

British Myriapod and Isopod Group
Minutes of 22nd AGM
Held on Friday 22 April 2022
Preston Montfort Field Centre

Present

Jim Flanagan	Nicola Garnham	Anna Northfield
Steve Gregory	Steph Skipp	Kay Dinsdale
Paul Harding	Gino Brignoli	Barbara Lloyd
Tony Barber	Kevin Wells	Dominic Phillips
Jess Thomas	Neil Fletcher	Warren Maguire
Keith Alexander	Dawid Martyniuk	Victoria Burton
Janet Lister	Kevin Clements	Keiran Anderson
Angela Lidgett	Tom Hughes	Duncan Sivell
Helen Read		

1. Apologies

Paul Lee
Paul Richards
Dafydd Lewis

2. Minutes of the last AGM

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

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Secretary's report – Helen Read

See separate report

5. Treasurer's Report – Paul Harding

See separate report and statement of accounts. The Treasurer highlighted some points:

- Income: None is received from membership but we do get copyright payments amounting to around £250 per year for the Bulletin and previous publications. Other income has been received from the CD e-book and payment for the British Wildlife article.
- Field meetings don't make a profit but do result in quite a lot of money going through the account. Bursaries are offered and three were taken up this year (only two attended the meeting).
- The 2020 meeting was cancelled and made a slight loss because of this.
- The current account balance is around £6,000.

6. Recording Scheme Reports

a. Centipedes – Tony Barber

See report. Highlights include some large *Scolopendra* species indoors, *Geophilus proximus* in the Shetland isles and *Lamyctes africanus* found by Nicola Garnham.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the recording scheme over the years and the atlas is nearly published. Tony would like to stop being centipede recorder and pass over to someone else, he is happy to continue to help verify and identify. He commented that guidance for what people should take pictures (to enable identification) would be

helpful. Dawid Martyniuk responded that Steve Gregory had produced something similar for the centipede microscopy course.

b. Millipedes

A written report from Paul Lee was read by Duncan Sivell; Paul is also looking at handing over the scheme to someone else

c. Woodlice – Steve Gregory

Hyloniscus riparius, a new species to the country was confirmed from Pershore today. David Bilton had said in 1992 that this species was getting close to the North sea coast in Netherlands and may be found in Britain soon. Males look a bit like *Trichoniscus pusillus*, females are larger. Found in flood meadow habitat with *Trachelipus rathkii*

d. Intertidal isopods – Warren Maguire

Launched last December. Records in come via iRecord and now, via agreement with iNaturalist, records are coming from this too. Most require similar skills to identify as terrestrial isopods. Warren is trying to get photographs and species accounts on the website but some internal parasites are proving challenging as there is little information about some of them. The older synopsis is available as a pdf on the Natural History Museum website for free.

7. Librarian and collection update

There is no officer in this post at the moment. Steve Gregory and Dafydd Lewis are covering it at the moment. Steve is planning to go to Dinton Pastures in June.

8. Events and exhibitions update – Written update from Dafydd Lewis

Space is booked for the AES and BENHS exhibitions in the autumn.

9. Social media update – Warren Maguire

Facebook group is still up and running. There are around 1,156 participants in total Twitter account has over 1,000 followers.

Some interesting items crop up in these discussion groups, like the extra large *Cylindroiulus*.

10. Field meetings update – Kevin Clements

29 people were booked on this meeting with 27 attending – which is a good number.

Next year it is hoped to have a more coastal location. Generally the aim is to alternative north and south. For 2022 we are looking at Somerset or Scarborough. In 2024 perhaps the Llyn Peninsula.

11. Changes to BMIG constitution

It was proposed last year to update the constitution by adding a section called ‘Scope’ in order to clarify the taxa the group covered (to account for the inclusion of the intertidal isopod scheme). Three months’ notice are needed to change the constitution, therefore this was not possible last year so the change needs to be voted on now. The details are as follows:

A section called “Scope” has been added to clarify which taxa BMIG studies and promotes.

Under the “Objectives” section the phrase “terrestrial isopods” has been shortened to “isopods” to reflect the fact we also study intertidal species.

The Scope section reads as:

The Group studies or promotes the study of the following taxa:

- *Myriapoda; Diplopoda (millipedes), Chilopoda (centipedes), Pauropoda (pauropods) and Symphyla (symphylans).*
- *Isopoda; terrestrial and freshwater isopods (woodlice and waterlice) and intertidal isopods.*
- *Amphipoda; terrestrial amphipods (landhoppers).*

These changes were proposed by Angela Lidgett and seconded by Tony Barber. All agreed therefore the changes were accepted.

12. 11 Posts up for re-election were:

Events & exhibitions organiser – Dafydd Lewis

Resources officer – Graham Proudlove

Both had expressed a willingness to stand again. They were proposed by Victoria Burton, seconded by Gino Brignoli and all agreed.

13. Election of other Officers

Several posts are currently unfilled:

Vice chairman

Project Officer

Librarian & collections manager

If anyone is interested in holding any of these posts or being co-opted to the Committee then do let us know. Contact Secretary for more information.

14. Date of next AGM

To be held during the next field meeting on Friday 14 April 2022.

15. AOB

- a. If anyone would like a receipt for the meeting see Paul Harding.
 - b. Newsletter report (was missed in the main meeting): Warren Maguire has edited three newsletters now and requested that if anyone has any copy please do send to him.
 - c. Bulletin report (also missed in the main meeting): The next one is due out in next couple of months. Copy deadline for the following one is February 2023 –contributions welcome.
 - d. Ensure that changes to the constitution etc. are updated on the website – **ACTION: Steve Gregory**
 - e. Species records from the meeting - Send all to Kevin. Ideally asap, including all species not just 'our' groups as it is important to feed back to land owners and The Shropshire Record Centre as well as passing them on to our scheme organisers.
 - f. Matthew Vosper should have attended this meeting but has been unable to at the last minute. He is looking for opportunities to record in Nottinghamshire, if anyone can help please get in contact.
16. Duncan Sivell informed the gathering that last year Tony Barber had been awarded the Marsh award for an outstanding contribution to entomological science. Tony started the centipede recording scheme before Duncan was born and has continued to run it and be involved in associated activities ever since – i.e. a very long time!
- Tony responded that he really appreciated coming to the meeting and being available to help. He also expressed the view that he benefitted from lots of support when he started working on centipedes and hoped that we can continue to support new people.
17. A vote of thanks was given to FSC Preston Montford for hosting the meeting and Kevin Clements (and Paul Harding) for organising it.