



Registered Charity no
SCO43123

Murieston Environmental Group

Minutes of Meeting 11 Jun 2026

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

1. Attendees

Alan Murray, Isabel Taggart, Gillian de Felice, Kay Goldup, Ella Haken, Laura Haken, Bernie Tremain and Jackie Tremain.

2. Apologies for Absence

Shelagh Taylor, Arthur Marris, Andy Murray, and Alison Wright.

3. Approval of May's minutes

Gillian proposed and Alan seconded.

4. Treasurers report

There was no Treasurer's Report. It will be updated at the July meeting. Since last month we have spent £264 (including VAT) on a flag, and we have income of £45 in donations for the second-hand books.

5. Projects Update/ Discussion

- Development at Skivo Wynd - Ella and Lara Haken attended the meeting. They have land at Skivo between Murieston Trail and Murieston Castle Farm, which they have owned for 48 years. They have applied for planning permission to put in a children's nursery along the lines of a forest school. This would be for a maximum of 23 children. They have had a number of objections from local people. The proposal is for a modular building which would involve a bit of digging out, but no trees will be cut down. A car park for 6 cars at the top of the trail on Castle View Road would also be needed. The council have raised objections regarding the potential presence of an endangered plant, and they also require a tree survey to be carried out. Forth Rivers Trust have also raised an objection due to the development's proximity to Murieston Water. Lara and Ella were hoping for some input from MEG with regarding to protecting the land and consideration for the environment. It was suggested that Gillian and Alan email Callum from WLC to see if he can provide any input regarding this development. Gillian also suggested that Lara and Ella contact Planning Democracy who have an environmental lawyer who might be able to help them. They could also contact Murieston Community Council.
- As an aside from the above discussion, the knotweed in the Skivo has not yet re-appeared which is encouraging.
- The Health and Well-Being Open Day at the Cricket Club was not that well attended, probably due to the changeable weather. We raised £45 for MEG funds from donations for the second-hand books. The remaining books are being kept for the Gala Day in September.
- MEG has been invited to work with the Rotary Club who can help us with projects and financial funding. This would be in return for a talk about what MEG does.
- Gillian and Alan attended the Volunteering for Nature event at Beecraigs. This was to promote volunteering, and proved to be good for networking. Quite a few people attended, but from a much wider area across West Lothian. We would probably attend any such future events.
- Hogweed Eradication - This event at Dedridge Burn, in conjunction with Forth Rivers Trust, was cancelled due to the wet weather. It has been rescheduled for Thursday 18 June, weather permitting.

6. Diary of events/Upcoming Projects

- August - Biodiversity Month. If we organise an event in August, we can let WLC and WELCAN know, and they will help to promote it.
- Wildflower meadow - we need to prep the ground in August ready to sow the yellow rattle seed in September. Alan will email Callum (WLC) for some input to our plan. We will further formulate the plan at the July meeting.
- Tuesday 16 June - Maintenance of the Willow Den. Meet at 2pm at the Cricket Club to get tools from the lock-up.
- September 5 - Gala Day at the Cricket Club. We will not be doing the dog show this year as it will be run by the Greyhound Rescue Trust instead. It was proposed that we do some other fund raising activities instead. The two main proposals were: (a) second-hand book sale using the books left over for the Well-Being Day, and (b) a treasure hunt with an environmental theme, with stations at points around the Cricket Club grounds. Lara and Ella have said they will come up with a plan for this for the July meeting. We could also have a physical grid on the ground, for those who are not able/don't want to wander round the field. Bernie and Jackie will have a think about this.

7. AOB

- There was no other business

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

8. Date of next meeting

9 July 2026: 7.15 pm at the Cricket Club.

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