

## KLAW Committee Meeting 21 April 2026 – Minutes v1

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

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

**Apologies:** Dave Shenton.

Item	Topic	Action
1.	<p><b>Chair’s introduction</b></p> <p>Rory welcomed Richard as a new member of the committee.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>Chris West, a former Chair of KWT, who has meadow, orchard, and woodland at Frittenden, had joined as a Member, bringing their number to 45, together with our 14 Supporters.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Grants &amp; other financial support</b></p> <p><b>Biodiversity Net Gain.</b> Rory reported that details of DEFRA’s Landscape Recovery grants were awaited.</p> <p><b>Local Nature Recovery Strategy.</b> Rachel Boot, KCC’s lead on LNRS, had spoken at our AGM on 14 March.</p> <p><b>Stour Valley Restore.</b> The project has won some development funding for the next two years, hoping to pave the way for a bid for 2029.</p> <p><b>Chalk to Coast.</b> DaveS was continuing to liaise with this project about Local Wildlife Sites.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Recording baseline data, and getting expert help</b></p> <p><b>Local Wildlife Sites.</b> DaveS had related news of designations at our January meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genny’s Bow Meadow – citation ready.</li> <li>• DaveC &amp; Judy’s Eleven Acre Wood – progressing.</li> <li>• Carol Davis’s Honeywood – DaveS was to visit in February.</li> <li>• Jack Highwood’s Crow Plain Farm – Dave to fix a baseline survey.</li> <li>• Richard’s Wouldham rewilding – in progress.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Events (organised by, or involving KLAW)</b></p> <p>Two events had been cancelled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping horses in a changing climate.</li> <li>• Nicola Smith’s Dormouse Hunts.</li> </ul> <p>2026 events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marden for green-winged orchids, hosted by Lou Carpenter on Saturday 25 April. Ten members had responded to the invitation.</li> <li>• Boughton Monchelsea with Caroline Jessell, to include BNG: now fixed for Sunday 17 May. Need to draft &amp; send an invitation.</li> <li>• Crow Plain Farm, hosted by Jack Highwood, on Saturday 6 June.</li> <li>• KWT’s Ham Fen reserve, on Saturday 20 June.</li> </ul>	<p>[Keith to publicise]</p> <p>Rory &amp; Keith Keith DaveS &amp; Keith</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scything training with Mary Ellis, hosted by Genny at Bow Meadow, on Wednesday 1 July, with 6 free places for members.</li> <li>• Lichen walk. Ishpi Blatchley is to visit Upper Mystole in June or July to discuss options for arranging an event.</li> <li>• Annual Naturalists' Picnic at Upper Mystole in August: invitations would be extended to KLAW members.</li> <li>• Micro moths with DaveS in the autumn (recommended by DaveC).</li> <li>• A walk at Hothfield in October, led by Fungi Phil.</li> <li>• Hedge Laying course (in the autumn / winter), e.g. Michael White.</li> <li>• Kent Wildlife Conference. Now fixed for 24 October.</li> </ul> <p>Online talks in the autumn &amp; winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lee Brady (KRAG), to include animals' geographical isolation / possibility of spreading.</li> <li>• [An idea from our AGM] Countryside Partnerships, by Jon Shelton, who manages the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership.</li> </ul> <p>2027 possible events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A visit to Chris West's land at Frittenden.</li> <li>• [An idea from our AGM] Ponds being proposed at Godmersham Estate with possible help from Natural England.</li> </ul>	<p>Genny</p> <p>Keith &amp; Jenny</p> <p>Jenny &amp; Keith DaveS DaveS [?]</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Rory &amp; Keith</p>
6.	<p><b>Publicity</b></p> <p><b>KLAW News Update.</b> To be sent to members.</p> <p><b>KLAW Website.</b> Jenny reported her work on updating and migrating our website, having sent the committee details on 20 April.</p>	<p>Keith</p>
7.	<p><b>KLAW's AGM</b></p> <p>Rory reviewed the minutes of our enjoyable AGM held on Saturday 14 March, kindly hosted by Sally Edge again at Langdon Court, where Rachel Boot, KCC's lead had spoken the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Rachel's presentation would be added to our website.</p> <p>Ideas about future visits and talks have been added to Events above.</p> <p>Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI). More information for KLAW News.</p> <p><a href="https://www.kent.ac.uk/durrell-institute-conservation-ecology/news-and-events">https://www.kent.ac.uk/durrell-institute-conservation-ecology/news-and-events</a> These DICE monthly lectures are open to the public.</p>	<p>Jenny</p> <p>Rory</p>
8.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Geology of Kent. DaveC recommended the study day provided by KWT.</p> <p>Richard highlighted the dangers regarding current ecological conditions as normal, which led to discussion of shifting baselines.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Dates &amp; times of future committee meetings</b></p> <p>Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 10.00.</p>	