northern BFCC), S Tammam (Journal Editor); R Sillitoe (Minute Secretary/Cleveland B&FFCC), I. Austin (Auditor/Teller), M Barnett (Past President), B. Martin (Birmingham ABC), R Norman (Merseyside BFCC), J Aitchison (BFCC), N Leader (Doncaster BFCC), J. Beddows (Border Counties BFCC), P. Dewland (Cornish BFCC), J Rance (Cleveland B&FFCC), L Evans (Welsh BFCC), T Ward (Green Cinnamon & White BFCC), J Williams (Fauldhouse BFCC), R Thorley (Nottinghamshire BFCC), P England (Southern BFCC), A Speight (IBBA), S Daniels (IBBA), K Wadkin (British BFCC), A Grocott (North Staffs BFCC), J Pearce (North Staffs BFCC), B Wilkes (Observer)

Delegates representing 17 clubs were present:

Northern BFCC, Cleveland BFCC, Border FCC, Southern BFCC, Doncaster BFCC, Green Cinnamon & White BFCC, Birmingham ABC, Border Counties BFCC, Fauldhouse (B&FFCC), Nottinghamshire BFCC, IBBA, Border FCC, British Border FCC, Merseyside B&FFCC, Welsh BFCC, North Staffs BFCC, Cornish BFCC, Wessex BFCC.

Clubs Not in Attendance:

Border Canary Ass., Cumbria BFCC, East of England B&FFCC, Wexford BFCC, North of Scotland BFCC, North Wales BFCC, Sussex & Kent BFCC, West Wales BFCC, West of Scotland BCA,. And all other clubs from Ireland and abroad.

Meeting closed at 2pm

Malcolm Barnett proposed a vote of thanks to Richard Thorley for providing refreshments

The chairman thanked all clubs and individuals for attending and hoped they have a safe journey