

**EOU General Meeting**  
**Thursday 29 August 2013 at 18:45**  
**Lecture Theatre 1, University of East Anglia, Norwich UK**

**Minutes**

**1. Attendance and apologies for absence**

The president, Tomasz Wesołowski, took the chair and opened the general meeting. Apologies for absence were received of the council members Jeremy Greenwood (past president), Goetz Eichhorn (secretary), Timothy Coppack (treasurer). A message of Jeremy Greenwood apologizing his absence was read. 119 members attended the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the General Meeting of 27 August 2011**

The minutes have been available on the EOU website since 2011. The general meeting is asked to raise any matters arising from the minutes. No comments were made and the general meeting approved the minutes as a correct record of the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

**3. Treasurer's report**

The president, Tomasz Wesołowski, presented the report on behalf of Tim Coppack (Treasurer) and the Council (see Appendix). The financial report has been approved by the auditors Helmut Sternberg and Reinhard Mache. The participation at the conference of 6 delegates was financially supported. These costs are balanced by the surcharge fee on the conference fee. Current assets of the EOU amount to 7'951.83 € and will allow to continue running the website, to support meetings of the council and the SPC between conferences, and to support conference attendance of young ornithologists. The general meeting approved the report unanimously.

**4. Report of Council**

The president presents the report on behalf of Council: – The EOU membership prior to Norwich was 1167, the number of countries 47. The greatest memberships (> 50) arise from Germany (167), followed by Switzerland (144), UK (96), Poland (71), The Netherlands (66), Russia (58), France (54) and Finland (51). – The president reminds that the website has a “noticeboard” where everyone can add and find helpful information and that there is a “forum” for discussion. The website was hit 114'000 times by visitors from 114 countries. Interestingly most hits were from China (41'000), USA (15'000), Japan (5'300), Russia (3'100), Ukraine (2'200), Germany (2'200) and Romania (2'000). The meeting is asked to raise any pertinent issues not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda. – The Norwich local organizing committee was introduced. Rob Fuller (BTO, chairman), Jenny Gill (UEA, on-site arrangements), David Gibbons (RSPB, events, field trips, etc.), Andy Gosler (EGI, EOU liaison), Steve Dudley (BOU, fundraising, sponsorship) and Nicki Read (BTO, budget and secretariat) were thanked for their tremendous work to organize such a successful meeting. The meeting was visited by 356 delegates. - No issues were raised by the general meeting and the report was approved.

## 5. Amendments to the Statutes

The statutes of the EOU (5.3) allow the General Meeting to make decisions on topics which are not mentioned on the agenda if nine tenths of members present accept. The Council proposes to shorten the time interval of advance notice required to announce the general meeting and its agenda from currently 10 weeks to 4 weeks.

The original text reads:

“5.3 The Council announces the General Meeting on the EOU website, on the relevant EOU Conference website and by sending e-mails to all on the membership list **at least 10 weeks** before the meeting, mentioning the topics on the agenda. Decisions on topics which are not mentioned on the agenda may only be taken if nine tenths of members present accept.”

The new text should read:

“5.3 The Council announces the General Meeting on the EOU website, on the relevant EOU Conference website and by sending e-mails to all on the membership list **at least 4 weeks** before the meeting, mentioning the topics on the agenda. Decisions on topics which are not mentioned on the agenda may only be taken if nine tenths of members present accept.”

The general meeting is asked to discuss this proposal and to vote on it. The proposal was approved unanimously.

## 6. Election of new Officers and Council members

The information about resignations from the Council and candidates for election has been posted on the conference website, as has an invitation for further candidates to come forward.

Those retiring from Council and offices this year are:

Natalia Karlionova (Belorussia), Stojan Nikolov (Bulgaria), Toni Laaksonen (Finland), Götz Eichhorn (France, **Secretary**), Hans-Ulrich Peter (Germany), Leonida Fusani (Italy), Nikita Chernetsov (Russia), Verena Keller (Switzerland), Valentin Serebryakov (Ukraine), Andy Gosler (United Kingdom), Jeremy Greenwood (United Kingdom, **Past-President**). The general meeting thanked them with a warm applause. Also the two auditors Helmut Sternberg and Reinhard Mache will retire.

According to the statues Barbara Helm (president elect) becomes President and Tomasz Wesołowski becomes Past President. The candidates for election to fill the vacancy of the president elect are Jan-Åke Nilsson (Sweden) and Arie van Noordwijk (Netherlands). The officer Timothy Coppack (treasurer, Germany) agreed to continue. New candidates for the vacancies are Susanne Jenni-Eiermann (Switzerland) for secretary and Daniela Campobella (Italy), Thomas Gottschalk (Germany), Robert Matics (Hungary), Swen Renner (Germany) and Arie van Noordwijk (Netherlands) – unless elected as President-

Elect for council members. The general meeting re-elected Timothy Coppack and elected the new secretary Susi Jenni-Eiermann and council members.

