



Conservation and Recording Committee

Terms of reference

The Committee is responsible for recommending policies to the Council for the conservation of bryophytes and their habitats and the recording activities of the Society, and for supporting the Conservation Officer and the Recording Secretary in their work.

Its particular activities will include:

1. Recommending measures to ensure that bryophytes and their habitats are given proper consideration by government agencies, local authorities, and non-governmental organisations concerned with conservation.
2. Identifying and disseminating information on localities and habitats that are important for bryophytes.
3. Encouraging a positive attitude to conservation of bryophytes and their habitats among the general public and especially among landowners and land managers.
4. Advising and assisting in the U.K. Biodiversity Action Plans, local biodiversity initiatives, and other measures to protect bryophytes and their habitats.
5. Seeking to ensure that the activities of the BBS and its members are in accordance with the 'Code of Conduct for the conservation and enjoyment of wild plants' and encouraging a positive contribution to bryophyte conservation from the BBS and its members.
6. Co-ordinating and reviewing the Society's recording activities to ensure that they contribute to the Society's objectives and, where appropriate, to the work of other national and local conservation and recording bodies.
7. Undertaking a regular review of the storage arrangements for the records that are accumulated by the Society and making recommendations to ensure that they are preserved in a format which is both permanent and accessible.
8. Advising on the preparation and periodic revision of a British Bryophyte Red Data Book.

Membership

The Committee shall comprise the Conservation Officer(s), the Recording Secretary(s), the Recorder for Liverworts, the Recorder for Mosses, and four members who shall be appointed by Council for a period of four years, phased so that two appointed members are subject to re-appointment every two years. Members who are subject to re-appointment may serve for consecutive terms without any restriction on their total length of service but, at the time that appointments are made, the Council must consider all suitable candidates.

Membership of the Committee should so far as practicable seek to include both amateur and professional bryologists who are actively involved in conservation and recording of bryophytes. It should also seek to represent England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland; seek to represent bodies such as Joint Nature Conservation Committee and the country agencies; Biological Records Centre and the National Biodiversity Network; it should also ensure adequate representation of non-governmental organisations active in the conservation of bryophytes and other plants.

The Committee shall have powers to co-opt additional members to ensure close liaison with the work of other organisations or agencies or where particular expertise is needed for a specific subject that is under consideration.

The status of co-opted members shall be reviewed at least every two years but, if the reasons for their initial co-option still obtain they may be reappointed.