



North Somerset Beekeepers

(a Branch of Avon Beekeepers Association Reg Charity No 271717)

Minutes of Committee meeting 14 October 2024 at 19:30 at The George

1. **Apologies:** Annabel Lewis, Michael Batchelor, Paddy Brading, Adam Evans, Jodi Moger
Present: Heather Pitch, Rob Francis, Tom Francis, Eric Sortwell, Jennifer Stallwood, Tony Slater

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of 16 September 2024 were approved without comment.

3. **Matters arising (not covered below)**

None

4. **AGM Arrangements**

- Rob Francis has arranged for Professor Daniel Robert to speak at the AGM.
 - Beth, one of his students, will speak in April on drone congregational areas.
- Daniel will bring his own laptop and projector.
- Eric will arrange for teas and catering.
- Tony is collating the officers reports to be circulated prior to the AGM.
- Speaker at 2 PM, AGM business at 3:15 PM.

5. **Upcoming Events**

- January 18: Stephen Brain will talk on "Kickstart your colony"
- February 15: North Somerset Honey Show.
- March 26: Tom will talk on nucs.
- April: Beth? will talk discuss drone congregational areas.
- May/June: Annabelle will undertake a bee safari.
- February: Defibrillator training, date to be decided, to be held at the university.

6. **Organizational Changes**

- The Avon Beekeepers Association is converting from Trust status to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation – [a structure for charities, where Trustees have limited or no liability for CIO's debts or liabilities.] Neil is dealing with the Constitution document and will share it with Heather.

7. Introductory Course

- Only 18 participants so far, lower than last year.
- 10 weeks of seminars starting January 16.
- Stephen Brain and Tom Francis will help with the improvers course.
- Annabelle is likely to speak on diseases.
- Jodi and Eric to talk about the apiary.

8. Any Other Business

- Eric reported 24 bookings for the Christmas party.
- Treasurer's report indicated a somewhat different balance sheet compared to last year, as there is £4180 of Invertbee and fondant in stock.

9. Meeting closed at 20:20 hrs.

10. **Date of next meeting:** 9 December 2024, 19:30 hrs at The George, Backwell.