

**British Myriapod and Isopod Group**  
**Minutes of 21st AGM**  
**Held on Saturday 10 April 2021 by Zoom**

**Present**

See separate list.

**1. Apologies**

Paul Lee

**2. Minutes of the last AGM**

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

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

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

**4. Secretary's report**

The Secretary had no additional comments to make.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

No further comments.

**6. Recording Scheme Reports**

**a. Centipedes**

No further comments

**b. Millipedes**

No further comments

**c. Woodlice**

No further updates

**d. Intertidal isopods**

The scheme was launched in December 2020. There are 400 records so far, mostly submitted in previous years. The scheme organiser has been offering encouragement on social media and helping people with identification.

**7. Librarian and collection update**

Report online, no further comments.

**8. Events and exhibitions update.**

There is a report online but there has not been much activity in the past year.

**9. Social media update**

Warren Maguire with support from Steve Gregory has been managing the BMIG members Facebook pages. There are 865 members and it is very active with posts every day. The Twitter account has been revitalised with 200 new followers recently, taking the total to over 1100. Activity has focussed on advertising activities and spreading the word about the group through following others.

**10. Field meetings update**

There was no meeting this year but the group is hoping to have one next year.

Kevin Clements has been liaising with the Field Studies Council and a provisional booking has been made for their Preston Montford centre in Shropshire from 21-24 April 2022. The location is within easy reach of a range of habitats including post-industrial landscapes. The aim is to link up with Biolinks (and HLF funded project aiming to train people up the identification of difficult and under recorded groups).

Anyone is welcome to come along, more details will be available in the autumn newsletter.

## **11. Changes to BMIG mission statement and by-laws**

### **a) Mission statement & new strap line.**

The mission statement has been updated to read:

The British Myriapod and Isopod Group (BMIG) aims to improve awareness and knowledge of centipedes, millipedes and other Myriapoda, woodlice, waterlice and intertidal Isopoda and related species in Britain and Ireland.

BMIG works with amateurs and professionals to ensure that reliable information about the species, their biology, habitats, ecology and distribution, is collected and made available.

BMIG aims to enable accurate identifications, to publish distribution information, to carry out research, and to encourage interest in these groups and their conservation. This is promoted through social media and its website, the on-line newsletter and journal and field meetings, which are open to anyone.

The strapline is:

British Myriapod and Isopod Group – *discovering millipedes, centipedes, woodlice and other isopods in Britain and Ireland*

There were no objections or comments.

The updated text was proposed by Dafydd Lewis, seconded by Paul Richards and Steve Gregory and accepted.

### **b) By-laws.**

2.3 Relates to the quorum. There was a proposal to add some text to clarify how many people would constitute a quorum but this had been done incorrectly so the proposal here is for the text to remain unchanged from previously.

4.2. Relates to the appointment of an independent examiner for the accounts. This is not a legal requirement for a group, as is not registered with the charities commission, and no examiner has been appointed in recent years. The annual statement of accounts is distributed at the AGM and a full financial summary and recent records are normally available for examination by those attending the AGM. Therefore the text relating to this has been deleted.

2.1 Changes to Officers: Following a review of the officer posts it is proposed to update these as follows:

The elected officers shall comprise the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Scheme Organisers, Librarian and Collections Manager, Newsletter Editor, Bulletin Chief Editor, Field Meeting Co-ordinator, Website Manager, Social Media Manager, Resources Officer, Training Officer, Projects Officer, Exhibition and Events Co-ordinator, Conservation Officer and BENHS representative. Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a three year term of office.

There were no objections to the proposed changes and it was proposed to take all the changes together by Tony Barber and seconded by Angela Lidgett.

## **12. Changes to constitution**

It was proposed to update the constitution by adding a section called 'Scope' in order to clarify the taxa the group covers to account for intertidal isopod scheme. Three months' notice are needed to change the constitution, therefore this will be voted on next year.

The full text of all these documents can be found in the 'About us' section of the website.

## **13. Election of Officers**

Several posts are currently unfilled.  
Officers are elected every three years.  
Those due for re-election this year are:  
Treasurer – Paul Harding  
Bulletin editor – Helen Read  
Website manager – Steve Gregory  
Training officer – Paul Richards

Centipede recording scheme – Tony Barber  
Woodlice scheme organiser – Steve Gregory

These were proposed 'en bloc' by Warren Maguire and seconded by Kevin Clements & Angela Lidgett.

It was proposed to co-opt Kevin Clements to the Committee to help with organisation of field meeting. Proposed by Helen Read and seconded by Paul Harding.

Conservation officer post is currently unfilled. Duncan is willing to stand and was proposed by Paul Harding and seconded by Dafydd Lewis.

Due to recent uncertainty in the millipede recording scheme the post of scheme organiser was not put up for election. Paul Lee continues to manage the scheme, however, and will therefore represent the scheme as an officer on the committee.

All positions were accepted as filled.

Vacant posts include:  
Vice Chairman  
Library and collections manager (Dafydd Lewis and Steve Gregory are covering duties)

The Chairman asked if anyone was interested – but there were no offers.

## **14. Date of next AGM**

To be held during the next field meeting on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 at Preston Montford.

## **15. AOB**

There were no items of AOB.

The meeting was closed at 14.25