

British Myriapod & Isopod Group
Minutes of 18th AGM
Held on Friday 23rd March
The Crown Inn, Longtown, Herefordshire

1. Apologies

Rachel Clarke, Dafydd Lewis, Una Garland, Duncan Sivell

2. Minutes of the last AGM

Acceptance as a true record of the meeting was proposed by Keith Lugg, seconded by Keith Alexander and agreed unanimously.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Secretary's Report

The group currently has 376 members. Various correspondence throughout the year.

5. Treasurer's Report

The financial statement was circulated. The balance is currently in excess of £5,000 (including bookings for the current meeting) and is a healthy working balance. There is spare money. At the Committee meeting it was proposed to offer a bursary of £50-£100 to encourage younger people to come to the meetings.

6. Recording Scheme Reports

- a. Woodlice – Records are trickling in, mostly through iRecord. There are possible records of *Philoscia affinis* from Lancashire and Suffolk so it could be widespread but not common and is worth looking out for – *Philoscia* with mottled heads.
- b. Millipedes – Not many records coming in although regulars are sending on Excel. Field meetings have been very slow with lots still outstanding from Juniper Hall and Morecambe – PLEASE SEND! Lots of new species have been found in South Wales so note that the existing keys will not work in this area!
- c. Centipedes – Few records from field meetings or elsewhere. TB is working with BRC to sort the data and hopefully in the new financial year work on the atlas might move forward. There are no new species for Britain and *Lamyctes africanus* has not turned up either – but well worth a look in South Wales! TB requested specimens of common species for use in workshops.

7. Election of Officers

- a. Chairman - PL was due to retire after three years as Chairman so he stood down while TB as a past Chairman took the floor. Nominations for Chairman were requested. None were forthcoming. PL had agreed to continue as Chairman if there were no other candidates.

Paul Lee was proposed by Tony Barber, seconded by Paul Harding and elected unanimously.

- b. Posts of Secretary and Events and exhibitions co-ordinator were not due for election as officers had not been in post for three years.
- c. Nominations for the remaining Officer posts were proposed by Council, announced by the Chairman and duly elected:
 - Vice Chair – Duncan Sivell
 - Treasurer – Paul Harding
 - Newsletter Editor – Rachel Clarke
 - Woodlouse Recoding Scheme – Steve Gregory
 - Millipede Recoding Scheme – Paul Lee
 - Centipede Recording Scheme – Tony Barber
 - Website – Steve Gregory
 - Social Media Manager – Alex Pearce
 - BENHS representative – Keith Lugg

The following posts were currently vacant:

Conservation
Training
Project Officer

Field meeting organiser was currently being carried out by Paul Lee but he expressed a wish to stand down. Paul Harding is able to help with this post by handling the bookings but it would be helpful if someone could take on the organisation of the field visits.

Offers were invited for any persons wishing to take on any of the vacant roles. Paul Richards agreed to be Training Officer and was also co-opted on to the Committee.

8. Appointment of financial examiner

It was suggested that Paul Harding should ask John Newbold to examine the accounts and this was agreed unanimously.

9. Future meetings

- a. It was proposed to have a one-day meeting in the autumn at the Living Rainforest in Berkshire and combine with a Committee meeting if they have the facilities for this. There are hot houses and interesting species have been found there.
- b. Spring 2019 will be either South West Scotland if a suitable venue can be found or Derbyshire.

10. AOB

Due to the new data protection laws we will be looking at how we communicate with members and may look at Mailchimp as an option for sending out newsletters. A request was made for anyone with experience of Mailchimp to contact the Secretary.

11. Records for the meeting

PLEASE send these in asap, all to Paul Lee and he will forward them to the relevant person and also the site managers. Any specimens send to Paul, Steve or Tony. SG is probably the best person to help with strange south Wales specialities!

12. A vote of thanks was made to Paul Harding for handling the bookings for the meeting, Steve Gregory for arranging the field sites and the staff at the Crown Inn for being so accommodating.