British Myriapod & Isopod Group Minutes of the 8th AGM Held on 28 March 2008. Swansea University

1. Apologies

Glyn CollisDesmond KimeDawn CollisJo Smith

2. Minutes of the 7th AGM

These were agreed as a true record (proposed by Paul Harding and seconded by Tony Barber).

3. Secretary's Report

There are currently 276 members from across the world but with the majority from the UK. A new membership flier had been produced and EP urged everyone to try and find one new member.

4. Treasurer's Report

This was tabled. There is £1,000 clear money in the account and income is mostly from sales of the Bulletin. PH proposed a formal vote of thanks to Tony Barber for managing sales of the Bulletin for more than 20 years. EP asked about the current stock situation. PH replied that there was a good stock of recent editions for sale. Back issues are mostly as photocopies. There was also a small stock of millipede atlases.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Paul Lee and seconded by Paul Richards.

5. Woodlouse Recording Scheme

The Atlas is making good progress. Records were accepted up to Christmas and the total is now approximately 85,000, roughly three times that of the original atlas. There will be a symbol on the maps to show records over 25 years old and this indicates that there have been few modern records from Ireland and Scotland. The species accounts have been written and the supporting text (introduction etc.) is in progress. Paul Harding is writing the freshwater isopod sections. It is still intended for the atlas to be published in 2008.

6. Millipede Recording Scheme

Future updates of this are likely to be electronic. The NBN gateway maps include data sets that have not been validated by Paul Lee and some errors have been spotted. It is recommended for users to select for the Millipede Recording Scheme dataset as this has been validated. Record cards are available but electronic records can be submitted to Paul. There are currently discussions about what to do with the data and the most likely option is to move to Recorder 6 but some modifications will be needed. A quote has been received for this work but a reply is being awaited from BRC who have been asked if they could fund it.

7. Centipede Recording Scheme

Lots of recent records have been coming in. Please send all outstanding ones by the end of July to ensure they are included (ideally on record cards but Excel or hand written lists are acceptable and even the specimens if necessary!) Monks Wood closes in the autumn and BRC will move to Wallingford so a transition period is expected so the aim is for all records for the atlas to be received before the move.

8. Librarian's Report

There have been no new acquisitions since last year (largely due to work on the atlas). The library is available for all to use at Dinton Pastures.

9. Collection Report

There has been no progress since last year. Discussions are needed with the curator at Dinton Pastures to be sure what cabinet is needed to hold it. Money has been set aside by the Committee to purchase what is needed. John Harper has received some alcohol for the collection (thanks to Paul Lee and Paul Richards) and some centipedes from John Lewis. More specimens from across the country would be very welcome (Wales rather dominates at the moment!). John Harper is happy to continue to catalogue specimens and then pass them to Steve Gregory for the collection.

10. Newletter

Two have been produced during the year as usual. Please send anything for the new one to Paul Lee.

11. Bulletin

The volume for 2007 was produced 'in house' with layout done by Steve Gregory. The system worked well and comments on the quality vs the cost have generally been favourable. The deadline for the 2008 volume has been extended until the end of April to allow for completion of more articles.

12. Website

Glyn Collis continued as website manager and was very active and quick at putting items on the website. The website is due to be transferred to a new provider soon but this will not affect general users.

13. Election of officers

All officers agreed to stand. They were proposed *en bloc* by Ken Hill, seconded by Peter Nicholson and elected unanimously as follows:

Chairman – Eric Philp Vice Chairman – Paul Lee Secretary – Helen Read Treasurer – Paul Harding Librarian/curator – Steve Gregory Webmaster – Glyn Collis There can be up to five ordinary members. The three currently serving had all agreed to stand again and there were no other proposals. Paul Richards Jo Smith Desmond Kime were proposed by Eric Phil, seconded by John Lewis and elected unanimously.

Tony Barber remains on the Committee as an ex officio member because of his role as the centipede recording scheme organiser.

14. Appointment of financial adviser

Paul Harding proposed John Newbold who had fulfilled the role in previous years. This was seconded by Ken Hill and agreed.

15. Future meetings

Current suggestions for these were as follows: September/October – Scotland (Aran) organised by Glyn Collis October 2008 – 1 day meeting at Wisley, Surrey organised by Helen Read Easter 2009 field meeting & AGM – Cornwall, St Austell area. Proposed by the Cornish Records Group and organised by Tony Barber April 2009 – Northern Spain organised by Helen Read

16. AOB

Paul Harding proposed a formal vote of thanks to Tony Barber for his work in managing the Bulletin for over 20 years. This was seconded by Peter Nicholson and agreed unanimously. It was noted that the Bulletin was well recognised in Europe and had provided a stimulus for other equivalent publications in other countries.

Paul Harding gave greetings from Douglas Richardson who he had met recently.

Paul Richards announced the completion of two Powerpoint presentations that he has put together, an 'introduction to myriapods' and an 'introduction to millipedes'. Both can be obtained on CDs from Paul and should be very useful for people giving day schools or identification workshops for groups. They can be used by individuals or as a presentation and have good quality photographs that can be enlarged to show details as required. They are available for use but please bear in mind that the images are copyright of Paul.

17. Records from the field meeting.

Please send these to Mark Winder as soon as possible. Mark will then forward to the three recorders who will put together articles for the Bulletin.