

Minutes of the 17th AGM
31st March 2017
Berkeley Guest House, Morecambe

Present:

Paul Lee (Chairman)	Keith Lugg
Keith Alexander	Graham Proudlove
Tony Barber	Helen Read
Kevin Clements	Paul Richards
Steve Gregory	Ashley Watson
Paul Harding	

2. Apologies

Duncan Sivell	Úna Garland
Angela Lidgett	Alex Pearce
Dafydd Lewis	Richard Kelly
Jim Flanagan	

3. Minutes of the 16th AGM held at Juniper Hall in 2016.

These were accepted as a true record.

4. Treasurers Report

A report had been circulated previously and copies were tabled.

It was noted that during the recent Committee meeting a discussion had been held concerning options for spending some of the funds considered surplus to that needed in reserve for running costs. It had been agreed to:

- a) Purchase 3 further pop up banners for display purposes and for these to be held in different parts of the country (Dinton Pastures, Sheffield and Exeter/Ivybridge) for use at appropriate events.
- b) Print 2,000 copies of a promotional tri fold leaflet after content had been checked and agreed.
- c) Invite a European worker to attend the annual field meeting in 2018, ideally someone who has been involved in the British fauna and preferably doing genetic work so that they could give a presentation.

5. Woodlouse Recording Scheme Report

A report had been circulated in advance. Highlights in the last year were the refinding of *Metatrichoniscus celticus* at its type locality and interesting finds in glasshouses, like the tropical house at Whipsnade. A plea was made to keep submitting records.

6. Millipede Recording Scheme Report

A report had been circulated in advance. There had been lots of interesting new finds in South Wales by Christian Owen, many of which seem to have links to the Pyrenees or the Iberian Peninsula generally. Some may be relicts of glacial refugia but others are more likely to be introductions.

There was a call for specimens for genetic bar coding by Jörg Spelda including *Brachychaeteuma*, *Archiboreoiulus*, *Macrosternodesmus* and *Ophiodesmus*. They need to be preserved in the strongest alcohol available or sent to Paul Lee alive.

7. Centipede Recording Scheme Report

A report had been circulated in advance. Tony had run a workshop in Cornwall where *Haplophilus souletinus* had been very common.

Recent genetic bar coding work has been carried out on *Strigamia* species which indicates that there are two groups of species, European and Asian, with a third intermediary American group. *S. maritima* appears to fall in the Asiatic group.

Tony raised the issue of getting records in from the annual field meetings.

8. Election of Officers

For the last few years the role of Secretary has been split into three parts with Imogen Wilde handling the mailing list, Victoria Burton doing minutes and the remainder falling to Paul Lee in addition to being Chairman. Imogen Wilde had resigned as membership Secretary in the autumn and the division of the role was not working very well so it was proposed to bring the three jobs back together and to have a single Secretary, although there had been no nominations.

Paul Lee nominated Helen Read

Tony Barber seconded and Helen agreed to take on the role.

The roles identified as Training Officer, Project Officer and Conservation Officer had not ever been filled. Various 'adverts' had been posted in the newsletter but no one appeared willing to take these roles on. It was agreed to leave them vacant for the moment.

The Chairman pointed out that next year would be the third anniversary of the current incumbents of Chairman, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Bulletin Editors etc. and these posts would be up for re-election. He asked us all to bear this in mind and think about suitable people who might fulfil these positions in the future.

9. BMIG archives & accounts

Paul Harding had just taken various items of BMIG historical significance to be archived at CEH. These included the accounts, but it was pointed out that there is only an obligation to keep accounts for 7 years. Paul H requested permission to dispose of this older paperwork and this was approved.

10. Future meetings

The location for the annual meeting in 2018 was proposed as South Wales. Christian Owen has been working in a relatively small area and is keen for BMIG to go and help explore some more locations. Paul L. is looking for suitable accommodation (anyone with any suggestions please contact Paul L). It was also proposed to invite Jörg Spelda along so that he could see the area and also give us a presentation about what he has been doing with specimens from Wales. It was noted that Northern Ireland had been proposed for a meeting but it would be expensive so funding would be sought from both NI and Eire but this is probably unlikely to be possible at the moment while the Brexit discussions are underway.

Bicton College (E. Devon) had also been proposed as a future location.

11. AOB

Records from field meetings:

Lincoln – have not been compiled and are currently not accessible. It may be necessary for the Recording Scheme Organisers to request for them to be submitted again.

Haltwhistle – Will be published in the next Bulletin

Linlithgow – Duncan is working on a report

Juniper Hall – Some still outstanding, please send asap

Morecambe – Please send to Paul L as soon as possible so he can forward to the various land owners too. Ideally copy to the Recording Scheme organisers too.

Equipment

Note that Paul Richards currently has custody of the big black box containing microscope/camera etc.

12. Vote of thanks

Thanks were expressed to the Berkeley Guest House.