

THE DEVON BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION, TORBAY BRANCH.
BBKA website: devonbeekeepers.org.uk Branch web site: www.tbkk.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, December 6th, 2016

Present:

Liz Westcott	Chair; Education Officer; Honey Show Secretary; Microscopist
Gerry Stuart	Vice-Chair; Librarian
Di Hatherley	Branch Secretary
James Schindler-Ord	Branch Web Administrator
Doug Westaway	Editor: BUZZ; Swarm Liaison Officer; Branch Spray Liaison Officer
Lynette Taylor	Treasurer
Mike Ticehurst	Membership Secretary; BUZZ distributor
Alan Barrett	
Maureen Brown	

1. Apologies for absence

Di reported that Jim, Glyn and Lindsay had offered their apologies.

2. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: approval & signing

There being no proposed amendments, Liz signed her copy of the minutes to indicate they formed an accurate record of the meeting on Monday, October 3rd 2016

3. Matters arising

ACTION POINTS FROM THE MEETING

A/P

220	Invite John Risdon to speak at AGM	Completed
221	Provide Torbay Council with Treasurer's details	Completed
222	Add course dates and leaders' names to web site	Completed
223	Prepare for AGM	Completed

4 Discrete Committee roles (follow-on from AGM)

In addition to Branch Officers, the following discrete roles were agreed for the 2017 year.

Social Secretary	Jim Mogridge
Education Officer	Liz Westcott
Web Administrator	James Schindler-Ord
Editor - Buzz	Douglas Westaway
Buzz Distributor	Mike Ticehurst
Honey Show Secretary	Liz Westcott
Librarian	Gerry Stuart
Apiary Co-ordinator	Glyn Davies

Apiary Assistants	Jim Mogridge Gerry Stuart Liz Westcott
Apiary Groundsmen	Mike Ticehurst Ron Baker
EC Representative	Lindsay Ticehurst
Microscopist	Liz Westcott
Membership Secretary	Mike Ticehurst
Swarm Liaison Officer	Douglas Westaway
Branch Spray Liaison Officer	Douglas Westaway
Refreshments	Douglas Westaway Ron Baker Claire Baker

5. Nominations for Downing Bowl (follow-on from AGM)

The Committee agreed to support the nomination of Colin Sherwood for the Downing Bowl on account of his unstinting service to DBKA and in particular his encouragement of the next generation of beekeepers. Di will advise Ruth Neal.

A/P 224

6. Date and venue for 2017 AGM

It was agreed that we source an inspirational bee speaker for the next AGM on Saturday, November 4th 2017, 2-4 p.m. Lynette will check on the availability of St Paul's CofE Church Preston and Gerry will check on the availability of Cockington Manor for the venue. **A/P 225**

7. Treasurer's Report

Lynette provided the Committee with a summary of the latest transactions and highlighted income from course fees (£1320.00); subscriptions ((£697.00) and Honey Show Sponsorship (£80.00). She wished to thank Lindsay and Mike for their ongoing support.

8. Christmas Social

Liz discussed the activities planned for the Social on December 13th. Gerry observed that the number of activities should not preclude time to socialize.

9. Honey Show 2017

Martin Hann, Claire Densley, Jim Mogridge, Glyn Davies will offer expert advice while Jack Mummery is judging. The cups will be engraved, ready for the judging and need to be returned to Liz by Christmas. Honey may be sold at the Honey Show and also Products of the Hive. Maureen offered to sell products and also raffle tickets. Members will seek sponsorship from local businesses. **A/P 226** Photographs will be presented on display boards.

10. Apiary Matters

Glyn had communicated with Liz about his concerns with regard to the use of oxalic

acid in the Apiary. It was agreed that Liz monitors the percentage of varroa in each hive and treats only heavily infested hives with sublimation. **A/P 227**. Declan Schroder will be treating the hives in the Walled Garden at Cockington Manor and using Cockington Apiary hives as a control. Bees at Cockington will be fed Ambrosia before Christmas.

11. Stephenson's Trophy

Members agreed that Liz's idea of an illustration of a comparison between Bee World and Human Civilisation is a good one which will be discussed further at the next meeting.

12. Honey Sales

Lynette reported that £172.70 had been raised at the Cockington Apple Fair. Of the overall 226lb extracted, there remains honey in jars and buckets which can be sold at the Honey Show in January 2017.

13. Update from B4 and Occombe Farm

Gerry reported on funding which has become available to support the work of a PhD student whose research, currently being agreed by Plymouth University and B4, will focus on the genetical aspect of aggression ensuing from mating pure Black Bees with Buckfast strains. The research is likely to involve working at Washington State University, Switzerland and Portugal.

14. Any Other Business

Liz advised that an additional person had joined the winter course after its commencement. It was agreed that the person be offered access to the two missed sessions in the autumn of 2017. Liz mentioned the General Husbandry assessment preparation training which will be run by Master Beekeepers between January and April 2017 @ £50. Candidates will need to have completed the Basic Assessment and be registered on BeeBase. Interested beekeepers should contact Marin Anastassov: manastassov@aol.com

Lindsay provided notes from the Executive Council meeting on November 26th, 2016. Di reported briefly on: whether Spring and Autumn lectures should be free or paid for by Branches, the date for President's Day (March 11th); Declan Shroeder's research in Torbay and Okehampton; the response of two MPs to the VAT proposal. Lindsay was thanked for her feedback.

Alan suggested that a First Aid Box was a necessity at the Apiary and the Committee agreed to its acquisition. **A/P 228** James will enquire about the possibility of First Aid training for members **A/P 229**

Gerry mentioned the availability of an apiary at Lupton Mill. This will be advertised in BUZZ and on the website **A/P 230**. Gerry also described his Powerpoint Presentation of the Asian Hornet which also demonstrated how to make a hornet trap. He plans to pilot the presentation in the Torbay Branch, then take it to Torbay Council and Plymouth University. Gerry has also discussed with Phil Chandler 'The Barefoot Beekeeper' the advantages of returning swarms to their local habitat.

Date and Venue for the Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 14th 2017 at 7.30 at Sainsbury's Café, Yalberton Road, Paignton.
Di advised that she is likely to be in Guernsey on that date and if so, a volunteer secretary will need to be found.

ACTION POINTS FROM THE MEETING

A/P

224 Advise Ruth Neal of Downing Cup nomination

225 Check on venues for 2017 AGM

226 Seek honey show sponsorship

227 Treat infested hives with sublimation

228 Purchase First Aid Box

229 Enquire about First Aid Training

230 Advertise Lupton Mill apiary site

RESPONSIBILITY

Di

Lynette; Gerry

Various

Liz

Alan

James

James; Doug

Di Hatherley (Hon.Secretary)
Wednesday, December 7th, 2016

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

Tel: 01803 844804