



Filey Brigg Ornithological Group
and Bird Observatory Ltd

Newsletter

December 2013

Filey Ringing Week 2013

Filey Ringing Week 2013 was unfortunately not one that will be remembered for the birds, once again the week was plagued with bad weather and less than favourable conditions for migration throughout the eight days. With heavy rain and persistent strong south westerlies two full days and two half days were lost. However the jovial atmosphere and good company amongst the team and members of the public kept spirits up.

The week kicked off on Saturday 19th with a reasonable total of 82 birds caught, the following day the TS basked under clear blue skies and warm October sunshine resulting in even fewer birds caught (61), so far from ideal conditions for the birds, however it did bring a flurry of late butterfly records with a number of Commas, Red Admirals and Small Tortoiseshells seen, along with several dragonfly species – Migrant Hawkers and Common Darters.



Comma



Migrant Hawker

As Monday arrived so did the rain, cutting short the day and leaving very wet ringers packing up by 11 o'clock, 16 birds were caught before the heavens opened – with one being in the shape of a first year female Sparrowhawk – always an exciting bird to see in the net and worth getting caught in the downpour for. The following day the rain had eased but it was the strong winds turn to halt play, resulting in impossible conditions for netting. As the week progressed the totals finally increased with two full days on the Wednesday and Thursday, with the latter being the most productive of the week, with 125 birds ringed – compared with a meagre 22 on the Wednesday. Thursday's good catch coincided nicely with the arrival of the RSPB group, and allowed the ringers to show the visitors the finer points of ringing, and ageing/sexing techniques.



Sparrowhawk



RSPB Visitors

Unfortunately the last two days were blighted again by the weather with strong SW and heavy rain, leaving the nets unopened once again all but for a few hours Saturday morning. However in that time we did manage to catch a Yellow-browed Warbler – a nice birthday present for CJB – 21 again.

A total of 331 birds were caught and ringed throughout the week, which is very disappointing compared with previous years. Hopefully next year the week will coincide with a run of easterly winds – we can but pray...

The most caught species throughout the week consisted of: Greenfinch (70), Blackbird (37), Tree Sparrow (35), Lesser Redpoll (25) and Chaffinch (25). Three Bramblings were a welcome find in the nets along with three Mealy Redpolls that were caught amongst flocks of Lessers.



Yellow-browed Warbler



Common Redpoll

Scarce warblers were at a minimum with only the presence of a Yellow-browed Warbler noted in the scrub and a Dusky Warbler, which chose to reside away from the ringing area and favoured the high sycamore trees in Arndale. The only other warblers to be caught throughout the week were Chiffchaffs (5) and Blackcaps (10) – some of which were carrying large amounts of fat. The regular band of eight ringers manned the TS for the week and were joined once again by Walter and Ann from Aberdeen who brought plenty of joy, good humour and black pudding!



The 'Ringing Lab'



Long-tailed Tit release pen!

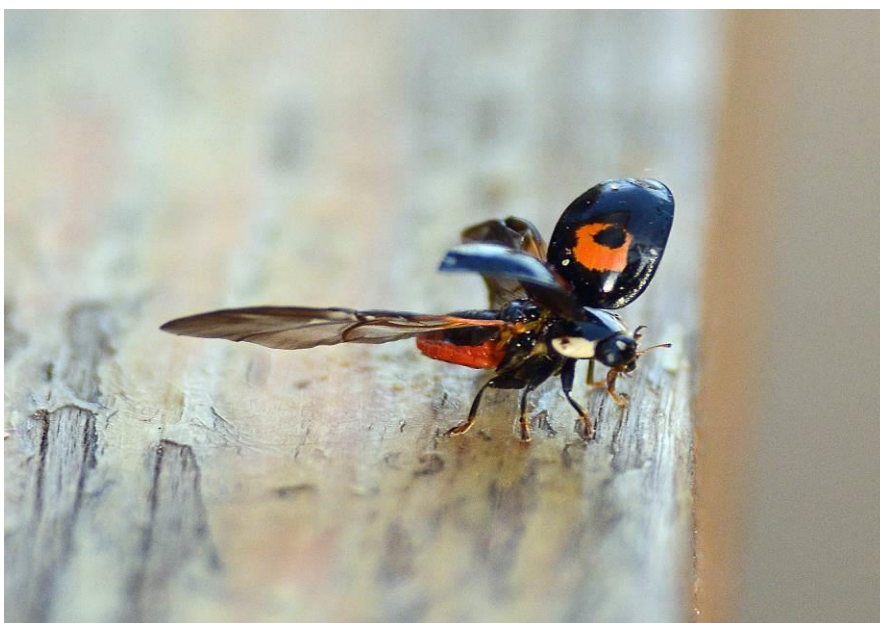
As always many thanks to Scarborough Borough Council for their continued permission to ring on the Country Park.

