**THE BRITISH TRUST FOR ORNITHOLOGY**

**83rd Annual General Meeting**

**Notice is hereby given** that the 83rd Annual General Meeting of the British Trust for Ornithology will be held on Saturday 3 December 2022 at 3pm, by videoconference.

The agenda and supporting papers will be available to view and download at [www.bto.org/about-bto/governance-accounts](http://www.bto.org/about-bto/governance-accounts). Paper copies may be obtained by telephoning 01842 750050 or emailing *agm@bto.org*.

By order of the Board

Andrew Scott

Secretary

**Agenda**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes**

 To approve the minutes of the 82nd Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 4 December 2021.

**3. Annual Report & Accounts**

To receive the 88th Annual Report and Accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2022.

*Prof Gill will introduce the Trustees’ Annual Report and Mr Packer will introduce the Accounts.*

**4. Election of Trustees**

*The terms of office of Jenny Gill, Frances Hurst, Ian Packer, David Parker, Nick Sherwin and Jean Spencer expire on 31 December 2022. Following an open recruitment process conducted by the Governance and Nominations Committee, the Board proposes that the following be elected to serve a four year term ending on 31 December 2026.*

 i Zoe Davies (Chair)

 ii Jane Miller (Hon Treasurer)

 iii Emma Dresser

 iv Paul Fitzpatrick

 v Emma Thornton

 vi Joel Ziff

*Biographies of the nominees are attached to this notice.*

**5. Appointment of Auditors**

The Board proposes that Ensors Chartered Accountants be re-appointed as auditors of the Trust.

**6. Any Other Business**

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**Nominee Biographies**

Prof Zoe Davis (Chair)

Zoe is a Professor of Biodiversity Conservation at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent. Her PhD examined the validity of the metapopulation approach to species recovery. Over the last two decades, Zoe’s research interests have become increasingly diverse, often crossing traditional disciplinary boundaries, but focus on the use of empirical data to address questions of importance to conservation management/policy and human-biodiversity relationships. She is incredibly proud to be part of DICE and was delighted when it was awarded the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education in 2019. Zoe has held a number of roles within the British Ecological Society (BES), sitting on the Policy Committee, Meetings Committee and Council as a trustee. This included a period as Meetings Committee Chair, with responsibility for overseeing all scientific meetings and the special interest groups (SIGs) run by the Society. In 2021, she received the BES Award for recognition of exceptional service to the Society and ecological community. Zoe currently sits on the Natural England Science Advisory Committee. She is also a Senior Associate Editor for the journal Conservation Letters and is on the Advisory Board for the revolutionary publishing initiative Applied Ecology Resources. She is passionate about widening participation within STEM subjects and public engagement with research.

Jane Miller (Hon Treasurer)

Jane is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountant and has worked in the Telecoms, Retail Banking and Insurance industries in both the UK, the US and New Zealand.  She has experience in line finance, programme management, transformation, regulatory change and business optimisation.  Jane lives on the Suffolk Coast and has a strong interest in waders and coastal birds. She is keen to bring her business experience to help the BTO achieve its strategic aims.

Emma Dresser

Emma is an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Manager at Loughborough University where she plays a central role in work to drive forward the university’s activity to identify and dismantle discriminatory practices and to create an inclusive, fair and respectful culture in which all staff and students feel valued, are able to voice differing perspectives and realise their full potential. She has possessed a strong interest and appreciation for birds and wildlife from a young age and relishes the opportunity to work with BTO to address the barriers to equity and diversity and support their ambitions in creating an inclusive environment. She hopes to bring her professional experience and personal passion to expand access to the work of BTO to broader audiences, thereby providing access to the benefit of engaging with nature to individuals from all backgrounds.

Dr Paul Fitzpatrick

Paul is an academic Research Chartered Psychologist dual qualified as an ‘Environmental Psychologist’: He focuses on (a) the mental health benefits of environmental contact (b) the significant issues of human impact on both non-urbanised areas and nature reserves/SSSI’s. He chaired his university Ethics, and Equality, committees and headed a research team responsible for Cultural Cohesion in relation to both the Home Office and Welsh Government. Paul has worked, and published from, Antarctica for three separate periods.  He is a voluntary warden with the RSPB and South West Lakes Ecology Team, and is a council member for Devon Birds where he is responsible for Partnership, Ethics, and Diversity. Although recently retired, Paul remains an accredited academic for his university for ongoing research and supervision.

Emma Thornton

Emma is a student in her third year studying Biology at the University of Oxford. In her gap year she became involved with BTO as a novice birder. She has grown in confidence through BTO training courses and participating in Garden BirdWatch. She has been part of BTO’s Youth Advisory Panel since its formation at the start of 2020 and became inspired to set up and lead a new society at university – Oxford Ornithological Student Society. She enjoys engaging in the avian

parts of her course, in particular spotting BTO data in lectures and referencing it in her own work. She recently enjoyed an Avian Behaviour and Ecology field course to Copeland Bird Observatory. Emma is passionate about creating opportunities for young people to connect with nature and science, particularly around improving mental health. She is excited to bring a young person’s perspective to the Board.

Joel Ziff

Joel is a Partner at Clifford Chance, the international law firm, specialising in Mergers and Acquisitions. He is responsible for Clifford Chance's pro bono relationship with the RSPB. Before joining Clifford Chance, Joel worked as a manager in the NHS. He has been a keen birder for over 50 years.