



Registered Charity no
SCO43123

Murieston Environmental Group

Minutes of Meeting 14 May 2026

<http://muriestonenvironmentalgroup.org.uk/>

1. Attendees

Alan Murray, Isabel Taggart, Gillian de Felice, Arthur Marris, Kay Goldup, Bernie Tremain and Jackie Tremain.

2. Apologies for Absence

Shelagh Taylor, Andy Murray, and Alison Wright.

3. Approval of April's minutes

Alan proposed and Gillian seconded.

4. Treasurers report

Current bank balance is £2714.96.33. There has been no expenditure since last month.

5. Projects Update/ Discussion

- Andi Tooth from Tooth Design attended the start of the meeting to discuss the design of a feather flag with the MEG logo. The flag comes with a pole and a ground spike, and will be 2.8m high. He should be able to supply it by 31st May 2026 and it will cost approx. £125 plus VAT. We have decided to go ahead with this.
- Online Survey - The purpose of the survey is to get feedback from local residents with regard to future funding applications for improvements to the Campbridge Pond area. There were 126 responses and Gillian verbally summarised the results for us. It was suggested that Gillian and Alan write up a summary of the responses, and a thank you message to those who took the time to complete the survey. This would provide concrete evidence for the abovementioned future funding applications.
- The rhododendron cuttings have now been burnt by Hannah from WLC. She has proposed that we meet up again at a future date with a view to removing snowberries and more rhododendrons. The date is still to be confirmed.
- Callum McLaren from WLC/CSWG has also been in touch to identify a date for thermal imaging of the bird and bat boxes. Alan and Gillian will also liaise with him to organise a bat walk, which we can hopefully publicise and open up to the public.
- Also from Callum - 3 representatives from local environmental groups and conservation organisations, including MEG, are invited to attend an event at Beecraigs Country Park to promote National Volunteer Week. Visitors to the event will be able to learn more about volunteering opportunities, community projects, wildlife recording and ways to get involved in protecting and enhancing nature locally. The event is on Sunday 7 June from 11.30 am until 2.30 pm. Tea and cakes will be provided. Alan and Gillian are available, and Arthur will check if he is free. Alan will clarify details regarding the flag and the marquee, and Gillian will bring the leaflets and posters.
- Gillian and Alan have also attended meetings of Lothian Biodiversity Action Projects (LBAP) at the Gateway in Bathgate. West Lothian Climate Action Network (WELCAN) seem to be running them, and Wendy Graham has taken over the organising of future meetings. If we join WELCAN we can get access to training and funding. Alan will look into this.

6. Diary of events/Upcoming Projects

- 31 May 2026 - Open Day at the Cricket Club. Start time is 11 am. We can set up from 9.30 and it ends at 2 pm. Gillian and Alan, and anyone else who is free will attend. Davidson has given us a collection jar and buckets that need to be sealed whilst in use for any charity donations for the second-hand book sale. Gillian will ask Shelagh to order some seals. Gillian also has some crates to display the books. Any books left over will be donated to charity. Luca (Gillian's son) will make a poster for the book sale, and hopefully we will have the feather flag by then as well.

7. AOB

- A volunteer from Crofthead Community Garden has donated to MEG: two Austrian scythes; 2 grass rakes; whetstones and a "How to Scythe" instruction booklet.
- Maintenance of Willow Den at the Cricket Club - it is growing too much at the top but not at the sides. We should probably prune it at some point. The top bits can be woven in, but the main pruning should take place in the winter. We need to research this a bit more.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

8. Date of next meeting

11 June 2026: 7.15 pm at the Cricket Club.

Minutes produced by Jackie Tremain (jackie.tremain@btinternet.com)