Lucy Murgatroyd

An introduction to the Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis*; a new species of beetle for the FBOG recording area.

Alien species are of considerable conservation concern due to the pressures that they can exert on native fauna and flora. In 2013 the FBOG recording area had its first, somewhat overdue, record of the Harlequin Ladybird (IR et al). The species has been present along the Yorkshire coastal belt from at least 2007 (Pers Obs.), with a colony at Flamborough and an abundance within Scarborough. It would seem most likely that the species has been present in Filey in low numbers from a similar time period, going unrecorded and overlooked. The wet summers of 2011 and 2012 saw a marked reduction in ladybird abundance and diversity within the recording area, and is likely to have curtailed any early colonisation attempts.

The Harlequin Ladybird has been described as the fastest spreading invasive insect in Europe. It is a relatively recent addition to the United Kingdom's fauna, first reported in 2003 from the south coast. This species originates from the eastern side of the Asian continent. Its route



into the UK actually came from eastern North America, where it is equally an invasive species, and is now recognised as the most abundant species of ladybird on that continent. Originally introduced into the states as early as 1916, as a means of biological control, specifically on soybean aphids, the

species spread rapidly across the continent and indeed now across much of the world, where suitable climates occur.

The species now occupies much of the United Kingdom with records as far north as Orkney. The spread into the FBOG recording area was an unfortunate but inevitable event. The species is a large, aggressive, generalist which easily outcompetes and predated most of our native ladybird fauna. Harlequins are a species which takes full advantage of urban and sub-urban habitats, owing to their higher mean temperatures and the abundance of hibernacula. Searching parks, gardens and green areas around Filey town will undoubtedly turn up increasing numbers of records for this species. Harlequins are notably arboreal, with a particular affinity to both mature sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and lime *Tilia spp.* trees, and to a lesser extent other *Acer* species such as field maple *A. campestre* and Norway maple *A. platanoides*. These species generally have high aphid yields, and crucially retain leaves late into the year, hence their popularity with *Phylloscopus* warblers and titmice.

Harlequin ladybirds share a similar diet to that of the familiar 7 spot ladybird *Coccinella septempunctata* and 2 spot ladybird *Adalia bipunctata*, with a large proportion of the diet comprising aphids (greenfly) and coccids (scale insects), with a range of other insects also eaten including other ladybirds (sometimes even cannibalism).

The Harlequin is perhaps not one of the easiest ladybirds to identify for the beginner, due to its confusing complexity of colour morphs and variation within each morph. This has led to names such as the "Multicoloured Asian Ladybird" across parts of its range. The species generally occurs in three distinct morphs in Britain; '*succinea*' - yellow/orange/red background colour with black spots, '*spectabilis*' and '*conspicua*' are both black with four or two red spots, respectively.

Dan Lombard

Secretary's Report

A copy of the Minutes from this years AGM is included with this Newsletter so that everyone can see the topics discussed and actions taken at the Meeting. You will be pleased to see there is no change in membership subscriptions; due on the 1st January 2014. We are planning to hold next years AGM on the afternoon of Saturday November 1st 2014. Please add the date to that new diary which is bound to turn up in your Xmas stockings.

