

Haworthia Society Committee Meeting

Monday 4th March 2024

Zoom Meeting

19.00 hours

Present: Les Pearcy (chair), Colin Walker, Tony Roberts, Les Hewitt, Ian Armstrong, Ess Green, Lawrence Loucka, Adrian Weatherill

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Bill Darbon
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The previous minutes of 15th November 2023 were approved by the committee.
3. **Matters arising:** None.
4. **Convention Update:** The venue is booked and the convention programme has been finalised. The convention show schedule has now been agreed together with the show judge. We need to continue with publicity including Haworthiad and Facebook. Convention booking will be via electronic forms and hard copies will only be used if specifically requested. The distribution of the booking forms will commence April 2024.

Ess will look at producing a QR code to enable members to download the booking form.

5. **Social Media Update:** Ian now has access to Facebook as administrator. At present Lawrence cannot be set up as an administrator and Ian will continue to try to rectify this. How we use Facebook (and the Website) to add value to members is dependent on having better control over these platforms.

Gill Staplehurst is now supporting the administration of the Haworthia Society Facebook site.

6. **Website Update:** Ess now has full access to the website. He is currently validating the backup facility before reviewing the content of the site.
7. **Haworthiad Update:** The February issue of Haworthiad has been published and there is enough content for the next June issue.

Lawrence shared his ideas for the future. Topics for the next issues of Haworthiad include Poaching of plants, more first-hand accounts from Southern Africa, International membership outreach, expand number of pages and issues, minor genera and hybrids and multimedia digital integration. Lawrence also reviewed the help he wanted to grow the Society.

Lawrence also proposed two print-on-demand publications which the Society could sponsor, one by Essie Esterhuizen and the other a collection of the most influential writings of Bruce Bayer.

Vetting a new species description has been a learning experience and its publication will put Haworthiad back in a position of trust in the botanical community.

8. **Sales Update:** Bill has been reducing the amount of stock held in back journals. There are still 15 of the Gerhard Marx in stock.
9. **Society Logo:** There had been much discussion regarding the Society logo and Les P decided we needed to continue these discussions and consider further designs.
10. **BCSS Mart Attendance:** Les H is unable to attend this event. Ian will be there selling plants and it was agreed to ask Bill if we could have a stand next to Ian's to stage our display. A rota for manning the stand would be drawn up nearer the time.

11. **Finances and Membership Update:** See attached slides from Tony.

In summary, the Society had a surplus for the 2023/2024 year.

So far 142 members had not renewed yet, although typical for this time of year. Tony decided to try sending out a PayPal request for payment of subscriptions.

12. Any Other Business: Les P will check the availability of seed and cost from Fanda and Uhlig.

The EU has now directed its member countries to carry out increased customs inspections through their local postal companies. So far, there has been one occurrence of a 6 euros customs handling charge (Netherlands). We will continue to monitor the situation.

Post-meeting note:

Further examples of customs handling fees have come to light, including in Belgium (22 euros), the Czech Republic (13 euros) and Poland (1.7 euros). Tony has contacted all EU members to assess the extent of this issue and will then liaise with our Mailing House.

Next meeting to be arranged in 2 months with sub-committees as required.

Dr Adrian Weatherill

Secretary, The Haworthia Society

Treasurer's Report and Membership

2nd March 2024

Receipts and Payments Account for the Period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

ONGOING
AS AT 2/3/24

Receipts	2023-2024	2022-2023	Payments	2023-2024	2022-2023
Subscriptions, consisting of:			Journal Printing	£1,200.19	£1,880.34
UK Subscriptions 2023 ^a	£252.00		GM Special Edition Printing		£1,492.25
UK Subscriptions 2024 ^b	£1,921.00		Other Printing	£21.12	£30.29
Overseas Subscriptions 2023 ^a	£857.94		Postage & Mailing House costs	£3,242.42	£5,075.88
Overseas Subscriptions 2024 ^b	£1,434.05		Stationery		£46.14
Total Subscriptions	£4,464.99	£5,187.18	Travel Expenses		£61.00
Seed Sales	£350.00	£760.00	Internet Hosting, Website, ZOOM	£194.41	£493.11
Books	£979.01	£1,873.50	Sundries (RHS memb., shows, insurance, gifts, etc.)	£712.16	£123.20
Journals and Binders	£192.00	£47.00	DVD Production Costs		£16.00
Plant Sales, Commission, Donations		£0.00	PayPal Charges	£196.88	£272.75
DVD Sales	£408.00	£607.00			
Badges	£28.00	£66.00			
Gift Aid Tax Credit	£400.13	£393.11			
Interest (Bus. Res. Acc.)	£246.51	£23.70			
Sub-total (excl. Convention)	£7,068.64	£8,957.49	Sub-total (excl. Convention)	£5,567.18	£9,490.96
Total Convention Receipts	£0.00	£10,355.26	Total Convention Payments	£500.00	£11,209.17
Total Receipts	£7,068.64	£19,312.75	Total Payments	£6,067.18	£20,700.13
			Surplus (or if minus, Deficit)	£1,001.46	-£1,387.38
			Total	£7,068.64	£19,312.75

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024

ONGOING
AS AT 2/3/24

Balance at 1st April 2023	£30,212.75	consisting of:	
		NatWest Current Acc.	£10,121.35 ^c
		NatWest Business Reserve Acc.	£20,023.70
		Cash (Tony)	£54.33
		Cash (Bill D.)	£13.37
Surplus for Year (or if minus, Deficit)	£1,001.46		
Balance at 31st March 2024	£31,214.21	consisting of:	
		NatWest Current Acc.	£10,839.14 ^c
		NatWest Business Reserve Acc.	£20,270.21
		Cash (Tony)	£54.33
		Cash (Bill D.)	£50.53

^a including earlier years

^b including later years

^c of which £1,114 are restricted funds (Conservation Fund)

Membership update

	Members at 31/12/2021	Members at 31/12/2022	Members at 31/12/2023	Members at 02/03/2024	Not yet renewed
UK	195	191	190	141	56
Associate members	1	1	1	1	0
Europe	68	64	62	39	25
Rest of World	128	128	121	70	
Total	392	384	374	251	142

includes
ca. 20 new
members