

British Myriapod and Isopod Group
Minutes of 20th AGM
Held on Saturday 5 December 2020 by Zoom

Present

Tony Barber	Paul Harding
Steve Gregory	Angela Lidgett
Dafydd Lewis	Warren Maguire
Katy Peat	Helen Read
Duncan Sivell	

1. Apologies

Paul Lee
Paul Richards

Due to health reasons Paul Lee has regrettably decided to stand down from the post of Chairman and was also unable to attend the meeting so Duncan took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last AGM

No corrections had been reported. These were proposed for adoption as a true record by Paul Harding, seconded by Tony Barber and agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

(Note that all reports were posted on the website in advance of the meeting)

4. Secretary's report

The Secretary had no additional comments to make and there were no questions.

5. Treasurer's Report

It was noted that, although some leaflets and a projector screen had been bought there was still a healthy balance which it would be good to put for appropriate use. Note that the section 'Interim report to September 2020' was for a recent Committee meeting and could be ignored.

6. Recording Scheme Reports

a. Woodlice & waterlouse

Steve added the news that *M. celticus* had now been found new to England in an allotment in Bristol by Frank Ashwood, together with *T. sarsi*. A few days later *T. sarsi* was found nearby on the coast in typical *T. saeroeensis* habitat. This raises the question, are all coastal *saeroeensis* records true or are they *sarsi*?

b. Millipedes

Since writing the report a new species can be added to the British list, *Cylindroiulus dahli*, found within a collection by Mike Davidson from Glasgow. This species comes from northern Spain. Steve asked if it had fungi on – worth a look!

c. Centipedes

Post atlas we will need a new recording scheme organiser as Tony is hoping to stand down at this time. The committee will need to address this and millipede recording scheme. Recent work has shown that *Haplophilus* will probably change back to *Stigmatogaster*.

d. Progress with iRecord

It is hoped that Paul Lee will continue to liaise with BRC to improve the situation with iRecord for our groups and ensure that the habitat information is included where possible. Habitat information has currently been dropped from the Isopod Recording Scheme.

7. Intertidal Marine Isopod scheme

Duncan welcomed this scheme which will be added to the family of BMIG recording schemes. It was (re)-started by Warren Maguire who has been doing lots of recording and helping people with identification. As recording scheme organiser Warren will automatically become a member of the Committee – welcome Warren!

It was noted that Warren is now able to verify species on iRecord but no levels of difficulty have been posted yet. There is a recent (2015) synopsis so there is good material for identification and extra information has been added to the website under the species accounts.

8. Librarian and collection manager's report

No report was received. Keith Lugg has moved away from the Dinton Pastures area and can no longer fulfil the role. In the meantime Steve and Dafydd have agreed to help out. Paul Harding has informed BENHS that Dafydd and Steve may be contacting them to talk about the library. Dafydd has been in contact with John Cole to discuss visiting but will probably leave it to the New Year. Thankswere expressed to Paul, Dafydd and Steve.

9. Election of Officers

Chairman - As Paul Lee resigned the Chairman's role was vacant.

Duncan thanked Paul Lee for all the hard work he has put in over many years. Paul has been Chairman for 10 years and it is thought the first meeting he attended was probably 1986. In 1998 he became the millipede recording scheme organiser and in 2006 the atlas was published which he authored.

Steve demonstrated a picture which will be sent to Paul as an appreciation for his work by the group. It is a plate showing the millipede illustrations from *Garden Wildlife* drawn by Richard Lewington and includes a dedication.

Duncan had been proposed as Chairman and therefore he passed the chairmanship of the meeting to Tony Barber.

Tony nominated Duncan as Chairman, Angela seconded and Duncan was elected. It was agreed that Duncan did not need to stand for re-election in 2021.

Secretary - This post was up for re-election this year. Helen was willing to continue and was nominated by Tony, seconded by Paul Harding and duly elected.

Social Media Manager – at the last AGM Calum Urquhart had been co-opted for a year but he was unable to fulfil the role due to time pressures. Warren had recently taken over the Twitter account and Steve was leading on Facebook. Warren agreed to take on the role of Social Media Manager, he was nominated by Steve, seconded by Paul Harding and elected.

Various people offered to help with identification when people post pictures asking what they are.

As listed above, Warren also becomes the Marine Intertidal Isopod Recording Scheme Organiser.

BENHS representative – As Keith Lugg had stood down Paul Harding had agreed to fulfil this role. He was nominated by Helen and seconded by Angela.

Library and collections manager – this role was vacant but is currently being fulfilled by Steve and Dafydd, it was considered that they are 'acting' officers for the moment

Newsletter editor – Rachel Clarkenow has a busy job and is unable to continue in this role. During her tenure Rachel set up a Publisher template which Helen used for the last two newsletters. BMIG could buy this package if it is needed for the editor's role.

Warren expressed a willingness to be newsletter editor, was nominated by Helen and seconded by Paul Harding.

Conservation Officer, Projects Officer and Field meeting organiser – These roles are all vacant and no expressions of interest had been received.

Field meeting organiser is the most critical but as there will be no meeting in 2021 and Kevin Clements is willing to organise 2022 filling this role is not urgent but will need thinking about in future years.

Vice Chair – No nominations had been received. One key role of this post is to chair meetings in the absence of the Chairman. It was agreed that the Committee will deal with this and it would be put on the agenda for next Committee meeting.

Other Officers/roles were not due for re-election this year.

10. Future meetings

- a. **Spring 2021**- due to the ongoing uncertainties no field meeting is planned but it was hoped to have a virtual conference instead, perhaps on 10 April.
- b. **Spring 2022** – Kevin Clements had been in touch with Field Studies Council regarding a meeting at Preston Montford. Paul Harding is willing to help with bookings but FSC may handle them.

11. AOB

- a. Tony Barber welcomed John Lewis to the meeting and gave a short appreciation of John's work on centipedes over very many years. He was 'presented' with a framed plate illustrating the centipedes from the book on *Garden Wildlife* illustrated by Richard Lewington. It is hoped that the full appreciation will be published in the next Bulletin
- b. Rhinophorid recording scheme – this new scheme started this year. Rhinophorids are fly parasites of woodlice but have largely been found as adults rather than reared from woodlice. It was noted that it is not normal to find woodlice that are obviously parasitised, although the flies are regularly found. Ryan Mitchell is running the scheme and is hoping to pick up some interesting associations. It is thought that roughly 2% of woodlice are parasitised. It was suggested to ask the scheme organiser to write article for the spring newsletter, which would be timely as their season is May to September. A draft key has been written recently and there are some older ones on-line. Some published references would be helpful to know about. There are also two dipteran parasites of millipede in the UK, usually placed in the family that includes snail killing flies, but this recording scheme is relatively inactive.
- c. It was noted that there will be a need to deal with millipede recording scheme queries but that will be explored in the next Committee meeting.

12. Vote of thanks

Duncan proposed a vote of thanks to Dafydd and AES for organising the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 15.10