

KLaw Committee Meeting 17 February 2026 – Minutes v1

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

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

Apologies: Dave Shenton.

Item	Topic	Action
1.	<p>Chair’s introduction</p> <p>Rory welcomed the members of the committee.</p>	
2.	<p>Membership</p> <p>Ginny Wenban, who is very active in campaigning to help Swifts and House Martins by encouraging people to install nest boxes, had joined as a Supporter, bringing their number to 14, together with our 44 Landholders.</p>	
3.	<p>Grants & other financial support</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain. Rory drew attention to DEFRA’s Landscape Recovery grants.</p> <p>Local Nature Recovery Strategy. DaveS had successfully invited Rachel Boot, KCC’s lead on LNRS, to speak at our AGM on 14 March.</p> <p>Stour Valley Restore. News of the expression of interest in lottery funding was expected in March, hoping to pave the way for a bid for 2029.</p> <p>Chalk to Coast. DaveS was continuing to liaise with this project about Local Wildlife Sites.</p> <p>Catchment Sensitive Farming. Rory pointed to the value of Natural England’s local CSF advisors, who can help in much the same way as NE’s Dan Tuson has helped several KLaw members.</p>	
4.	<p>Recording baseline data, and getting expert help</p> <p>Local Wildlife Sites. DaveS had related the latest news of designations at our January meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genny’s Bow Meadow – citation ready. • DaveC & Judy’s Eleven Acre Wood – progressing. • Carol Davis’s Honeywood – DaveS to visit in February. • Jack Highwood’s Crow Plain Farm – Dave to fix a baseline survey. • Richard Coleman’s Wouldham rewilding – in progress. <p>The committee agreed that it was very pleasing that DaveS’s LWS role and KLaw have such a common interest, enabling mutual recruitment.</p>	
5.	<p>Events (organised by, or involving KLaw)</p> <p>Rory had contacted Young Wilders https://www.youngwilders.org/ about a walkabout at Mystole Orchard, and news of their contacts with landholders in Kent, and was awaiting a response.</p>	Rory

	<p>Potential events in 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping horses in a changing climate. Julia had arranged this online talk by Annabel Holmes on 28 February • Nicola Smith's Dormouse Hunts: 19 April; 21 June; and 20 Sept. • Marden for green-winged orchids – Rory had agreed 25 April with Lou Carpenter. Now to be publicised. • Boughton Monchelsea with Caroline Jessell, to include BNG. Rory would seek a date in May. • KWT's Ham Fen reserve – private visit for members in the spring. It was hoped that DaveS might arrange a date in June. • Sheep event. Rory to discuss with Rob Graham. • Scything. Genny is arranging for Mary Ellis to run a course at Bow Meadow in late June / early July. • Annual Naturalists' Picnic at Upper Mystole in the summer: invitations would be extended to KLAW members. • Lichen walk with an expert. Keith to seek advice about an expert and timing 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. • Online in November: Lee Brady (KRAG), to include animals' geographical isolation / possibility of spreading. • Kent Wildlife Conference. To publicise when the date is set. 	<p>[Keith to publicise]</p> <p>Rory / Keith</p> <p>Rory</p> <p>DaveS Rory</p> <p>Genny</p> <p>Jenny & Keith</p> <p>Keith DaveS DaveS [?]</p> <p>Keith</p>
6.	<p>Publicity</p> <p>KLAW News Update. To be sent to members.</p> <p>KLAW Website. Videos of KLAW talks had been posted by Jenny.</p>	<p>Keith</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>AGM. To be held on Saturday 14 March, kindly hosted by Sally Edge again at Langdon Court, with Rachel Boot, KCC's lead to speak on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Keith would send an invitation to members.</p>	<p>Keith, SallyE</p>
8.	<p>Dates & times of future committee meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 10.00, with a focus on conclusions from the AGM.</p>	