

MILTON KEYNES
NATURAL
HISTORY
SOCIETY



Summary Minutes of the Committee Meeting 7.30 pm on Monday 17 June 2024

via zoom

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2024 were previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as a true record.

Treasurer's Report

The key points in Linda's Report are as follows:

Membership: 89 members 5 May 2024, and 89 members 24 April 2023.

Voluntary Donations: £415 for asset replacement (£355 in April 2023).

GOBF: Capital is £2733.98, total available for grants is £463.58.

Income and Expenditure: Total income to 5 June 2024 was £3830. Expenditure was £1380. The budgeted expenditure for 2024 is £4222.

The Treasurer's Report was approved. Committee members were grateful for Linda's work as Treasurer on their behalf.

Items for Consideration/Discussion

Identification Skills

Mike introduced his paper on this matter to Committee members.

The paper considers that there has been a decline in members with sufficient ID skills and that ways need to be found so that more MKNHS members could be enabled to contribute to records and field knowledge. The case put forward in the paper is that 'a change of culture is needed in MKNHS, led by the committee.' Specific Actions that were Agreed

- Matt will write a note about identification skills for the website.
- The first Autumn session in September in the Cruck Barn will focus on 'identification skills' and will include a 'social' element to reflect on findings during the summer. Matt, Charles and Martine will plan the session and report back before September to the Committee on their plan for the evening.

Plant Group Committee Report

The Report describes the activities and membership of the Plant Group. The Group has developed a more detailed draft Terms of Reference document covering Objectives, Activities, Membership, Communication and Roles which will be reviewed in the autumn, in light of this year's experience. In the Report, the MKNHS Committee is asked to formally endorse the establishment of the Plant Group within MKNHS.

It was agreed that the Plant Group was a good model for other groups to form in different specialities. It was also agreed that the Plant Group should be established as part of the formal structure of MKNHS.

We thank Charles and Joe for advising us on the work of the Plant Group.

Love Nature Day Howe Park Wood Saturday 6 July 12.00-16.00 hours

Mervyn, Peter Meadows and Jagoda agreed to help on the day.

Website

Jagoda gave a brief report on website matters. The Sightings and Programme sections are the most popular. There were 3700 views in May. Jagoda described the various changes to the website, including that it is easier to view on a mobile.

Facebook

Facebook is doing 'quite well' and there are quite a few new members.

Mervyn Dobbin

MKNHS Secretary