The two candidates for president-elect shortly presented themselves. The election was led by Verena Keller (Switzerland). 119 delegates were present. 84 voted for Jan-Åke Nilsson (Sweden), 31 for Arie van Noordwijk (Netherlands), 3 abstentions, 1 vote was invalid. The general meeting welcomed the new president-elect Jan- Åke Nilsson.

## **7. Arrangements for 2015 conference**

### 7.1 2015 conference

There are two preliminary invitations which have been extended to the EOU: to Bulgaria (by Stoyan Nikolov) and to Spain (by Alfonso Marzal). Because both delegates are absent, Barbara Helm briefly presents the ideas. Decision about the choice of venue will be postponed pending on further information on both venues. The decision will be posted on the EOU website by 31 October.

### 7.2 2017 conference

Pending on further information, the idea is to hold the conference in 2017 at the venue that is not selected for 2015. In addition, a general invitation to Italy has been extended by Claudio Carere.

## **8. Any other business**

Members are invited to raise ideas for events and arrangements for future conferences.

Matthias Weissenstein (Austria) and Jan Engler (Germany) would like to start a student group to encourage meetings and exchange.

Tomasz Wesołowski asks to share the experience and photos of this meeting on the website.

## **Closing**

Tomasz Wesołowski, Goetz Eichhorn and Jeremy Greenwood are being thanked for their great work for the EOU, and so are the local organizers. All members are asked to take actively part in the EOU and to use the instruments that are in place, especially the webpage, eg, for interest groups etc.

## **Appendix (pasted below)**

Treasurer report

# Report of the Treasurer of the EOU 2013

## Membership and Office

Membership is open to any interested person. The membership list contains the participants of the EOU conferences. A contribution to the EOU is collected as a surcharge on the conference fee (20 € EOU surcharge, 10 € reduced surcharge; decision of the past General Meeting at Vienna, 26 August 2007 with effect from the Zurich conference 2009). This allows of continuation of the EOU without an office, and no running costs for an office have occurred since mid 2005.

## Finances (see Financial Statement p. 2)

The financial period of the EOU is two years, and this report covers the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013.

Since 2005, the EOU account is kept at the “Oldenburgische Landesbank”, Germany (OLB) where no bank charges for running the account have to be paid.

### Account details:

EOU – Dr. Timothy Coppack  
Account No. 9684285100  
Oldenburgische Landesbank  
D-26122 Oldenburg, Germany  
BLZ: 280 200 50  
IBAN: DE20 2802 0050 9684 2851 00  
Swift-BIC: OLBO DE H2

### Income:

The main income was the refund from the Riga Conference in 2011 (2'000.00 €). During the financial period, interest rate was 0.5 %.

### Expenses:

Main expenses were the costs for management and maintenance of the EOU website (544.51 €) and the design and maintenance of the 9<sup>th</sup> EOU Conference website (907.00 €), travel costs for a delegate of the scientific committee (Dr. N. Chernetsov) to visit the local organizers in Norwich (406.71 €).

### Current assets:

Current assets of the EOU amount to **7'951.83 €** (as of June 30 2013)

## BUDGET

The council decided to support the participation of 6 applicants from Eastern Europe for the Norwich conference by refunding 50% of the conference fee and accommodation costs. This causes liabilities of about **1'000.00 €**. However, these liabilities are expected to be balanced by the EOU surcharge collected for the Norwich conference. Thus, after the Norwich conference, EOU assets will allow to continue running the website, to

support meetings of the council and SPC between conferences, and to support conference attendance of young ornithologists at the next conference.

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**Financial Statement July 01 2011 - June 30 2013**  
**(Euro)**

**ASSETS, June 30 2011**  
**8'244.91**

ASSETS, September 30 2011  
10'252.94

<b>ASSETS, June 30 2013</b> <b>7'951.83</b>
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**PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT**

**EXPENSES**

1	SPC Chair Accommodation Riga Conference	-
		354.04
2	EOU website management Aug 2010 to Sept 2012	-
		440.00
3	EOU web domain and server space 2012	-
		104.51
4	SPC Chair travel costs Norwich Sept 2012	-
		406.71
5	EOU web domain and server space 2012/2013	-
		128.52
6	EOU 9 <sup>th</sup> conf. website management Oct 2011 to Apr 2013	-
		907.00
7	Legal tax on interests total	-
		17.05
<b>TOTAL</b>		-
		2'357.83

**INCOME**

1	Refund from EOU Conference Riga 2011	+2'000.00
2	Interests total	

		+64.75
<b>TOTAL</b>		+2'064.75

**Profit (+) & Loss (-) from Profit & Loss Statement** -  
**293.08**

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The Financial Statement was submitted to and approved by the auditors of the EOU.

Rostock, July 2013

Coppack  
EOU)

Timothy  
(Treasurer