Sue Hull

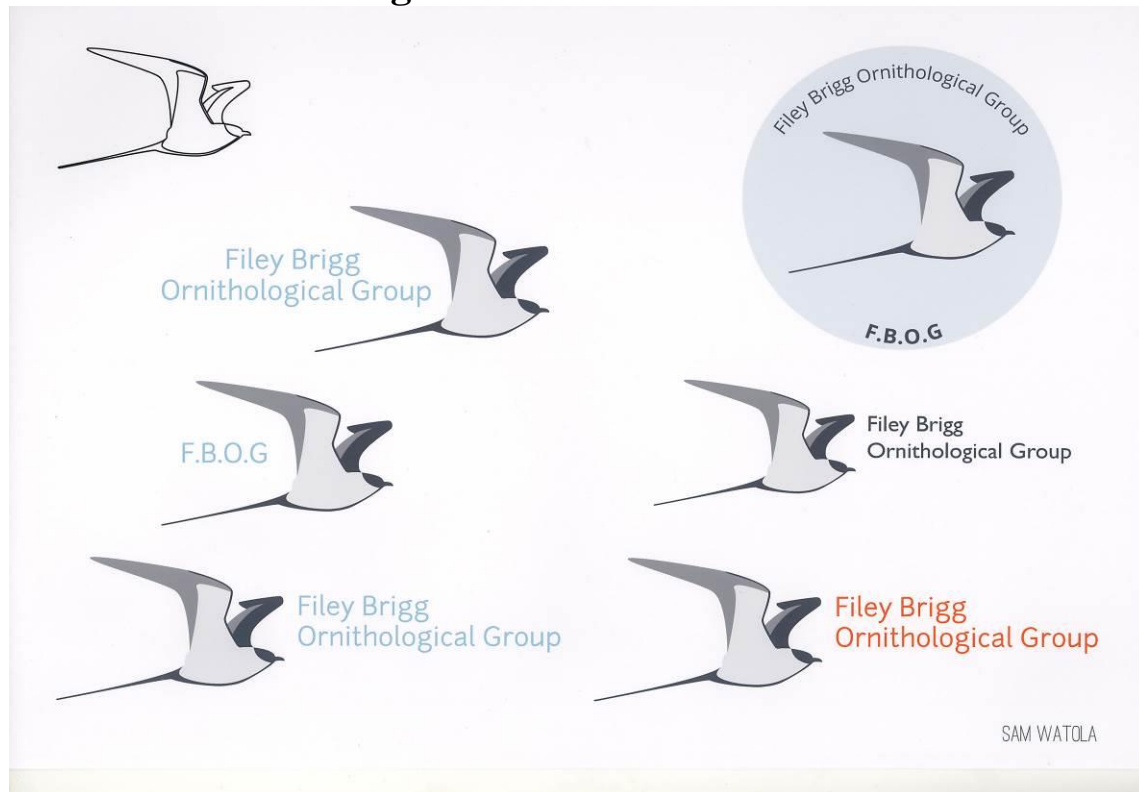
Filey Bird Report

We are already making plans for the 2013 Filey Bird Report. If you have taken any good quality photos in Filey during 2013, birds, butterflies, dragonflies or mammals we would like to see them. Please send original images (uncropped) to - ianrobinson@yorkshire.net

FBOG Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings, usually the third Tuesday in each month (no meeting December) are held at Bonhommes Bar, Royal Crescent Court, The Crescent, Filey. These informal meetings are open to all members and commence at 7.30pm. Come and join us for a drink and a chat.

A bird in a different light



Sam Watola is working up a suite of typographical variations using the above “new” image of the Long-tailed Skua. The original was drawn by Tony Broome in the 70’s; this illustration sharpens the design and will be used on badges, letterheads etc., probably retaining the ‘Butlins’ blue corporate colour, once it has been approved. Any thoughts on this would be welcomed, addressed to Ian Robinson, ianrobinson@yorkshire.net.

Just how far would you go.to get away from Filey? John Ives went: Birding down under in the sun

Whilst Filey was experiencing its first snow of the winter, Sheila and I were in New Zealand experiencing one of the warmest Novembers on record. Although the principal reason for the visit was to see our family we managed a number of birding trips including one to Kapiti Island. The Island is off the west coast of the North Island, administered by the Dept. of Conservation (DoC) and visit is by permit only. The island is predator free and is an excellent place to see New Zealand's native forest birds such as Kaka, Weka, Saddleback, Bellbird, Hihi, Fantail, Whitehead etc.



Weka by John Ives

I found two birds of particular interest. The island has a population of Takahe - a large flightless bird thought to be extinct until a small population was discovered in a remote area of the South Island in 1948. There are about 240 birds now on predator free reserves. They like long damp grass and are breeding on Kapiti. We managed to see 6 birds. The second is the Little Spotted Kiwi. Kapiti has about 1400 out of a total population of

2000. We stayed overnight on the island at a Lodge run by a Maori family who took us out after dark looking for the Kiwis. Using a torch with a red filter, they found some snuffling about in the undergrowth looking for insects. The Kiwis really are ridiculous birds. They lay the largest egg per bodyweight of any bird (23%) and for the last week before laying, the female cannot eat as there is no room for food in the body cavity. They lay their egg in a burrow about 1.5m deep and incubation takes about 72 days. On hatching, the young Kiwi is fully developed.

