MILTON KEYNES
NATURAL
HISTORY
SOCIETY

Summary notes of the committee meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 15th June 2026 via Teams

Present: Gary Fowler (chair), Richard Schmidt (treasurer), Jagoda Zajac, Julie Cuthbert, Mike LeRoy, Tim Arnold, Jane Bidgood (secretary)

Apologies for absence: Charles Kessler

1. **Welcome, apologies and introduction**
   Gary welcomed members to the meeting.

2. **Position of secretary**
   Jane was co-opted to the committee and appointed as secretary.

   Gary will write an email, to be sent to society members, informing them of this change.

3. **Notes of meeting 07/05/2026**
   Nothing to note.

4. **Matters arising**
   a) elections, handbook revisions and Special General Meeting (SGM)
   Mike had circulated a note on elections. This will be discussed further.

   Regarding revisions to the constitution, a note will be drafted for the SGM on the proposed new roles.

   b) Confirmation of legacy group members
   Julie has agreed to go on the committee. Bob and Martine will be asked if they would be willing to continue.

   c) Person to record numbers at indoor/outdoor meetings
   It is the responsibility of the membership secretary to collect and store this data. For the indoor meetings this can be done from the sign-in sheet. Di will be asked if she already has this data and, if not, agree how it would be collected and stored.

For outdoor meeting this will be included in guidance for walk leaders.

It was agreed to collect this data for one year, starting with the September indoor meetings, to see if it is worth continuing.

d) Parish council noticeboards
A poster will be designed.
Parish councils will be contacted.
As there is no volunteer undertaking the publicity co-ordinator's role, one will be sought.

e) Membership survey
A draft document was shared with the committee and will be worked on further.

f) Update on AV
A "menu" of things MKNHS would like has been developed. The final document will be circulated to the committee for comment.

5. Correspondence: communications with the secretary
The report had been circulated. The number of contacts has gone up.

6. Treasurer's business
The report had been circulated. Membership numbers are slightly more than last year and payments are more prompt. Donations are up on last year. Banking arrangements have been sorted out, although changes to the legacy committee membership may require further adjustments.

Consideration was given to a proposal for an open garden scheme. It was felt this would be too much administration so was not agreed.

7. Items for consideration/discussion
a) Library – donation of additional books
Given the cost of storage, it was felt that any books proposed for donation should be vetted and possibly accepted on a one-in-one-out basis. The librarian will be asked for her input on use of the library.

b) Members area – second-hand books/equipment
It was agreed that items could be advertised on the website and exchanged at a meeting. Any items could be advertised for a maximum of one month. The web team will be asked how this could be managed.

c) MKNHS metal badge

Badges will be offered for sale for £3.00 each at indoor meetings.

d) Frequency of indoor meetings

It was agreed to wait for the results of the survey before deciding any changes.

e) Love Wetland Day 21/08/26

This will be 12-4pm at the Floodplain Forest. The following actions were agreed:

i) Mike and Gary will volunteer on the stand on the day.

ii) Jagoda will provide the materials that were used on the stand last year and co-ordinate this event.

iii) Action will be taken to recruit a volunteer to help with events.

8. Website and social media report

The report had been circulated and was noted.

9. AOB

There was no further business.

Date of next meeting: 12th October.