

KLAW Committee Meeting 16 December 2025 – Minutes v1

The meeting, arranged by Rory Harding, was held using Google Meet.

Present: Rory Harding (Chair); Genny Maskell; Dave Casey; Dave Shenton; Keith Dugmore (Secretary); Jenny Dugmore (Treasurer).

Apologies: Julia Brant.

Item	Topic	Action
1.	Chair's introduction Rory reported Julia's news that she would be unable to join our meetings on Tuesdays, and has had to step back from the committee.	
2.	Membership Robert Knight had joined as a Landholder, having a 2.5 acre grassland habitat on the margin of Elham. The number of Landholders is now 43.	
3.	Grants & other financial support Biodiversity Net Gain. DaveS had arranged for Nicky Carter (formerly Nicky Britton-Williams) to give an update of her earlier talk (see Item 5 below), focussing on examples of case studies in the last two years. Making Space for Nature. The MSN strategy had been published, and launched at a successful event. It was agreed to seek a speaker at our AGM on 21 March to focus on how KLAW members can help it work. Stour Valley Restore. S E Water had also signed up in support. Chalk to Coast. DaveS was liaising with this project about Local Wildlife Sites. Genny reported that there was also a similar initiative in the Marden area, mobilising local enthusiasts (despite little financial support). Successful Grant Applications. Jo at Tree of Life Veganics had sent an impressive list of her successful grant applications, and Jenny would add this to KLAW's website.	Rory, DaveS Jenny
4.	Recording baseline data, and getting expert help Local Wildlife Sites. DaveS reported that the LWS newsletter had just been published. Keith would include the link in our next KLAW News. Dave related the latest news of designations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DaveC & Judy's meadow – now formally designated.• Genny's Bow Meadow – citation ready to go.• DaveC & Judy's Eleven Acre Wood – to be progressed.• Carol Davis's Honeywood – DaveS to visit.• Jack Highwood's Crow Plain Farm. DaveS had visited this large new rewilding project, and would arrange a baseline survey.	
5.	Events (organised by, or involving KLAW) Rory & Genny had been in discussion about possible new events. Rory had contacted Young Wilders https://www.youngwilders.org/ and it was agreed that they could be invited for a walkabout at Mystole Orchard.	[Keith to publicise] Rory

	<p>Rory would also contact Caroline Jessell to see whether she might host a visit to Boughton Monchelsea with its 350 acres dedicated to nature recovery and climate mitigation, to discuss BNG.</p> <p>Winter online presentations / discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nightingales and Turtle Doves. Jenny & Keith for KOS. 17 Dec. • BNG, Nicky Carter. Thursday 15 January at 19.30. • Lee Brady (Kent Reptile and Amphibian Group), to include animals' geographical isolation / possibility of spreading. [Feb/March] • Hazel Ryan from Wildwood (e.g. dormice). [A possible] • Chalk to Coast. [A possible] <p>Potential events in 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola Smith's Dormouse Hunts: 19 April; 21 June; and 20 Sept. • KWT's Ham Fen reserve – private visit for members in the spring. • Sheep event. Rory to discuss with Rob Graham. • Scything. Sally Edge had provided information about Mary Ellis, who runs courses. Genny and Rory will investigate the idea of holding an event, and possible sources of funding. • Lichen walk with an expert (e.g. Ishpi Blatchley, Keith Palmer). Jenny & Keith to seek advice from Lesley Mason. • Micro moths with DaveS in the autumn (recommended by DaveC). • A walk at Hothfield in October, led by Fungi Phil. • Hedge Laying course (in the autumn / winter), e.g. Michael White. 	<p>Rory</p> <p>Jenny & Keith DaveS & Keith</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>DaveS Rory</p> <p>Genny & Rory</p> <p>Jenny & Keith DaveS DaveS</p>
6.	<p>Publicity</p> <p>KLAW News Update. To be sent to members, and to include news from Simon Springate, Kent's "Plan Bee" Project Officer.</p> <p>KLAW Website. Videos of KLAW talks. Having already posted links, Jenny would investigate whether it was possible to download the original full file videos of three earlier talks.</p> <p>Jenny would also seek to edit the audience's faces from the recording of DaveS's LWS talk.</p>	<p>Keith</p> <p>Jenny Jenny</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>It was planned to hold our AGM on Saturday 21 March. Keith would see whether Sally Edge might be able to host again and, if so, whether her room has internet access.</p> <p>It was agreed that committee members should each delete the old Monday Teams meetings in their calendars.</p> <p>Rory gave an outline of his fascinating new role at S E Water as Catchment Advisor for the Stour. The aim is to protect groundwater from nitrate pollution, and involves discussions with farmers, and the building of a new reservoir at Broad Oak.</p>	<p>Keith</p> <p>All</p>
8.	<p>Dates & times of future committee meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 20 January 2026 at 10.00.</p>	