A bonus for being out in the Bush late at night was to see a Morepork - NZ only native owl which is secretive and nocturnal.

It was great to see these rare and endangered birds and the conservation work being done by DoC and others to try and ensure their survival but the sad fact is that they can only survive on predator free islands or mainland reserves surrounded by predator resistant fencing.

Anyone planning a visit to Kapiti should book well in advance, permits are strictly limited and the Lodge has limited accommodation.

Closer to home...East Lea is getting a facelift

Having agreed at the AGM to blow all our money on a Christmas present for the newts, work has begun. The ditch is dug, the fence is going in and before the little devils wake up in Spring the place will have a new look. Access will be just about the same, but in deference to our ageing membership, kiss-gates will replace stiles. Cattle will, in future, come in and out past the owl box so expect to see some changes in that area; no need to report the theft of a five-barred gate, I know about it!

Cornfield Flowers...Year two

Hidden away in the Rocket Pole Field is an arable strip, ploughed, harrowed and raked, and within it are the fresh-sown seeds of some of our fastest declining farmland flowers.



Ploughing the corn flower strip

In Spring there will be a succession of Cornflower, Corn Cockle, Corn Marigold and Night-flowering Catchfly. Dotted in there will be Prickly Poppy, Large-flowered Hemp Nettle and Corn Buttercup with a scattering of Shepherd's Needle, Small-flowered Buttercup and Pheasant's Eye, fringed with the grass-loving Wild Clary. As a precaution against disaster I have held back seeds of five species for planting on in pots; it's very easy and rewarding so if you fancy a crack at that contact me on jackwhitehead@live.com.

Recorder's Report: October-November

It's not been long since the last newsletter, so only the last two months to report on: October, usually the best month of the year, bought many quality birds, and even a BBRC rarity. Oodles of Yellow-browed Warblers brightened every birder's day, and we ended up with 33 in total for the month.

Jack Snipe, Curlew Sandpiper and Little Stint kicked off the month. 1850 Pinkfeet were a good number on 6th, but short of the 3300 recorded on 26th September 2005. The 10th and 11th were excellent sea-watching days, with strong northerlies bringing Leach's Storm Petrels, Sooties, Poms, Long-tailed Skuas and Balearic Shearwaters. A Woodlark on 12th was the first for eight years. Great Grey Shrike (28th record) was at Newbiggin on 13th. Two Red-breasted Flycatchers showed on the 14th. Dusky Warbler (5th record) and Bluethroat were the goodies found on the 15th. Siberian Chiffchaff, Eastern Lesser Whitethroat (it'll be a tick one day) and another Dusky Warbler all appeared on the 17th. Ringing Week was quiet, not helped by unkind winds, but 100 birds were ringed on one day. A Pallas's Warbler

was at Hunmanby on 20th. Over 90 Whooper Swans on the 24th doubled the previous best day-total of 48, set back in 1983. A Richard's Pipit was photographed at Hunmanby on the same day, the first since 2007. A Water Pipit (17th record) turned up on the 26th. Snow Bunting, Lapland Bunting and Twite were present at the month's end.

November was quieter. Six very confused Swallows flew over on 6th. Three Smew flew west on 11th. Over 8500 Blackbird (new day-total) arrived on the 11th with a thousand each of Fieldfare and Redwing for company. The autumn's first Waxwings appeared on 13th at Reighton Gap, and a Hawfinch (11th record) was also seen. A colour-ringed Shag photographed from the Brigg on 14th was ringed on 10th July this year on the tiny island of Craigleith in the Firth of Forth. Good sea-watching on the 21st and 22nd provided Balearic Shearwater, Little Auk, Scaup (these days a real rarity), and Glaucous Gull.

The year's total so far is 224. If anyone sees a Red-legged Partridge, that would be useful... which brings us onto records.

It's that time of year again, when all those notebooks need to be brought out and the records in them sent to the Recorder. I'd like them by the end of January, and way before if possible, thanks. Any format is fine.

And lastly but not least, any updated totals for the Filey Lister's League should be sent to the Recorder so we can update the webpage. Your chance to be one of the top 50! (Filey listers).

An update from Mark, our Communications Officer..... Surveying in 2014 – would you like to help?

