

KLAW Committee Meeting 19 May 2026 – Minutes v1

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

Present: Rory Harding (Chair); Genny Maskell; Richard Coleman; Keith Dugmore (Secretary).

Apologies: Dave Casey; Dave Shenton; Jenny Dugmore (Treasurer).

Item	Topic	Action
1.	<p>Chair’s introduction</p> <p>Rory welcomed members of the committee.</p>	
2.	<p>Membership</p> <p>We currently have 45 Members and 14 Supporters. Richard had encouraged the rewilding project https://woodsell.co.uk to join.</p>	
3.	<p>Grants & other financial support</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain. Rory had reported that details of DEFRA’s Landscape Recovery grants were awaited.</p> <p>Local Nature Recovery Strategy. There was no recent news.</p> <p>Stour Valley Restore. KCC was now recruiting a Development Officer.</p> <p>Chalk to Coast. DaveS was liaising about Local Wildlife Sites.</p>	
4.	<p>Recording baseline data, and getting expert help</p> <p>An idea for KLAW members</p> <p>Genny had floated an idea:</p> <p><i>“Is there any way we can use the wonderful resource of all our landholdings, in a practical (and interesting) way, on a small scale?”</i></p> <p>And DaveC had responded:</p> <p><i>“One idea is to report (and celebrate) first sightings. Not sure how best to deliver this – perhaps the WhatsApp group, though threads may get a bit mixed up.”</i></p> <p>Keith would investigate the practicalities of using WhatsApp (discussing this with Nicola Smith, who set up the KLAW WhatsApp Group, which now has 24 members).</p> <p>Local Wildlife Sites. DaveS had related news of designations at our January meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bow Meadow. Genny was pleased to report that this had now been designated. • DaveC & Judy’s Eleven Acre Wood – progressing. • Carol Davis’s Honeywood – DaveS to have visited in February. • Jack Highwood’s Crow Plain Farm – Dave to fix a baseline survey. • Richard’s Wouldham rewilding – in progress. 	Keith, Nicola

<p>5.</p>	<p>Events (organised by, or involving KLAW)</p> <p>Members had enjoyed two recent events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marden for green-winged orchids, on Saturday 25 April. • Boughton Monchelsea Amenity Trust, on Sunday 17 May. <p>Planned events this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crow Plain Farm, hosted by Jack Highwood, on Saturday 6 June. • KWT's Ham Fen reserve, on Saturday 20 June. • Scything training with Mary Ellis, hosted by Genny at Bow Meadow, on Wednesday 1 July, with 6 free places for members. • Lichen walk. Ishpi Blatchley is to visit Upper Mystole in June or July to discuss options for arranging an event. • Bee Walk. DaveS had suggested this as another possible event. • Annual Naturalists' Picnic at Upper Mystole in August: invitations would be extended to KLAW members. • 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. • Kent Wildlife Conference. Now fixed for 24 October, with DaveS as one of the speakers. <p>Online talks in the autumn & winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee Brady (KRAG), to include animals' geographical isolation / possibility of spreading. • Countryside Partnerships, by Jon Shelton, who manages the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership – a date in November. <p>2027 possible events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A visit to Chris West's land at Frittenden. • Ponds being proposed at Godmersham Estate with possible help from Natural England. • A visit to the Woodsell rewilding project. 	<p>[Keith to publicise] Keith DaveS & Keith</p> <p>Genny</p> <p>Keith & Jenny Keith & DaveS</p> <p>Jenny & Keith DaveS DaveS [?]</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Keith</p> <p>Rory & Keith</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Publicity</p> <p>KLAW News Update. To be sent to members, including known dates of future events.</p> <p>KLAW Website. Jenny had successfully migrated our website to a host that does not charge fee.</p>	<p>Keith</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Kent Wildlife Conference, 24 October: an opportunity to publicise KLAW? https://www.kentfieldclub.org.uk/programme/upcoming-events/the-kent-wildlife-conference/kent-wildlife-conference-4</p> <p>Richard would be pleased to publicise KLAW on a number of Facebook groups. Keith to send Richard a flyer.</p>	<p>Rory & DaveS</p> <p>Keith, Richard</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Dates & times of future committee meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 16 June 2026 at 10.00.</p>	