

## **MONMOUTHSHIRE MEADOWS GROUP (MMG)**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**20.4.23 at 7.30 pm, Cross Ash Village Hall**

1. **PRESENT:** Clare Adamson, Susan Butler, Judith Carruthers, Peter Carruthers, Paula Chalinder, Andrew Chalinder, Frances Cloud, Dick Coates, Teona Dorrien-Smith, Marilyn Dunkelman, Jon Dunkelman, Jill Featherstone, Peter Flower, Susan Flower, Jill Formaggia, Bob Fowles, Sylvia Fowles, Maggie Hamlen, Jeremy Harris, Charles Hawes, Alison Jenkins, Keith Jenkins, Sally Jones, Kevin Jones, Ruairidh MacDonald, Owen Marsh, Rachel Morgan (chair), Stephanie Poulter, Alan Poulter, Ian Rabjohns, Sandy Richards, Wyn Richards, Hugh Roberts, Roger Ruston, Louisa Stafford, Paul Stafford, Laura Tenison, Stephanie Tyler, Wendy Tyler-Batt, Trevor Tyler-Batt, Anne Wareham, Jeanne Weston, Sue Weston, Elsa Wood, Adrian Wood

2. **APOLOGIES:** Maggie Biss, Clare Catto, Susan and Patrick Harrington, David Llewellyn, Pam Manfield, Simon Marr Johnson, Martin and Patricia Milling, George Peterken, Larry Stoter

3. **MINUTES OF 2022:** A copy of these had been circulated via the group's website.

#### **4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Rachel Morgan outlined last year's activities as well as future plans. A copy of this will be posted on the group's web site.

#### **5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A copy of the draft financial report is attached and will be posted on the group's web site.

It was noted that extra income and expenditure was a result of the grants for the ponds at Wet Meadow. As always, an independent scrutineer will look at the accounts, following the AGM.

#### **6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

Sarah Cheese is standing and was thanked for her work with the committee over several years. The remaining members of the existing committee agreed to stand again and there were two new nominees: Maggie Hamlen and Teona Dorrien-Smith. It was proposed the committee and the new nominees were elected en bloc. This was nominated by Elsa Wood and seconded by Sally Jones. Their re-election was unanimously accepted.

#### **7. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

A member questioned whether the anniversary calendar was a good use of funds as not many people used calendars any more. Others disagreed and felt the calendar was well received as a commemoration of our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Other members questioned the accumulated funds and whether these could be used to develop various additional projects. The committee answered that being a totally voluntary organisation, there was not enough time to dedicate to spending the money in this way, but that plans were progressing to spend the funds including the potential acquisition of additional land to conserve as wildflower meadow. Various suggestions from the floor were received including taking on a paid

employee to run additional projects including more outreach and spreading the word to younger people. It was noted that this would also involve a considerable amount of administrative work for the committee, but the committee would welcome any volunteer offering to help, or to run an appropriate project themselves.

The meeting was closed at 7:50pm. There followed talks on invertebrates by Roger Ruston and Ian Rabjohns and a buffet supper.