

North Staffordshire Beekeepers Association

Registered Charity No.511576

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 4th January 2017

Quaker Meeting House, Miller Street , Newcastle, Staffs ST51QJ

Minutes

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all present.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:G Bainbridge, J Bickley, M Bishop, L Cartwright, C Davis, K Davis, A Fearon, A Morgan, P Stellings, T White.

3. Adoption of Standing Orders

It was agreed that only persons present at the AGM could vote and proxy votes were not permitted.

4. Amendments to and approval of minutes of 2015 AGM

The Minutes of the 2015 AGM were approved without amendments.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

The question of whether BBKA insurance covers the Trustees in the execution of their duties was discussed. It was agreed that D Teasdale would check whether this was the case and to report back to the Chairman.

6. Presentation of Accounts and Treasurer's Report

6.1 Accounts Inspectors comments

J Cody reported the Accounts and Bank Statements had been inspected and found to be in good order. He also noted the Association had made a sizable £750 investment in the Richmond Street apiary . It was agreed further investment would be made if deemed advisable.

6.2 Questions for the Treasurer and Accounts Inspectors

No questions were raised.

6.3 Acceptance of Membership Fees for the coming year

The Chairman explained that due to the timing of the announcement of BBKA capitation fees, the Association needed some flexibility to cater for small changes in the capitation fees. It was agreed that the Committee be granted freedom to raise individual fees by up to £2.00 per year. Any increase over £2.00 would require prior approval of the Membership.

7. Questions from members on The Trustees Report.

The position and duties of the role of Swarm Coordinator were discussed. D Teasdale explained the role only referred to the traveling distance undertaken : Collectors travelled up to a 5 mile radius from their home, Coordinators up to 12 miles. Swarm Collectors to advise S Boulton of their mileage limit.

The issue of communications with members was discussed. D Teasdale noted that the December Meeting was not contained in the October issue of The Hive. The Chairman reminded members that in addition to the four-monthly Hive, members also received more frequent Bee News that contained information such as meeting details. In future the association will produce a shorter monthly newsletter instead of the longer four-monthly Hive. He thanked Brian Holdcroft for his hard work and the meeting applauded this.

8. Election of Officers

All Officers were elected unopposed unless otherwise stated.

8.1 President

R Day confirmed

8.2 Chairman

N Mawby reappointed

8.3 Treasurer

D Booth reappointed

8.4 Secretary

S Boulton reappointed

8.5 Assistant/Minutes Secretary

M Walker appointed

8.6 Membership Secretary

B Holdcroft reappointed

8.7 Programme Secretary

T Waye reappointed (despite his prior reservations)

8.8 Honey Show Manager

M Teasdale reappointed

8.9 Editor of Newsletter

B Holdcroft reappointed

8.10 Librarian

R Lewis reappointed

8.11 Education Secretary

A Fearon reappointed

8.12 Social Committee Representative

P Twigg reappointed

8.13 BBKA Delegate

A Berrisford appointed

9. Election of Members of the Committee

M Bishop and S Holdcroft were both reappointed

10. Election of two Accounts Inspectors

J Cody and A Lakin

11 Election of Trustees

It was explained that all those elected to the Committee would automatically become Trustees.

12.Any Other Business

12.1 Showing of honey and products

R Clewes raised the issue of new beekeepers and their possible lack of familiarity with show requirements. It was agreed M Teasdale would provide a schedule for the Honey Show for the next Meeting.

12.2 Association Equipment

R Clewes suggested that the Association possessed a quantity of equipment of which the membership was unaware and which could be of possible use to members. It was agreed an inventory would be carried out and the next Committee Meeting could discuss future uses for members .

The source of bees for the Observation Hive would also be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

12.3Top Bar Hives

J Cody raised the issue of the growing use of TBHs and suggested the Association might wish to consider installing one at a training apiary. It was agreed the two Apiary Managers would discuss the possibility of installing a TBH, but the Chairman noted the poor honey production recorded by members with TBH, and the difficulty of running different hive types in an apiary.

12.4 Members requiring Swarms

D Teasdale raised the issue of having a central list of Members who required swarms.

The Chairman pointed out that this was something the committee organise each year, with A.

Berrisford holding the position last year.

It was agreed the next Committee Meeting would discuss this.

12.5 The Hive and Members Contributions

B Holdcroft asked if members could advise him of topics for publication as contributions were always needed.

13. Date of Next Committee Meeting and AGM

Next Committee Meeting : Wednesday 11th January 7.30pm at the The Holy Inadequate,Stoke.

Next AGM: 3rd January 2018.