FBOG is launching a series of surveys in 2014, and participation is open to all members who'd like to get involved. Surveys – even very simple ones - improve our understanding of the wildlife in our area, strengthen the case for better conservation, and often produce some fascinating discoveries! We'll be looking at surveying everything from breeding birds to plants, bats, and plenty more besides, and the more of us get involved, the more we can do. We'll be publishing details on the website soon, but if you'd like to help out, please email me at S.Hull@hull.ac.uk and we'll take it from there.

The website – going from strength to strength!

By the time you read this, there will be lots more to enjoy on the FBOG website (fbog.co.uk) including: more site guides, to help members and guests get the best of our wildlife hotspots; monthly summaries, detailing highlights of the previous month's birds; lots of new info in the wildlife pages, including new sections on mammals and more; several new articles in the archive section (and many more to follow); and a brand new ringing page, with lots of detail on recent ringing activities. Please let me know if you've got an idea for content and would like to contribute something – the more the merrier!

Filey Descriptions & Records for the Report

During FBOG's long history (well since 1976) we have always had a policy that any rare or scarce birds (National, Yorkshire or local) needed to be described to prove its identification or it would not appear in the Filey Report. We still subscribe to this decision and there are no separate rules or dispensations for anyone! However the descriptions need to be suitable for the National or Yorkshire committees to prove the identification correct and similarly we ask the same for local scarce birds (as per the list in the latest report and on the website).

The process was: all descriptions were placed either in the café during its open season or in the seawatch hide in winter, for all members to look at and comment. With the imminent sale of the café we are not 100% certain this procedure will continue so we are going to form a small 'records committee' around which the descriptions can be electronically circulated.

I have been given the task as Assistant Recorder to monitor and deal with the descriptions but I would like some volunteers to help look at them and make some informed decisions as to whether the ID is proved. Qualifications for the job? A good knowledge and experience of species we are likely to expect on the Yorkshire coast, an unbiased mind and a computer/email address.

Anyone interested please email me at pjd@fbog.co.uk. We would need probably five to deal with any voting on records received.

Peter Dunn

More on surveys...

If anyone is interested in taking part in a Garden Bird survey next year can you let me know on S.Hull@hull.ac.uk? We intend to start recording on 1st January 2014 so we get a full years data to add to the records. You never know what will turn up so keep your eyes open on your feeders and bushes - can anyone beat Waxwings, Redstarts and Pied Flycatchers?

So, if you weren't there this is what you missed...



FILEY BRIGG ORNITHOLOGICAL GROUP

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, QUEEN STREET, FILEY ON SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2013

Attending:- Janet Robinson, Ian Robinson (Chair), Jack Whitehead, Mark Pearson, Chris Hansell, Pete Dunn, George Watola, John Ives, Mal Richardson, Mark Moore, John McEachen, Dan Lombard, Sue Hull (minuting).

Apologies:- Dave Williams, Bernard & Enid Turnbull, Frank Moffatt, John Burnham, Lucy Murgatroyd, Craig Ralston

- 1. Chairman's Introduction** IR welcomed everyone to the 36th AGM of FBOG.

2. Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were reviewed by the Meeting and approved as an accurate record of proceedings (proposed PJD, seconded CH).

3. Consideration of FBOG Constitution

Proposed changes to the Constitution were outlined by SLH and accepted unanimously (proposed MR, seconded MJP).

4. Election of Officers

IR outlined changes to the officers since the last AGM, which included the new post of Communications Officer (occupied by MJP), which was felt to be a useful addition. CC had resigned in August and he was thanked for his years of service; his duties would be split between membership (HJW) and reports (JR) temporarily.

The Officers were elected as follows:

Chairman	Ian Robinson
Secretary	Sue Hull
Recorder	George Watola
Treasurer	Jan Robinson
Membership Secretary	Jack Whitehead
Communications Officer	Mark Pearson
Ringling Officer	Peter Dunn

In addition to the Officers post above, PJD offered to act as Assistant recorder.
Proposed JMCE, seconded MR.

5. Treasurer's Report

Group accounts had been audited and returned as correct, at a cost of £240. JR explained that an adjustment to how subscriptions to societies were paid, now from the deposit account rather than the current account, had lifted the current account out of the red. The overall balance, at £21,656, was about £2,000 down on the previous year. In view of the expenditure on the East Lea hydrology project this was felt to be a satisfactory situation.

