

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

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the Torbay Branch Executive Committee Meeting held at the Paignton Club, 2, The Esplanade, Paignton on Tuesday, 1st September, 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. Jim Mogridge	(Branch Chair)
Mrs. Liz. Westcott.	(Branch Vice-Chair & Education Officer)
Mr. Gerry Stuart	(Branch Librarian)
Mrs. Di Hatherley	(Branch Secretary)
Mr. Douglas Westaway	(Editor of BUZZ)
Mrs. Lindsay Ticehurst	(Treasurer)
Mr. Mike Ticehurst	(Web Master)
Ms. Maureen Brown	

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
The Chair reported that apologies for absence had been received from Wendy Ashley and Zarah Hannaford.
- 2. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting**
There being no proposed amendments, Jim signed the minutes to indicate they formed an accurate record of the above meetings. Proposed by Liz and seconded by Doug.
- 3. Matters arising. Action Points arising from Previous Committee Meetings**

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

AP No.	ACTION POINT DETAIL.
AP 714	Completed
AP 745	Completed
AP 746	Completed although no suitable candidates are forthcoming

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 12TH 2015

AP 750	Ongoing: Jim will source three new apiary keys
AP 751	N/A: Hive data are now recorded on a card system
AP 752	Completed
AP 753	Completed
AP 754	No longer applicable
AP 755	No longer applicable

4. Chairman's Report.

I am never too sure as to what the Chairman's report should contain. Is it the past which we all know about, or is it the future, which we will be discussing later. Consequently, not a lot to report.

However, since our last meeting in May, we have enjoyed the Devon County Show, with our exhibit in the Stevenson Trophy, in which class we came fourth, due to poor judging! We

have had a good turnout for our Nosema day which was well run. We also enjoyed our BBQ in June. Good food and good company. We have another planned for later this month. For those of us who attend the DBKA Executive Committee meetings, we have an extra meet on 19th September when we shall be discussing the new Constitution governing the way the DBKA is run. Let's trust we can all agree.

Jim Mogridge

5. Treasurer's Report.

Since the last meeting I have paid out:

	£
Apiary equipment	486.57
Expenses for Stevenson Trophy	52.00
BDI Autumn	23.50

I have received £201.00 in subscriptions for new members. We now have seven new members. Our membership is: 38 full members, 9 associates, 4 country, 4 partner members and 3 junior members, making a total of 58.

I have also claimed back the Gift Aid which amounts to £288.04 so the balance in the bank is £3424.44.

Lindsay Ticehurst

6. Education.

Liz advised the Committee that the Introduction to Beekeeping Course will commence at the Gerston Chapel Hall, Paignton on Monday, October 26th with three sessions before Christmas and five after, finishing on February 29th 2016.

The cost of the course will increase slightly to £75 with a half-price concession for children under 12 years of age.

Although there are no candidates this year for the Basic Assessment, it is anticipated that in 2016, if there are any candidates, 4 sessions will be offered. The Committee will consider appropriate charges at a future date.

There is interest in forming a study group for one of the Modules this winter. **Liz will select an appropriate Module and advise eligible members accredited with the Basic Assessment.(AP 756)**

7. Cockington Apiary Update

Jim advised the Committee that there have been a few colony losses this year. The overall yield is 190lb of honey from 11 supers. The honey has been extracted and is in buckets. The colonies have been treated once with Apiguard and will be treated again at the next meeting. Hedges and grass have been cut but further attention is recommended. Gerry has purchased 2X25 kg bags of sugar and winter feeding will commence shortly.

8. Winter Meeting Speakers

Doug had provided an extensive list of speakers and subjects. Gerry will be the speaker at the first winter meeting on Tuesday, October 13th and the subject will be: Invasive Species of Hornets, Wasps and Bees. Committee members expressed their preferences for the following speakers: Andrew Butler from the NFU (Neonicotinoids and how they affect pollinators); Glynn Davies: (The Sex Life of Bees); Clare Densley (from topics offered); Claire Bethune (Immunology); Alicia Normand (Wax Cappings Through to Show Table); Malcolm Craig (Entering Exhibits in the Devon County Show)

9. Arrangements for AGM: 2p.m. 14th November 2015: The Gerston Chapel,

The Committee agreed the following arrangements:

Di to send 2016 agenda and minutes of 2015 AGM to Mike and Doug by October 25th for inclusion in BUZZ; all members to be encouraged to bring refreshments (AP 757);

Mike and Lindsay to send paper copies of agenda, minutes of 2015 AGM and Subscription Forms to those members without e-mail (AP 758);

Mike to contact John Prestige who will conduct an Antiques Road Show talk and Valuation before the AGM (AP 759);

Committee to meet after Winter Talk on November 10th at the Gerston Chapel to finalise arrangements for AGM (AP 760)

10. Devon County Show 2016: arrangements for the Stevenson Trophy entry

The entry will be discussed in greater detail at the next Committee Meeting in January. Zarah has already discussed an idea with Liz which will be considered along with others.

