

**Minutes of
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held at Paluma Community Hall
on 2 May 2009**

Meeting declared opened by Chair at 2:15 pm.

1. ATTENDANCE: Alan Gillanders (AG), Ivor Preston (IP), Elna Kerswell (EK), Beth Snewin (BS), Karen Doyle (KD), Greg Bortolussi (GB), Ian Montgomery (IM), Jo Wieneke (JW), Sandi Oswald (SO), John Frois (JF), Sandra Christensen (SC), Roy McLean (RM), Trish Pontynen (TP) Dominic Chaplin (DC), Tony Jurgensen (non-member) .

2. APOLOGIES: Elinor Scambler, Harry Cassidy, Graham Harrington, Helen & Marty McLaughlin, Bill Holmes,

3. MINUTES OF MEETING held at Innisfail 21 June 2008 have been distributed and were taken as read.

AG proposed that these minutes were a true record of the previous meeting. Seconded by EK and accepted by those present with a show of hands.

4. REPORTS

Convenor's Report

The report (Attachment 1) was tabled and accepted AG moved, BS seconded, accepted.

Secretary's Report

The report (Attachment 2) was tabled and accepted IP moved, GB seconded, accepted.

Treasurers Report

The report (Attachment 3) was tabled and accepted IP moved, KD seconded, accepted. The Auditors report has been sighted and signed off by AG.

5. Project Reports

IBA Report

The report (Attachment 4) was tabled and accepted IP moved, EK seconded, accepted.

Cranes

AG reported that Elinor Scambler will no longer be the Crane Count coordinator after 10 years of excellent work. In future, the count will only cover the Tablelands IBA. People in other areas will be encouraged to continue the counting as an Atlas exercise. BANQ will request the Atlas manager to include a category called Cranes (as is done with Corvids) because of the difficulty of separating the species.

AG moved a motion of thanks to Elinor for her outstanding work on the Crane Count over 10 years and for her long standing support for BANQ. Seconded BS and accepted with acclaim.

Black-throated Finch

Verbal report from IP outlining the situation at present is that the Recovery Team is involved in commenting on planning applications for subdivision and building on land identified as BTF habitat. Support from the Federal Department is seen as inadequate and the RT has written to the Minister & Department asking for this to be addressed. Also noted that the RT now has an

operating website for background information and also reporting sightings
www.blackthroatedfinch.com. IP moved, SO seconded, accepted.

A suggestion from the floor was to contact a group called the Environmental Defenders Office in Cairns. IP to raise at next BTFRT meeting.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE

The Convenor, AG declared all positions on the committee vacant and presided over the election of office bearers and Committee members for the coming year. All positions on the executive committee had one nomination. AG moved, IM seconded, accepted.

The following persons were elected to the positions:

Executive Committee:

Convenor	– Alan Gillanders (Tablelands)
Deputy Convenor	– Ivor Preston (Townsville)
Secretary	– Ivor Preston
Treasurer	– Harry Cassidy (Cairns)

Ordinary Committee:

Elna Kerswell (Townsville), Karen Doyle (Townsville), Beth Snewin (Townsville), Ian Montgomery (Townsville), Graham Harrington (Tablelands).
New Committee members, Sandi Oswald (Tablelands) and Dominic Chaplin (Cairns)
SC moved, JF seconded, accepted.

7. NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following persons accepted the positions as stated below:

Newsletter Editor	– Karen Doyle
Conservation Officer	– Greg Bortolussi
IBA Coordinators	– Graham Harrington / Alastair Freeman
Publicity Officer	– no nomination

8. REGIONAL CONTACTS

The following persons accepted the positions as stated below:

Mossman / Daintree	– Del Richards
Mount Isa	– Bob Forsyth
Weipa / Cape York	– Sue Gould
Cape York South	– Kath Shurcliff
Atherton Tableland	– Alan Gillanders
Townsville	– Ivor Preston
Cairns	– Harry Cassidy

9. OTHER BUSINESS

IP informed the meeting that the secretary to the original BANQ and well known Townsville identity Jo Wieneke is leaving Townsville to go to live in Northern NSW . There was a hearty round of applause for Jo and she was assured of a memorable departure at the dinner later that evening.

A vote of thanks to Beth Snewin for her good work in organising the AGM and all weekend activities was moved by AG, seconded by KD and endorsed by the meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was declared closed at 3pm.

~ End of document ~