

Committee Meeting - Minutes

Committee meeting March 18TH 2013 @19:30

Wendy Welham, Withy Acres, Jews Lane, Churchill BS25 5NN

Present - H.F (Helen Fordham), P.C (Philip Clemente), W.W (Wendy Welham), T.S (Tom Salter), J.B (John Banks), S.R (Steve Robinson), D.C (David Capon), R.F (Rob Francis), J.Mc. (Janet McCulloch).

1. **Apologies for absence:** - A.B (Amada Banks), R.E (Richard Ellis).
2. **Minutes from the last meeting:** - Amendment requested by J.B. - Section on The Walled Garden Apiary - agreement being served. = action H.F.
3. **Matters arising:**

NVO in beekeeping @ Cannington and Weston Colleges - No longer being run. = confirmed by R.F.

Gerry Bissetts plaque - purchased by A.Grist (member) - funded as a gift from A.Grist for £67.20. Thank you to be actioned by W.W. Plaque to be placed on to the shed (yet to be purchased) at the Solar Sense Apiary site.

Officer's reports:

Chairman's report :

At the Solar Sense Apiary site - the underground heating has been installed. Solar Sense are planting 30-40 apple trees of mixed varieties. Solar Sense have agreed to the branch putting an apiary sign up that can measure up to 1mx1m. Solar Sense have agreed to a shed to be erected in the corner of the site (chosen by the committee members who have attended the site). To purchase hedging from Chew Valley - whips (60% Hawthorn, 40% split between 4 other species). = action W.W.

Green supermarket tokens for charities. To contact Waitrose Supermarket to seek a place on the token scheme (local charity). = action W.W.

An invitation has been made to attend the Nailsea Horticultural Society Show on 30/06/13. The committee decided to refuse due to other commitments and the Chair would convey this decision. = action W.W.

Treasurer's report:

Membership - current numbers 144. Lapsed 31. New 2.

Accounts seen by the committee.

Secretary's report:

Apiary managers' report:

Solar Sense Apiary Site - update.

Langford Apiary - update. 3 colonies remain. 1 colony lost.

Discuss apiary signage (Solar Sense). Committee agreed that the chosen design was appropriate. They asked that the phone number of the current apiary manager is removed as this will change as apiary managers take post. The phone number will instead go on a laminated A4 sign that can be easily replaced. = action D.C. To look into the cost of the sign being made. = action D.C.

Wild flower seeds - progress. Plan discontinued. To instead plan a "natural hedgerow".

Shed purchase - progress. To select a vendor + a/w a decision on size and specifications. = action = To be decided on 24/03/2013 @ the Sunday working party at the Solar Sense Apiary site, by the committee members who attend.

Mentoring list - beginners. Written and emailed to all of the beginners who required a mentor.

Rota for Sunday sessions at the apiary - volunteers. The first meeting will be 7th April 2013. Rota written and emailed to all the volunteers.

Mower needed for the Solar Sense Apiary site - to purchase one from P.C. for £100 for the branch. =action D.C.

Programmes manager's report:

Theatre show - Committee voted no.

Clashing dates for meetings / events with other branches of ABKA.

The Winscombe Show - a new person is required to run / organise the show. A request to go on to the branch website for volunteers. =action S.R.

Update to the leaflet for the branch and beginner's course is needed ready for The Bath and West Show later this year. The committee will review the design when it's completed. The design is to be made by = R.F and W.W. The printing of the leaflets is to be organised by the Webmaster. = action S.R.

Programme for 2014 ideas and dates was discussed by the committee. Programme manager to email the plan so far to the committee members. = action J.B. /A.B.

The committee agreed that the dates for the programme for 2014 should be aimed at the middle of the month to avoid clashing with other commitments held by branch members / committee members.

Education officer's report:

Extending use of the library. To section the library into subjects / boxes. To consider a box of books suitable for use at the apiary. To be kept in the apiary shed for use during the main season. = action R.F.

Education - report back from the BBKA workshop in Exeter. The aim is for the education officers' to improve communication between branches / clubs in the region, so to share courses / training opportunities.

Schools project - update. A couple, of volunteers have come forward. To put a request out to members to seek more volunteers. = action R.F.

To consider a mini course on Queen Rearing for next year.

Swarm liaison report:

Swam liaison - have informed ABKA - Phil Clemente for 2013.

Swarm's collected: 0 (so far this season).

Avon delegate's report:

P.C. - he will need to be replaced in November at the next AGM.

Web master's report:

Media contact re grand opening of Solar Sense apiary. A/w a decision on the date. There is a possibility the date will be 1st / 8th June 2013. To consider presenting exam certificates at the grand opening.

To add the Varroa calculator to the branch website. J.B to forward a Varroa calculator to the Webmaster. = action J.B / S.R.

The website is stable and has lots of visitors daily now. The content continues to grow.

To forward any beekeeping related videos to the webmaster to consider for adding to the website. = action committee members.

A map is to be added to the website identifying sites where people are offering potential hive/ colony locations. = action S.R.

The committee said that they would like a page on the website explaining the branch history. = action S.R.

The branch honey extractor - The webmaster will make a page on the website so that members can book the extractor. The webmaster will also hold the extractor at his home address. = action S.R.

AOB:

Need a honey judge. President to forward details to the committee of the nearest honey judge that is BBKA qualified. = action T.S. A local honey judge doesn't need to be qualified. The Apiary Manager is to follow the President this

year with the possibility of becoming a local honey judge next year. = action D.C /T.S.

Observation hive needed. To discuss at future committee meetings.

Beeecraft adverts - The Webmaster already "Tweets" Beeecraft with the branch courses and activities.

Insurance of branch property - apiary equipment inventory. The value for the apiary equipment and competition cups / shields is to be passed to the ABKA Treasurer. Once the new apiary shed is purchased the value of the shed also needs to be passed to the ABKA Treasurer for insurance purposes. = action W.W.

Children's bee suits - to discuss at future committee meetings.

Branch Honey Show Secretary - nominated and accepted the post = J.Mc.

Date of next meeting:

Next committee meeting is to be held on 21/05/2013 @19:30 @ Rob Francis's House BS48 3QL.

Meeting closed @: 22:00.