The £1,400 p.a. rent on the Rocket Field was discussed. Our lease had lapsed in October 2012 but demands for payment were being received from Scarborough Borough Council. Chris Brogan of SBC had shown support for a considerable reduction in the rent in view of our conservation focus and SLH had written to SBC asking for a review. It was unanimously agreed that no further payments should be made until the issue had been resolved. JR/SLH to draft the next response to the Council.

Income from Countryside Stewardship had now finished, leaving SPS and ELS as main funding. One small bill for tractor work was outstanding.

The accounts were accepted unanimously and JR was thanked for her work.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

HJW reported that there were 100 members and an additional 24 partners. Members received a membership card, Bird Report and a car sticker, and could opt to pay for keys to the Brigg Hide and East Lea gate if they wished. Membership rates were:

Single	£26
Concession	£22
Family	£36
Student (under 30)	£10 (no free report)

JR suggested that these charges remain the same for 2014. Proposed JI, seconded MR.
Standing Order facilities were available on request.

Communication with members was discussed. HJW suggested that AGM minutes should be distributed before Christmas as an attachment to a Newsletter. Other Newsletters would be issued with the Bird Report in early summer and as notice of the AGM in autumn.

7. 2012 Bird Report

IR talked about the production of the current Bird Report, which had been delayed slightly due to late submissions and changes. The Report had been very well received; MJP congratulated IR on the high quality, PJD agreed, remarking on the layout and design.

IR had sorted out the old reports; 1992 and 2000 had all gone. Sales were through the FBOG website, Steve Holliday, Mick Butt at Bempton and Chris Blakely during the ringing week. Most reports were sold at the Country Park Café and IR was to ask the new owner if he would continue to sell them.

Sales of old reports had realised £239, those of the 2012 report, £683.

8. 2013 Bird Report

IR outlined the funding for the Bird Report, and explained that printing advances had meant that the new report had been bigger than previously and in full colour, but remained at the same cost. It was agreed that the print run would be 350 copies to be sold at £6. IR offered to edit the forthcoming report, there being no other volunteers, but appealed for help. It was agreed that separate meetings would be held for those interested in writing sections of the report or providing articles, drawings or photographs. MJP offered to continue seeking advertisers.

It was agreed that a further meeting would be held outside the AGM to organise the main writing of the species list.

9. SITE REPORTS

Filey Dams / East Lea

HJW outlined the Income and Expenditure at Filey Dams; YWT had only donated £79 but were responsible for the rental of the litter bin, tree surgery and insurance. Donations were at £237. Most expense was incurred through bird feeding despite the very welcome donations from Terry Entwistle. This year £332 had been spent on seed. IR offered to keep bulk supplies of seed in his garage rather than feed the rodents in the hide basement. The brushcutter, which is mainly used on the Dams, cost £101 to repair this year. The year's maintenance had centred on the sluice and the hide flaps; next year some work would be needed on the pond-dipping platform. Some slight adjustments would be made to the muddy areas in front of the Main Hide and at the East Pool.

HJW explained the progress so far on improving control of water levels at East Lea, which had cost £4,700. The second phase of the project sought to improve muddy areas in front of the screen, remove all barbed wire from the site and improve the habitat for Great Crested Newts. East Lea had originally been purchased as a newt mitigation site but was ineffective due to inappropriate grazing and positioning of ponds. The arrival of fish had exacerbated the problem. A plan was circulated showing where new ditches would be dug and where post and rail fencing would replace barbed wire. The grazier, James Whitaker, had offered to carry out all ground works and to fence the area for a very reasonable cost; in return he would be allowed to graze the Dams, which Ben Blackburn was happy to relinquish. Subsidiary advantages came from better sight lines from the hide and much reduced disturbance with a higher bund and kissing gates were to replace stiles on the approach.

The costs were roughly £3,250. HJW had approached the YWT for funding and also applied to the LUSH company for a grant. A discussion ensued; PJD said that as we owned the land we should proceed and JI was enthusiastically in support. The meeting voted unanimously to proceed.

Parish Wood / Old Tip

IR reviewed what had been a stressful year: dogs-on-leads by-laws were in place all year on Parish Wood but attempts to include the tip had brought objections. A public meeting with the dog walkers, police and council produced a compromise whereby dogs would be on leads from 1st April until 30th September. It was noted that the plans for the Heritage Way footpath along the cliff-top would include a dogs-on-leads clause. MJP thanked IR for tackling this issue despite often lukewarm support from the bird group.

