

THE DEVON BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION, TORBAY BRANCH.
BBKA website: devonbeekeepers.org.uk Branch web site: www.tbbk.co.uk
Registered Charity No. 27067

**Minutes of the Torbay Branch Executive Committee Meeting held at Sainsbury's
 Restaurant, Yalberton Road, Paignton at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12th 2017**

Present:

Liz Westcott	Chair; Education Officer; Honey Show Secretary; Microscopist
Di Hatherley	Branch Secretary
Glyn Davies	Apiary Co-ordinator
Doug Westaway	Editor: BUZZ; Swarm Liaison Officer; Branch Spray Liaison Officer
Lynette Taylor	Treasurer
Mike Ticehurst	Membership Secretary; BUZZ distributor
Alan Barrett	
Gerry Stuart	Vice-Chair; Librarian
Maureen Brown	

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
 Apologies for absence had been received from James and Jim
2. **Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: approval & signing**
 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as accurate and duly signed by Liz

3. **Matters arising**

ACTION POINTS FROM THE MEETING	RESPONSIBILITY
STATUS	
236 Consult Marissa re: parking permits Complete Issuing of parking permits unlikely this season	Gerry
245 Ascertain insurance cover for visitors from C Sherwood Complete It would seem that a visitor to the apiary, providing s/he is supervised by a member of the BBKA, is covered by our insurance	Liz
247 Purchase a petrol strimmer within budget Complete	Alan
248 Enquire about surplus hessian from coffee importer Complete James to report as to possibility of acquiring hessian in pallets by contacting the importer again	James
249 Contact speakers for Winter Meetings Complete Doug to agree with Martin Hann, Gerry, Liz and Glyn	Doug
250 Contact John Risdon to speak at AGM Complete John will talk about the history of the Singer family	Doug
251 Invite Dhafer Benhem to speak at Annual Dinner Discussed under item 16	Glyn
252 Create a shopping list for Apiary equipment Complete smokers, all-in-one bee suits for children, hives and a WBC to be purchased (after assessment), variety of feeders	All
253 Promote Apiary grounds improvement Sunday	Liz

Complete but no interest shown this season

4. **Quartermaster for items for sale to members**

Maureen and Lynette have agreed to take this forward and act as points of Reference.

5. **Stephenson's Trophy Entry**

James and Mike are undertaking the initial work on the project and will report at each Committee Meeting.

6. **Honey Show: 9th January 2018**

This will take place from 19.30-21.30 at St Paul's Church. It was agreed that Liz will contact Newton Abbot and Kingsbridge and Totnes to ascertain whether they would like to join Torbay in a South Devon Honey Show. Other suggestions included a Bring and Buy Sale, a Raffle and Panel of Experts. Liz will ask Adam Vevers, Clare Densley and Martin Hann to join the Panel. **(A/P 254)**

7. **Name Badges**

Mike will organize these for all registered members **(A/P 255)**

8. **Policy: Disabled Beginner Beekeepers**

A person with a disability has shown an interest in bee keeping. Liz will ascertain whether there is an official BBKA policy which we can use. **(A/P 256)**

9. **Introduction to Beekeeping Course**

This begins on January 15th and will cost £120 to be sent to the Treasurer in advance. This will be advertised in Beach Hut, Torbay Riviera, Herald Express and through the local distribution of flyers

10. **Module 1 Study Group**

Currently there are several people who are interested so Liz will carry this forward with Glyn's assistance. **(A/P 257)**

11. **Winter Programme**

There should now be enough speakers to support the whole winter programme. There will be a Christmas Social in December with a quiz.

12. **AGM**

The AGM will be held at St Paul's Church on Saturday, November 25th from 2-4 p.m. in the Francis Norrish Room. The business part of the meeting will begin at 3.15 p.m. Di will send an agreed agenda and minutes of the 2016 AGM to Doug for distribution in the November edition of BUZZ. Mike will send a reminder email to members on 16th or 17th November. **(A/P 258)**

13. **B4 and Bees at Paignton Zoo**

The B4 project was covered on BBC Country File recently. An application for Heritage Lottery Funding has been made. Gerry has supported Belfast Zoo in the project. Exeter University is going to keep black bees. A honey sample has been submitted from Paignton Zoo to examine its pollen content.

14. Update on funding (Gerry's initiative)

Gerry has spoken to Marisa to try to get landowners permission for the walled garden, Occombe Farm Cockington Apiary. Permission will be granted as we are a registered charity, also there is community link, a science link with Declan and we are interested in involving disabled people. Gerry believes there are sponsors ready to give us money but is not at liberty to disclose who they are at present.

15. Feedback from Executive Council Meeting on September 2nd, 2017

Gerry gave a detailed account of the propositions he had submitted to the EC on behalf of the Torbay Branch with regard to Small Hive Beetle importation from Italy. These have been slightly amended and now the three propositions embrace the issues around Bee Health Certification, Border Controls and the introduction of an active Programme of Publicity until there is no risk of the importation of the Small Hive Beetle. The BBKA Technical Committee has been disbanded. Gerry has now ascertained the required costings in time for a re-submission of the propositions by September 18th. The expectation is that Tony Lindsell and Barry Neal will put forward the proposition to the BBKA in January 2018. The next EC meeting is on November 25th.

Gerry also reported that there would be no changes in fees

The annual President's Day may be re-named Devon Beekeepers' Day or Members' Day.

In order to attract more members to attend the AGM, there are suggestions that Branches could share good practice, certificates presented and Auctions of bee related goods organised

16 Annual Dinner

After consideration of various options, including the Palace and Redcliffe hotels, it was agreed to hold the Annual Dinner at the Paignton Club on Friday, January 26th, 2018. There will be no invited speaker and Dhafer Benhem will be asked to speak at a future Winter Programme event.

17. Any Other Business

Torbay Branch will pay for the staple items at the Branch Barbecue on September 16th.

Gerry advised that Cockington Apple Day will be held on 15th October and opens at 10 a.m. The Branch has access to a table on the lawn, free of charge.

Gerry also invited members to join him on Saturday 23rd September at the Abbfest at Fermoys Garden Centre

18. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 1st November 2017 at Sainsbury's Restaurant, Yalberton Road, PAIGNTON

ACTION POINTS FROM THE MEETING

RESPONSIBILITY

A/P

254 Contact other Branches and 'experts' for Honey Show

Liz

255 Make name badges

Mike

256 Investigate BBKA Disabilities/Equal Opps Policy

Liz

257 Organise Module 1 Course

Liz

258 AGM preparations

Di Doug Mike

Di Hatherley (Hon. Secretary)
Thursday, September 14th, 2017

[e-mail: dianne.hatherley@btinternet.com](mailto:dianne.hatherley@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01803 844804; 07881467393