

North Somerset Beekeepers



Draft minutes of Committee meeting 6th Sept 2021 at 19:30 via Zoom

Present: Annabel Lewis, Heather Pitch, Tony Slater, Garry Packer, Eric Sortwell, David Capon

1. Apologies: Apologies received from Rob Williams, Jodi Moger; David Capon arrived late.

2. Approval of minutes of 3rd June: Minutes approved

3. Matters arising (not covered below) No matters directly arising, but Heather stated that the website needed to reflect the fact that the 2022 Introductory course was fully subscribed with a waiting list. Also need to update COVID message on website, Heather to pursue with Rob.

4. Third party liability Insurance (TS) Tony reported as follows: The position has not changed as far as BBKA concerned. No further comms from them. People who are not Registered members cannot claim under the insurance policy if they cause an accident or injury. BBKA advise that people should be insured before they go near bees, i.e., full Registered membership.
He said that the risk of anything happening is very low and there are very few claims nationally. The BBKA insurance premium is low compared to people having their own insurance.
After some discussion it was agreed that we would issue a disclaimer to all visitors to the apiary, and that we would encourage all participants of the Introductory Course to take out full membership, as this would ensure they had insurance cover and was relatively inexpensive. Tony to draft disclaimer.

5. Proposal for Membership fees (HP) - The paper circulated by Heather prior to the meeting was considered, and it was agreed to accept Heather's proposals to abolish the joining fee and make a small increase in Branch fees as listed below

The table below shows the effect of the increased BBKA capitation and a small increase in the Branch subscription:

	BBK A	ABK A	Bran ch	Basic BDI*	Tota l
Registered	£21.0 0	£5.00	£15.0 0	£2.00	£43.0 0
Partner	£13.5 0	£3.50	£5.50	**£0.00	£22.5 0

Country	£10.00	£5.00	£12.00	£0.00	£27.00
Junior (under 18 years)	£9.50	£4.00	£2.00	£2.00	£17.50
Local (Branch Associate)	£0.00	£0.00	£15.00	£0.00	£15.00
Branch Joining Fee	N/A	N/A	£0.00	N/A	£0.00

In summary, I propose:

- No Joining Fee
- £5 Admin Fee if subscriptions are not paid by 31 January
- Small increase in Branch element

It was agreed to impose these fees for the start of the new financial year and to ratify them retrospectively at the AGM.

6. Arrangements for Introductory Course 2022 (AL, DC, HP) Annabel reported that she had met with David and Heather to discuss the 2022 Introduction to Beekeeping course, as we had concerns over the lack of communication from Andy Scarisbrick. Heather had taken deposits from 30 people and was dealing with bookings and enquiries, David would sort out course content and speakers, and Annabel was in negotiation with Langford over the use of teaching rooms. Annabel had subsequently heard from Andy, and he indicated that personal circumstances would limit his current involvement. Ideally, we would like to use the University facilities at Langford to deliver the course and negotiations were ongoing.

7. Arrangements for AGM (AL) It was felt that to try to hold the AGM as a live event with streaming might be technically challenging, so it was agreed that this year's AGM would again be held via Zoom. There would be no speaker prior to the AGM, but we would recognise all certificate winners and passers of modules as we normally do at the AGM.

Officers Reports for the AGM to be sent to David by September

30th

Eric questioned what was happening re Christmas meal, it was agreed that this needed to be advertised very soon. Eric felt a flyer might attract more interest and offered to produce one, Eric to discuss with Rob. The issue of future meetings was raised, but it was felt that this could not be discussed in Rob's absence. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting on Oct 11th.

8. Future shape of the committee (AL) The first term of office was coming to an end for Tony as Treasurer, Rob as Programme manager, Eric as Apiary manager and Heather as Membership secretary; all had expressed a willingness to continue for a second term. Garry would also reach the end of his term as President, but was willing to continue for a further year if no suitable replacement could be found. Annabel reported that Paddy Brading would like to re-join the committee as Education co-

ordinator. Annabel had also been sounding out a few other people as potential committee members.

It was agreed to email the membership inviting members to express an interest in joining the committee.

9. Any other business. David reported that the display boards funded by Avon had been purchased, and already used successfully at three events. Eric asked about the hives for 'Jamie's Bees', these were currently being looked after by Fran, and a space reserved for them at the apiary.

10. Date of next meeting: October 11th at 7.30pm. Format to be agreed.

Items to be discussed: AGM arrangements finalised
Events programme for 2022.

Meeting closed at 8.54pm.
D Capon