



Registered Charity no
SCO43123

Murieston Environmental Group

Minutes of Meeting 13 Aug 2026

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

1. Attendees

Alan Murray, Lara Haken, Ella Haken, Isabel Taggart, Jackie Tremain, Bernie Tremain, Jane Slater, Alistair Slater, Kay Goldup, and Andy Murray

2. Apologies for Absence

Shelagh Taylor, Arthur Marris, Gillian de Felice

3. Approval of July's minutes

Alan Murray proposed and Kay Goldup seconded.

4. Treasurers report

Current Balance £2441.23.

There was no expenditure or income since the last meeting. However, there is a slight difference of 15p since last meeting. I am assuming this was due to a typo in the notes for the minutes or when they were typed up.

5. Projects Update/ Discussion

- Saturday 25 July - the litter pick started at the Community Garden. About 20 bags of litter and various other dumped items were cleared up from the area. Unfortunately, Trail Bean Café were unable to provide refreshments for the litter pickers.
- Tuesday 28 July - Shelagh, Alan and Bernie joined Finn to carry out the crested newt survey at Cambridge Pond. There was lots of invertebrate life, including 25 efts and 1 adult palmate newt, indicating that the water quality is very good. There was a discussion about the pondweed coverage. It is currently about 75% coverage but could be reduced to 50%. This is a possible project for Spring next year. Finn might also do another pond-dipping day next year, which could be open to local children.

6. Diary of events/Upcoming Projects

- Saturday 5 September - Gala Day at Cricket Club. Lara and Ella Haken have created QR codes to be set up at points around the cricket club. Children will get an answer sheet when they have paid their money. At each point they collect letters which need to be re-arranged into a word. On completion each child will get a pencil, and all correct answers will go into a draw for the main prize. Answer sheets need to be printed and the treasure hunt will take about 10 minutes to set up. The gazebo plus table and chairs will be needed. There will also be a grid game - tent pegs and string will be needed to set this up, plus sticks and stickers to make the flags. Competitors will stick a peg into the square they think is the winning square. The correct square, or closest to it will win a prize. Lara has sent out about 30 letters asking for prize donations. Lara and Ella will also run a "hook the duck" game for the children. We will also run the second-hand book stall with books left over from the last sale. We should also have some info about what we are fund-raising for. We are hoping that Gillian's son can produce something for us. Isabel will provide the float for the stall. Gillian is to bring the sealed bucket for donations, as well as the MEG info leaflets. Lara and Ella will see if there are any children's books they can bring along for the sale, and Alan and Bernie will put up the gazebo. Setting up is from 11 am, with the Gala Day starting at 12.
- We have now joined WLCAN. There is a meeting from 2-4pm on 26 August "Volunteering for Nature" at the Volunteering Sector Gateway, King St, Bathgate. Alan is planning to go.

- We can apply to WLCAN for funding. The cut-off date is Sunday 16 August. Alan and Lara will liaise on this tomorrow to see if we can secure some funding this year for the wild flower meadow.
- 20th August - some of us will meet at the Stone Bench at 10am near the proposed wildflower meadow site to carry out a FIT (flying insect timed) count. The details will be put on WhatsApp and FB. People to bring notebooks for the count or to use the app.
- Alan will email Callum with regard to the ground prep for the wild flower meadow. We will set a date for this work once he has spoken to Callum.
- 22 August - we will have an attempt to tidy up some of the overgrown paths around the trail, using the scythes. We will meet at the Cricket Club to collect the equipment and the First Aid Kit. Anyone taking part is to wear sensible shoes and clothing, especially if they are using the scythes.

7. AOB

- There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

8. Date of next meeting

10 Sep 2026: 7.15 pm at the Cricket Club.

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