The crop field at the tip had just been ploughed and sown with cereals, leaving a very broad unsown headland. Mr. Megginson will crop the field and then leave as stubble for as long as we wish. The grazed pasture at the tip had a good year, with the scrapes holding water well despite dry conditions. Parish Wood, planted in 1997, was becoming overgrown and some tree felling was required. IR would meet with DL and Richard Baines to designate clearings, the group to be advised of the date of the inspection.

Filey Lions had offered a donation of £1,000 to the group to improve the surface of the lower part of the path through Parish Wood; Filey Town Council planners refused permission, the £1,000 was returned to Filey Lions with regret.

CH asked if gates could be put into various fences on the tip to give access to nest boxes; IR explained that step-over fences were already in place. The post and rail fence had proved successful in reducing disturbance. IR pointed out that the wire cattle fence was 14 years old and might cost £8,000 to replace. With completion of the Stewardship, the tip was left with its share of SPS, this year about £1,100; expenditure was merely £300.

Rocket Pole Field

HJW explained the financial situation following the completion of the Countryside Stewardship scheme. He thanked RB for providing a full botanical survey in an attempt to gain HLS. Natural England rejected the application, leaving only ELS, which brings the RPF less than £50 annually. SPS brings in approx. £1,000. Annual expenditure was about £200. The annual rent payable to Scarborough Borough Council was £1,400. The rent issue had been discussed earlier (see Treasurer's Report) and it was apparent that the viability of the field hinged on this issue. The Cornfield Flowers project, which occupies a strip of the ungrazed plot, was going well, seed had been collected and the land treated and ploughed. Seed would be sown in late November, supplemented by other species provided by the project organisers; some would be retained and grown on in pots by volunteers. The scheme had cost around £100 to initiate.

IR and PJD spoke briefly on the local nature reserve plans being run by Discover Filey; FBOG involvement was to be advisory only. MJP asked about the possibility of establishing a more permanent scrape in the RPF in a low-lying spot towards the north-west fence, IR said that this would be part of the scheme.

Seawatch Hide

IR talked about the well attended work party held in June and in the absence of Ian Bimrose asked for volunteers to organise similar in future. IR would talk to John Sanderson and Brian Pilling on the subject.

10. Recorder's Report

GW reviewed the year; there had been 217 species so far and these included one new species: Great White Egret, and only the 20th national record of Black-headed Wagtail. Transferring records into useable formats was discussed; HJW was doing Dams, East Lea; CC, IR, PJD were also collecting records from other observers. Most seawatch records were being entered on Trektellin web-site, extracting these records was to be investigated. GW extracts records from the FBOG Sightings page and from the Yahoo Filey Nature site. Bird Track records were felt to be too difficult to substantiate.

A sub-group was to be established to regularly review records, particularly of description birds and the list of these was to be revised. GW/PJD to action. There was a desire to start survey work as soon as possible; GW to send HJW details of forthcoming surveys for incorporation in the next Newsletter.

IR thanked GW for his recording work through the year.

11. Ringing Report

PJD outlined a very poor year for ringing, with less than 1,000 birds rung. Ringing Week had been a wash-out, with only 273 birds rung, but visitor numbers were high and report sales were good. Annual cost of ringing was £201 and FBOG would contribute £100 to the East Yorkshire Ringing Group. PJD thanked all helpers. Lucy Murgatroyd and Craig Ralston, helped by DL, had established a bird-feeding station in Parish Wood. They had cut a series of lanes and would be trapping in the area in future.

12. Web-site

IR introduced MJP and spoke of the transformation which he had achieved in the quality of the FBOG web-site and the Yahoo Filey Nature site. MJP suggested a get-together of interested parties to write for the web-site and invited those present to suggest items to include. Most ideas were enthusiastically received, though some, such as a weather chart, were felt best dealt with by a link from another site. MJP asked for articles and photographs to be passed to him. The FBOG site was receiving up to 100 hits per day, and this was likely to rise. IR congratulated MJP on an excellent job.

13. Any other business

Designs for a new logo, drawn by Sam Watola, were circulated. These were favourably received and it was agreed that they would be circulated for comments in the next Newsletter. A contribution would be made should the design be adopted.

Next year's A.G.M. is proposed for Saturday 1st November 2014, and will possibly be held in the afternoon. This was accepted unanimously by the Meeting.

14. The meeting ended at 9pm.