



**MINUTES OF BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE MEETING  
AT 27 SEASONGOOD ROAD, VICENTIA ON 23 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 2PM**

**1. Attendance and apologies**

Present: Deb Callister-Carter, Yolande Cozijn, Karen Davis, Rob Dunn, Phil Hendry  
Apologies: Sue Mitchell

**2. Acceptance of the agenda - Approved**

**3. Minutes of two previous meeting on 10 November 2023 were approved**

**4. Business arising from the previous minutes**

All items had been complete or were agreed to be closed with the following exceptions:

**10 November meeting**

**Action 2** – Surveys at Lake Wollumboola were now being done by three teams, though Rob still needed to meet with Frances about BLS’s wider role. Action to remain open.

**Action 4** – National Office had confirmed that while they had a list of BLS members, this could not be provided until privacy issues have been resolved. In the meantime, it was agreed that the only issue was to check that people going on bird walks were members. It was agreed that this would be managed on a trust basis. Also, Karen had been told that only the President had to be a full BirdLife member. ***New action 1 – Rob to check that the BLS Secretary and Treasurer also did not need to be members.***

**Action 9** - Karen & Phil to arrange a time to go to NAB to change BLS bank signatories. Action to remain open.

**Action 14** – Rob to liaise with the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum on the development of a “Birds of the Museum” brochure. On-going and updates at future meetings.

**Action 15** - Karen to explore potential of BLS support to building nesting platforms for Osprey at Bhowerre Wetlands and/or the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum. It was agreed that arranging for a bird hide to be built at Bhowerre Wetlands would be difficult and was best left at this stage. On-going and updates at future meetings.

**5. Updates and related issues**

**a. President’s report** – Covered in the papers.

**b. Secretary report** – No issues had arisen.

It was agreed that both Yolande and Phil would reply to queries raised through Messenger.

**c. Treasurer report**

The Income & Expenditure report for 1 January to 8 November 2023 was approved.

Cashbook Balance at 1/1/23	\$ 7,903.72
Total Income	\$ 0.00
Total Expenses	\$ 0.00
Cashbook Balance at 8/11/23	\$ 7,903.72

A small amount of GST was still due to be paid by National Office.

Rob said that part of these funds needed to be held to meet our commitments of \$4,000 for the 2024 BLS Student Research Grant and \$500 funding to the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum for a bird brochure.

He was still waiting to hear from National Office about our request for a grant for 2024 of \$2,000

**d. Conservation Officer report**

Deb had provided an overview of what she had done since the last meeting:

Submissions

- Filled in the online pro-forma for draft revised national Feral Cat Threat Abatement Plan (to DCCEEW)
- Provided comments on the proposed residential development at Inyadda Drive Manyana (to SCC)

Meetings/Seminars/Forums

- Maureen & Norm Webb – cats
- EPBC Act Reform public online information seminar
- BA Volunteer Forum – all day online meeting
- Information session for the draft Shoalhaven Open Coast & Jervis Bay Coastal Management Plan
- BL Southern NSW Conservation Network Meeting – invited to participate as a general meet and greet and to build networks
- Logan Costa, Conservation Community Officer, BLA – to discuss BLA support for CO roles, etc

Other matters

- Lake Conjola – chatted to Ian Stewart about lake opening & other local management issues
- I am now hooked into other regional conservation officers at BL SNSW & BL Southern Highlands, and we are sharing submissions, newsletters etc
- I'm now on the BIGnet email list
- I still haven't followed up with Liza Butler's office about a meeting...

On the last issue, it was agreed not to ask for a meeting with Liza Butler until a major issue came up.

**e. Communications report –**

Magazine sent out in January. It was agreed to continue with producing a BLS Magazine other than move to an e-News, following Brett's decision to hand over the role of Editor.

**f. Media Report**

Yolande had arranged to give the following talks in 2024:

- 8 April Nowra Library - Birds in backyards
- 24 April Jervis Bay Garden Club - Glossies, Powerful Owls and Gang-gangs
- 12 August Nowra Library - Glossies, Powerful Owls and Gang-gangs
- 17 August Maritime museum- Glossies, Powerful Owls and Gang-gangs

She would be talking with Shoalhaven Landcare about additional talks.

It was agreed that these talks should be promoted through Campaign Monitor subject to the agreement of the host.

Rob was also due to give talk on 11 November at the Nowra Library on the BLS Bushfire Recovery Project.

**g. Bird Walks Update** –There had been no OH&S incidents since the last meeting.

**6. Filling vacant Committee positions and key roles**

Various names for the two vacant General Committee members and Vice-President were discussed. It was agreed that candidates did not need to commit to becoming bird walk coordinator or Magazine Editor before joining the Committee or in fact join the Committee. **Action 2 – Potential candidates for vacant positions to be followed up by Committee members.**

**7. Discussion on the BLS event and AGM and future events**

It was agreed that the event on 8 February was successful and well attended. It was agreed that the next AGM would be in Ulladulla or nearby. Rob highlighted that he was not inclined himself to organise future events.

**8. Recent support to funding applications**

It was agreed that providing support to grant applications made by other partner organisations, such as Shoalhaven Landcare, DECCW and University of Sydney.

**9. 2024 BLS Student Research Grant update**

Rob advised that no applications or queries had been received at this stage.

**10. Application for the BIGnet Twitchathon 2024 grant**

It was agreed to support an application by University of Sydney for a BIGnet Twitchathon 2024 grant to expand their olfactory research if they wanted to progress this.

**11. BLS 2024 Action Plan – refer below**

Phil raised that support of BirdLife’s Fairy Tern research project should be added to the plan, following his involvement in the recent project surveys.

**12. Next meeting – 3 May 2024**

**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS ITEMS FROM 23 FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING**

**10 November meeting**

**Action 2** –Rob to meet with Frances about BLS role to support the Lake Wollumboola Protection Association going forward.

**Action 9** - Karen & Phil to arrange a time to go to NAB to change BLS bank signatories.

**Action 14** – Rob to liaise with the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum on the development of a “Birds of the Museum” brochure. On-going and updates at future meetings.

**Action 15** - Karen to explore potential of BLS support to building nesting platforms for Osprey at Bhewerre Wetlands and/or the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum. Rob to provide input re. the Museum. On-going and updates at future meetings.

**23 February meeting**

**Action 1** – Rob to check that the BLS Secretary and Treasurer also did not need to be BirdLife Australia members.

**Action 2** – Potential candidates for vacant positions to be followed up by Committee members.