Minutes of the 20\textsuperscript{TH} AGM of the African Bird Club held at Natural History Museum, London SW7 at 13.30 on Saturday 12\textsuperscript{th} April 2014

Present
The following members registered their attendance at the meeting:

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Carolyn Hall, Jeremy Lindsell, Keith Seaton, Joost Brouwer, Kevin Ravno, Jill Warwick, Mike Blair, Mike Edgecombe, Chris Magin, Matthew Boyer, Trevor Rackstraw, Pete Leonard, Ruth Bray, David Tomlinson, Tim Stowe, David Brooks, Wendy Brooks, Chris Bowden, Richard Webb, Steph Tyler, Joan Howie, Bruktawit Abdu, Tiwonge Gawa, Yvonne Savage, Danae Sheehan, John Farnsworth.

2. Minutes of the 2013 AGM.
The minutes had been circulated; Geoff Randall proposed acceptance of the minutes as a true record, and this was seconded by Bill Quantrill. The proposal was carried unanimously and the chairman signed the minutes.

3. Matters arising
There were none that would not be dealt with by subsequent items.

In his report as Chairman of the Council, Keith Betton was pleased that membership at the end of 2013 had increased to around 1200 and he particularly thanked Rockjumper and Ashanti Tours both of whom had offered free ABC memberships to their customers. ABC now has members in 60 or more countries. There were 33 Corporate Sponsors in membership under the current scheme. A new Corporate Sponsor Scheme is being revamped for 2014 with 3 grades of membership, Gold Silver and Bronze.

Keith also announced that the Club had supported 178 projects during the 20 years since the club’s inception to which ABC’s Conservation Fund had contributed over £170,000. He expressed gratitude to those individual members who had made personal donations to support the Club’s work. Once again it had been
possible to send books and binoculars to Africa, and he encouraged members to tell the Club if they were visiting an area to which such items could be taken by hand.

The front cover of the Bulletin had been redesigned, working towards an online version being available. AFBIID continues to be a success and there are 1000 people registered on ABC's online discussion group and 16,000 people follow ABC on Facebook.

ABC will attend BBWF 2014 (14th to 17th August 2014) with an updated stand this year

Keith welcomed the new proposed African Council members and explained that they would be able to take a full role on Council via Skype and Email when they were not present in the UK

In closing the Chairman thanked everyone who had helped the Club achieve so much in 2013, and said that he was particularly looking forward to 2014 Council: The Council roles for 2013 were: Chairman – Keith Betton; Vice Chairman - John Caddick; Secretary – Geoff Orton; Treasurer – Stephen Pringle; Conservation Officer – Chris Magin; and Corporate Sponsor Officer – Richard Charles. During the year, Nigel Birch took on the role of Country Representatives Co-ordinator. Nigel Birch, Phil Hyde and Paul Buckley became trustees and Phil Hyde is taking over from Geoff Orton as Secretary in 2014.

5. Presentation of the Accounts for 2013 and the Treasurer’s Report
Copies of the Summarised Accounts, included as an attachment to the agenda, were distributed at the meeting. Stephen Pringle presented the accounts and reported that 2013 had been a good year for the Club’s finances. Income for 2013 was £43,008, an increase of £5,202 over 2012 resulting from a continuing generous level of donations to the Conservation fund. Net Income was £10,864, which was £2,822 less than the previous year, but the expenditure on Conservation Projects had increased from £19,703 to £33,633. The acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Kay White, seconded by Douglas Buchanan and approved unanimously.

6. Election of Trustees
The following Trustees stood down having completed their term of office: John Caddick, Danae Sheehan; the following agreed to stand for re-election: Keith Betton, Richard Charles, Geoff Orton, Stephen Pringle. The Trustees propose the following new Trustees: Bruktawit Abdu, Nigel Birch, Paul Buckley, Tiwonge Gawa, Carolyn Hall, Phil Hyde and Chris Magin
All of the above were proposed by Nigel Redman, seconded by Duncan McDonald and unanimously elected as Trustees of the Club:

7. Election of Executive Officers for 2014
The following were proposed by Tony Wood, seconded by Helen Baker and unanimously elected as Executive Officers of the Club: Chairman: Keith Betton; Vice Chairman: Richard Charles; Treasurer: Stephen Pringle, Secretary: Phil Hyde.

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner
Stephen Pringle proposed, Alan Williams seconded the appointment and the meeting unanimously confirmed Michael Goddard as Independent Examiner for 2014.

9. Any other Business
It was suggested that badges should be provided for all attendees at the meeting and the Chairman concurred.

10. Close of Meeting.
The meeting closed at 14.00.