

British Myriapod and Isopod Group

Minutes of 23rd AGM

Friday 14 April 2023

Cannington College, Somerset

Present:

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| Jim Flanagan | Nicola Garnham | Annie Northfield |
| Steve Gregory | Stephanie Skipp | Una Garland |
| Paul Harding | Gino Brignoli | John Lewis |
| Tony Barber | Dominic Phillips | Sheila Lewis |
| Neil Fletcher | Warren Maguire | Matt Vosper |
| Keith Alexander | Dawid Martyniuk | Sue Harvey |
| Janet Lister | Kevin Clements | Martin Frost |
| Angela Lidgett | Tom Hughes | Duncan Sivell |
| Paul Richards | Daniella Levene | Helen Read |
| Anna Pick | Paul Lee | Derek Whiteley |
| Jess Thomas Thorpe | | |

1. Apologies

Dafydd Lewis

2. Minutes of the 22st AGM held on 22 April 2022

These were agreed as accurate and were proposed for adoption as a true record by Paul Lee and seconded by Paul Harding. There were no corrections required.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Secretary's Report - Helen Read

See separate report.

5. Treasurer's Report - Paul Harding

See separate report. It was noted that the funding for the bursaries comes from copyright income from the Bulletin.

6. Recording Scheme Reports

a. Centipedes - Tony Barber

See separate report. Duncan congratulated Tony on the publication of the Atlas.

b. Millipedes - Paul Lee

See report.

c. Woodlice - Steve Gregory

See report. Steve noted that *Acaeroplastes melanurus* had been found in Dorset recently. This species has previously only been known from Ireland. It is worth looking out for on shingle.

d. Intertidal Isopods - Warren Maguire

See report.

7. Bulletin Report - Helen Read

See report. If anyone is thinking of submitting any articles for this year please let us know.

8. Newsletter Report - Warren Maguire

See report. All items welcome, even if just a paragraph long. Images are also helpful.

9. Library and collections update - Steve Gregory / Dafydd Lewis

Steve visited last June and everything was in order.

10. Events and Exhibitions update - Dafydd Lewis

Very little to report. The group is planning to have a table at the AES exhibition on Saturday 30 September at Kempton Park. Helpers would be welcome.

11. Social Media update - Warren Maguire

Both Twitter and Facebook are very active so please join in. Warren flagged that he is less confident over centipede/millipede identification and this sometimes slows responses on Twitter.

12. Website Report - Steve Gregory

The website is kept up-to-date.

13. Field meetings update

Traditionally, the field meetings have been held the weekend after Easter. Duncan asked if holding the meeting on a different weekend would be problematic for anyone. He asked for hands to be raised by those who are flexible over meeting date and everyone raised their hands.

As the numbers of people attending the meeting have swelled in recent years the committee is considering using a hotel chain with a conference room as another option to a field centre or college. Duncan asked for hands to be raised if there was no objection in principle for this approach; the response was unanimous in favour of using this option if required.

The location for 2024 being considered currently is North Wales. A possible venue may be easier to book out of school holidays so this will be explored, although it may prove too expensive.

The cost of this year's meeting is the most expensive so far at £255 for 3 days full board. The Treasurer asked if a possible maximum of £300 would deter some people and some murmurings indicated that this was likely. It is not possible for BMIG to subsidise annual meetings.

Traditionally BMIG has held a spring meeting and AGM, but there have been occasional autumn meetings. If anyone is interested in organising one of these then this can be supported.

14. Election of Officers

The Chairman read through the list of posts due for re-election.

The Secretary took the chair and asked if Duncan Sivell was willing to stand for Chairman. He agreed and was proposed by Tony Barber, seconded by Angela Lidgett and duly re-elected.

Duncan resumed the meeting as Chairman. Helen Read agreed to be re-elected as Secretary and was proposed by Tony Barber, seconded by Angela Lidgett and re-elected.

The Chairman recommended that the posts of Intertidal Marine Isopod Recorder, Newsletter Editor and Social Media Manager, all currently held by Warren Maguire, who agreed to stand for all these posts, were all considered *en bloc*. Warren was proposed by Nicola Garnham, seconded by Paul Richards and duly re-elected.

Paul Harding had expressed a wish to stand down as BENHS representative and Duncan Sivell had agreed that he would be willing to take this role. He was proposed by Kevin Clements, seconded by Neil Fletcher and elected.

Tony Barber had been Centipede Recording Scheme Organiser for a very long time, and with the completion of the Atlas it seemed a fitting time for someone else to take on this role. Steve Gregory was willing to do this and Tom Hughes had agreed to be Woodlouse Recording Scheme Organiser, taking over from Steve Gregory.

It was considered important that the committee did not lose Tony Barber's skills and he agreed to be Vice Chairman for the following year. Tony was proposed as Vice Chairman by Gino Brignoli, seconded by Sue Harvey and duly elected.

The Chairman welcomed Tom to the committee and gave thanks to Tony and Steve for all their hard work over very many years.

The posts of Project Officer and Librarian & Collections Manager are currently vacant (the latter is being covered by Steve Gregory and Dafydd Lewis). If anyone is interested please let us know. The library and collection are held at Dinton Pastures near Reading.

It is also possible to co-opt committee members, so if anyone is interested in finding out more about how the committee works then they would be very welcome to join.

15. Date of next AGM

This will be the Friday evening of the next field meeting, probably late April.

16. Any other business

There was no AOB.