SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE 51ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MILTON KEYNES NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

HELD ON ZOOM TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER

The 51st annual general meeting of the Society was held on 6 October 2020 on Zoom. Twenty eight members attended the AGM.

Combined Officers' Report: Among other issues, the report highlighted the value of the member feedback in the Member Survey for future planning and the significant improvements which have been made to the Society's website. Also it was pointed out in the Report that the Committee has placed much focus on the ways that the Society needs to change and operate in the future, given the restrictions on person-to-person contact brought about by Covid-9.

Financial Position: At the end of 2019, the Society had a total of £5215.32 in its accounts with the GOBF having a total of £3197.80. The Annual Accounts 2019 were adopted by the meeting.

Election of Officers: Roy Maycock was elected as President and Martin Kincaid and Julie Lane elected as Vice Presidents. Chair of the MKNS Committee: Matt Andrews; Secretary: Mervyn Dobbin; Treasurer: Linda Murphy. On behalf of the members Martin Kincaid thanked Joe Clinch for the guidance that he had provided for the Society as Acting Chair, especially during a difficult Covid situation. He also thanked Matt Andrews for taking on the position as Chair of the Society and Linda Murphy as Treasurer.

The New Committee: Matt Andrews (Chair), Roy Maycock (President), Linda Murphy (Treasurer), Paul Lund, Colin Docketty, Mary Sarre, Harry Appleyard, Rebecca Hiorns, Martin Kincaid (Vice President), Mervyn Dobbin (Secretary), Sue Hetherington, Mike LeRoy, Alison Peace, Julie Lane (Vice President). Di Parsons will continue as Membership Secretary but not as a committee member.

Member Survey: The Secretary highlighted a few points from the feedback: the preference for more variety and member participation in the Indoor Programme; the need to consider broader issues such as the climate crisis and the protection from development of local wildlife habitats. The Secretary confirmed to members that the survey feedback will continue to be on Committee agendas, to help the Committee plan future activities/events for Society members.

Ways forward for the Society: The Acting Chair pointed out to members that, because of the Covid pandemic there was a need to change the ways in which the Society can continue to operate effectively. He said that the Committee continue to monitor and consider the current situation with its restrictions on social interactions.

AOB: A number of members contributed to this item: suggestions were made about the use of Zoom; there was an acknowledgement of the excellent work by the Website Group to improve the Society's website and it was encouraging to read the interesting reports and the information about recent sightings; a number of individuals were thanked for the tasks that they carry out and their commitment to the Society.