Report of the Assessment Group to the Meconopsis Group - Pat Murphy

Pat began by listing the various visits made by the Assessment Group:

Holehird in 2107 and Branklyn and The Explorer's Garden in 2018

Of particular interest at Holehird was MG 48 *M.* 'Edrom'

This meconopsis shows dark pigmentation on the style, the bud and on the fruit. Flowers often start purple, fading to blue as they age. It is available from Edrom Nurseries.

Also of interest was MG 114 *M.* 'Lingholm Cally Form' and MG 115 *M.* 'Cally Purple'.

Both were developed by the late Michael Wickendon and probably need further assessment before ratification. *M.* 'Cally purple' is a taller plant than MG 111. *M.*' Steve McNamara' which is present both at Branklyn and Holehird. This plant had a purple flower when the name was first suggested but in recent years has appeared blue. It has a short stature and this may be its distinguishing feature.

MG 114   MG 115   MG 111

Some preliminary measurements comparing length / width leaf ratios of these three hybrids were shown.

Photographs were shown of MG 53 at Branklyn and at The Linns.. This has been known by various names including 'Andrew Houston' 'David Smith' 'Kirkhill'. It is a good plant.

Photos were shown of the massed plantings at The Explorer's Garden and of the George Sherriff plant there which has recently been divided for the first time and is vigorous.

Planted at Branklyn is MG 120, a strong plant grown from seed collected from *M.* 'Jimmy Bayne'. There are a number of such plants in existence generally known as 'Jim's Ex'. MG 120 is one of the best of these. Kevock Garden Plants also have good plants derived from '*M.* 'Jimmy Bayne' They intend to grow the best of these, keep records, and discard inferior plants, with the intention of producing good cultivar(s) for the future.

MG 120 at Branklyn

MG 121 at Kevock.

Finally a photo was shown of rows of *Meconopsis* 'Lingholm' derived from the original plants first named at Lingholm by Mike Swift in Cumbria, but first found at Brampton in the garden of Dr Roger Nelson and his father.