

HFRG AGM 06 Feb 2021 via Zoom

Present: Eric Janke, Stuart Skeates, Paul Hugill, Dave Shute, Sue Rogerson, Phil Collier, Mike Harrison, Pam Field, Sue Howe, Jenny Hyde, Ailsa McKee, Tina Facey, Dave McMahon, James Macpherson

Apologies: Alan Lucas, Ginnie Copsey, Anna Stewart

Meeting commenced at 10.41

Steering Group:

Regrettably, Ginnie has now decided to retire as Treasurer. Eric asked for volunteers – it is not a huge job.

We are still trying to get signatories sorted out with Nationwide.

Summary of 2020:

Considering the lockdown, we still managed to do quite a lot. Two groups of six covered larger areas. There were some duplications but a lot were also recorded. Individuals also ventured out on their own.

Accounts:

Not doing too badly, still money to do sequencing; big chunk going to consumables.

Membership for 2020 has not been collected. Will hopefully collect for 2021.

Eric received £122 for starring in the video @ £15 p/h plus expenses.

Website:

Phil Collier is working to disentangle Stuart from the site. There is only one site now, which is functioning fine.

Sue Rogerson suggested sharing interesting finds on the website. Mike Harrison wondered if an editor would be useful for any contributions. Eric thought that somebody needed to be appointed to do it, as editing was different from writing. Phil wondered if it was too complex, and what about copyright?

Sue Howe suggested a page for contributions, for the Editor to access, and then send to Phil for loading onto the website, with links, if applicable. Sue was happy to give it a try, and there were no objections to that.

Stuart indicated the blog page did not get anywhere. Phil has removed the blog facility.

However it would be good to see more reports on the website.

Stuart suggested Facebook as well.

Membership fee:

Proposed to collect fees for 2021.

Mike Harrison wondered what if we are not able to do anything. Sue R thought we would still need money to pay for web hosting etc. Paul Hugill suggested that it would be a good indication of how many members there are.

Eric proposed a life membership for Stuart, free of charge, which was agreed.

Paul wondered about the method of payment for membership fees – this had been discussed with the Steering Group whereby it would be paid into Eric's NatWest account. Members to contact Eric for bank details. No online facility with the Nationwide group account.

Phil explained that he has also set up a membership email link, and Pam Field very kindly had agreed to be the recipient of any contact.

2021 activities:

Eric suggested it was too early to think about Autumn 2021 field trips. Obviously everything is suspended for the time being.

Someone suggested a coffee morning/afternoon on Zoom, could limit it to just one hour.

Microscopy workshops would not be possible with the restrictions, and would not work on Zoom.

However, general help with ID would be feasible.

AOB:

Stuart said that there is a talk by BMS on 'Killer fungus' next week. Then next month, an expert would be talking about Entolomas. He also indicated that BMS has set aside £5000 for DNA.

Eric wondered if a DNA group chat would be useful for those interested. He also suggested doing an introduction to DNA on Zoom. Sue H asked if there could be two levels of the DNA group?

Mike H wondered how often could the BMS Zoom account be used.

James M could do with assistance in ID with records from Wiltshire, apparently no recorder there.

Ailsa M wondered if our records go on to Living Records? Stuart said it was a different format now, which Ailsa said she found difficult. Stuart will have a look.

Ailsa also wanted to know where to find the modern names for fungi. Stuart will send the link on FRDBI. Apparently there has been a lot of disagreement.

The meeting ended at 13:00.