11. B4 Paignton Zoo and Occombe Farm Update

Gerry reported a good season at Occombe Farm with no swarming. He has given several bee talks to the public and groups such as the Soroptimists. Through a contact he has made at one of the talks, Joe Griffin, Gerry has been invited to give talks in South Carolina later this year.

At Paignton Zoo there have been a couple of swarmings. The observation hive has proved particularly successful with four supers of honey produced and a perfect supersedure observed. No stings have been recorded. Paignton Zoo education officer, Louise Coombs, has suggested Gerry may be interested in developing a bee project in Omo, a town in Nigeria which should enable the people to become self-sufficient in bee keeping. Gerry will advise the Branch when more information is available. The Committee congratulated Gerry on becoming Co-director of the B4 Project.

12. Executive Council Meetings: reports by Branch Delegates and Proposed Constitution

The main points extrapolated from Lindsay's reports from the EC Meetings are as follows:

May 30th 2015

- The extraordinary meeting on September 19th at Meldon Village Hall commencing at 9.30 a.m. will seek the approval of the new Constitution. All members are warmly invited to attend.
- The Review of the Membership rules suggests that there should be a class for corporate Membership should the need arise and Country Member should be re-named Social Member to cover more situations.
- The Branches are more cash rich than the central funds so there was general agreement that money should be re-balanced. The main drain on the central fund was posting out the Beekeeping Magazine which amounted to £13,000.00 per year.
- There was general agreement that the visitor numbers were well down at the Devon County Show this year. Honey sales were down 13%. Taste of Honey took £1964 down 21%. Candle Rolling took £1587 up 12%. This meant that the Honey Tent broke even.

July 18th 2015

- There is a Certificate of Merit to be given to any member of a Branch who has done anything notable which has had a significant effect on beekeeping. Policy documents will be created to reflect this
- There will be no change in Membership fees
- Green Ribbon The new design is almost ready and Chris Smith has ordered 30. To avoid too complicated a design there will be an accompanying certificate. This will be awarded as long as there are a minimum of 50 entries at a Honey Show.

13. Branch Library Report.

Gerry has categorized the 122 books in alphabetical order. The Committee agreed that any duplicates could be sold to club members or, if there is no interest, on Amazon or Ebay
Doug will mention the availability of duplicate books in BUZZ (AP 761)

14. Torbay Honey Show

This will take place on January 12th 2016. Liz has already started to make arrangements, for example to make it possible for relatively new bee keepers to enter, she has taken out the chunk honey category and added another cookery entry. The Gerston Chapel will be open from 17.00. Winners of the Cookery, Novice, Wax and Honey cups will also receive a silver teaspoon. Also, the item of artistic interest section is open to all. It was agreed by the Committee that **Liz ask Jack Mummery, Alicia Normand or Chris Smith (in order of preference) to judge and Glyn Davies, Adam Vevers and Jim to conduct a Question and Answer session; David Milford and Bill Finnemore may be invited if appropriate.**
(AP 762)

15. Any Other Business

Gerry advised that Cockington Apple Day is Sunday 18th September. The Committee agreed a preference to operate from the Marquee. Honey produced by both members and from the Apiary will be on sale.

There was a general consensus that apiary prices for 1lb and 1/2lb jars of honey should reflect, as far as possible, the charges by individual members and be set at £5.00 and £3.20 respectively for this year.

16. Venue & date of the next Committee Meeting

The date for the next Committee Meetings are Tuesday, 10th November 21.30-22.00 to discuss AGM and 19th January 2016. It is likely that the first meeting in 2016, on January 19th, will be held at the home of Val Gillespie who has kindly offered the Association the use of her property for such meetings. This will be confirmed after a small group has visited Val at home to discuss arrangements.

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

AP No.	ACTION POINT DETAIL.	OWNER
AP 750	Jim to source three apiary keys	Jim

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM PRESENT COMMITTEE MEETING

AP 756	Module to be selected for winter programme	Liz
AP 757	AGM agenda and minutes to Mike by 25/10/15	Di
AP 758	Lindsay and Mike to distribute AGM materials	Lindsay/Mike
AP 759	John Prestige to lead Antiques Roadshow at AGM	Mike
AP 760	Extraordinary Committee Meeting re: AGM 12/11/15	All
AP 761	Procedures for selling duplicate books in BUZZ	Doug/Gerry
AP 762	Judges and experts to be invited to Honey Show	Liz

Di Hatherley (Hon. Secretary) 3rd September 2015

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