



# Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of members of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland will be held at 2.00 p.m. on Saturday 17 November 2018 in the Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Health & Social Care, Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Lancs.

### Agenda

1. *Chair's welcome, apologies for absence and opening remarks.* The Chair, **Ian Denholm**, will introduce those present beside him, announce apologies for absence and describe the content and conduct of the meeting and the members' participation in it.
2. *Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM.* Members will be asked to approve the minutes of the fourth AGM of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, held on 25 November 2017.
3. *Annual Review.* After a report by the Chair on the activities and outcomes during the year under review and of more recent achievements and future plans, members will be invited to take note of the publication of the fifth Annual Review of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, covering the year ended 31 March 2018, as distributed to members with the September 2018 issue of *BSBI News* and also available to download from BSBI's website: <https://bsbi.org/about-bsbi>
4. *Annual Report and Accounts.* A presentation will be given on the Annual Report and Accounts and other financial matters. Members will be invited to adopt the fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, covering the year ended 31 March 2018.

A Financial Report, comprising a Treasurer's Report and Summary Accounts, formed part of the 2018 Annual Review distributed with the September 2018 issue of *BSBI News*. The full 2018 Annual Report and Accounts, from which the Summary Accounts were compiled, along with the report made by the Society's Independent Examiners, are available to download from BSBI's website: <https://bsbi.org/about-bsbi> and also from The Charity Commission website at [charitycommission.gov.uk](http://charitycommission.gov.uk).

5. *Independent Examiners / Auditors.* By reference to company and charity law, and BSBI's Articles of Association, an audit of the 31 March 2019 Annual Report and Accounts will be required if it is either requested by the members or Trustees, or if the Society's gross income for the year or its net assets at the year-end exceed statutory thresholds.

The Trustees propose the re-appointment of WMT LLP of St. Albans, acting through Elizabeth Irvine FCA, as Independent Examiner or Auditor, whichever is required. The Trustees also seek approval to fix the remuneration of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.

6. *Election of President.* **Chris Metherell**, President of BSBI, has indicated his wish to retire at the 2019 AGM. **Lynne Farrell** has been nominated President-elect, proposed by **Chris Metherell** and seconded by **Chris Cheffings**. The members are invited to elect **Lynne Farrell** as President-elect.

**Lynne Farrell** was born in Manchester, educated in Sale, Cheshire and went to Coleraine University, N. Ireland, graduating with an Hons degree in Biology. Her first job was as a botanical assistant at Monks Wood Research Station, then under the Nature Conservancy, in Huntingdonshire. She continued her professional career working in the Biological Records Centre, then as plant ecologist and heathland specialist for English Nature, followed by various posts in Scottish Natural Heritage until retiring in 2007. She has always been interested in voluntary organisations and has been a member of several Wildlife Trusts and groups. She joined BSBI in 1967 and served as Field Meetings Secretary, Hon. General Secretary, Council member, Chair of Meetings & Communications and Vice-president. Now, Lynne is vice-county recorder for Mid Ebudes and is a keen sports fan and gardener. She moved to Arnside, Cumbria in 2017 after being based in Cambridgeshire for over 38 years.

7. *Retirement and Election of Trustees.* **Paul Bisson, Chris Cheffings, Mick Crawley and Sarah Whild** retire by rotation and are available for re-election. All have indicated their willingness to serve for a further term as Trustees. The re-elections are proposed by **Ian Denholm** and seconded by **Delyth Williams**. The members will be invited to re-elect these four Trustees to serve on the Society's Board for a further term.
8. *Retirement and Election of Members of Council.* **Mary Dean, Liz Lavery, Trevor James and John Swindells** retire by rotation and are available for re-election. **Mary Dean, Liz Lavery and John Swindells** have indicated their willingness to serve for a further term as a Member of Council. **Trevor James** has indicated his wish to retire from Council. The re-election of **Mary Dean, Liz Lavery and John Swindells** is proposed by **Chris Metherell** and seconded by **Helena Crouch**. The members will be invited to re-elect these three Members of Council for a further term. **Max Brown** has been nominated as a Member of Council, proposed by **Alex Twyford** and seconded by **Chris Metherell**. The members will be invited to elect **Max Brown** as a Member of Council.

**Max Brown** is a postgraduate student at the University of Edinburgh working on hybridisation and speciation in *Euphrasia*, a post which he took up after graduating from Jesus College Oxford. In between *Euphrasia*-related field trips and running large-scale growth experiments in the common garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Max maintains a deep interest in entomology. Prior to landing in Edinburgh he spent several months in Sumatra where his work included collecting specimens for the characterisation of a new taxon in the *Onthophagus limbatus* species group and writing a key to dung beetle species allowed wider teaching of the entomology department there. Max is a rare individual in botanical research these days, a geneticist who is also an expert field botanist who actively teaches plant identification at undergraduate level.

9. *Standing and Country Committees.* A vote of thanks will be proposed for retiring and continuing members of Council and the four Standing Committees and the three Country Committees.
10. *Journals, Newsletters and BSBI Handbooks.* A vote of thanks will be proposed for the work of

the editors of and contributors to *New Journal of Botany*, *BSBI News*, *Irish Botanical News*, *BSBI Scottish Newsletter* and *Welsh Bulletin*, the Vice-county Recorders and taxonomic referees and to all others who have so willingly volunteered their time and expertise for the furtherance of our Society's objectives.

11. *Any Other Business*. As notified to the Honorary General Secretary and approved by the BSBI President and Honorary General Secretary in advance of the commencement of the meeting.

## SUMMARY OF FORMAL RESOLUTIONS

1. To approve the Minutes of the AGM held on 25 November 2017
2. To take note of the 31 March 2018 Annual Review
3. To adopt the 31 March 2018 Annual Report and Accounts
4. To re-appoint WMT LLP, acting through Elizabeth Irvine FCA, as Independent Examiner or Auditor as the case may be
5. To allow Trustees to fix the remuneration of the Independent Examiner or Auditor
6. To elect **Lynne Farrell** as President-elect
7. To re-elect **Paul Bisson, Chris Cheffings, Mick Crawley, Sarah Whild** as Trustees to serve for a further term
8. To re-elect **Mary Dean, Liz Lavery, John Swindells** as Members of Council
9. To elect **Max Brown** as a Member of Council

## PROXIES

*Any member wishing to vote by proxy* should submit a request to do so in writing (including by email) to the Hon. General Secretary at any time in advance of the meeting. The proxy should indicate how to vote on each resolution, or that votes should be in favour of all resolutions as proposed by the Board of Trustees.

## By Order of the Board

Delyth Williams  
Hon. General Secretary  
31 October 2018

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