

## **Committee Meeting - Minutes**

**Committee meeting January 7<sup>TH</sup> 2013 @19:30**

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

**Present** - H.F, P.C, W.W, P.Ca, T.S, J.B, S.R, D.C, R.E, R.F, J.Mc.

1. **Apologies for absence:** - A.B.
2. **Minutes from the last meeting:** - Signed off as correct by W.W (Chair).  
= action R.E. and 2<sup>nd</sup> D.C.

### **3. Matters arising:**

Avon Wildlife Trust - to keep the site for use for individuals to use instead of the branch. Also this will enable the contact to be maintained between the branch and the Trust to remain open.

NVO in beekeeping @ Cannington and Weston Colleges - No news. To look into and to contact the previous education officer to discuss further. = action R.F.

Library books valuation - to discontinue as this no longer needed this time- grants no longer being sourced for the apiary site.

Gerry Bissetts plaque - To defer a decision on the details regarding the plaque and the location for it until the next meeting. There is money available for this (confirmed by R.E - treasurer).

### **4. Officers reports:**

#### Chairman's report :

To contact the CO-OP regarding wild flower seed for the Solarsense apiary site. To contact supermarkets Waitrose and Asda regarding their local charity token schemes to see if we could benefit as a local charity. = action W.W.

#### Treasurer's report:

Account balance - over £10k. £3k for branch funds the rest will go to the BDI, ABKA and BBKA for membership fees. One member has chosen not to renew this year but has donated £100 to the branch. So far this year 99 members have renewed, 8 have lapsed and 68 are yet to reply. Individual reminder emails have been sent out. = action Committee to phone those left to renew.

#### Secretary's report:

The Walled Garden apiary - the previous Secretary has written to serve our agreement. This signifies the end to our arrangement with The Walled Garden.

Apiary managers' report:

Beginner's course names to be sent to the apiary manager to enable him to formulate a list for mentoring. = action W.W.

Sunday morning sessions, at the teaching apiary, for beginners and branch members - rota for experienced beekeepers to be constructed. = action D.C.

Langford apiary is to be kept as a branch apiary for quarantine use - with a few hive stands to remain.

The hives at Langford apiary are all ok. D.C has reported clearing up after the site was flooded, on more than 1 occasion. 1 colony so far has been lost to starvation. 4 club colonies remain at the site. All colonies at the site have been treated with oxalic acid. The club colonies have been fed with fondant. To look at the possibility of having different types of hives at the apiary to enable a more varied learning experience e.g. poly hives, WBC. To get prices. = action D.C.

Programmes manager's report:

Programme manager requested details of the allowed costs for the programme for 2013. The treasurer will collect together the costs of the programme for 2012 to provide =guidance. = action R.E.

Education officer's report:

BBKA exam dates, deadline for applications and how to apply to be passed onto the webmaster (for putting onto the branch website). =action R.F.

To look at the possibility of doing talks in schools, on bees and beekeeping. Interested parties - P.Ca and D.W. To continue contacting schools and collecting information on the subject. = action R.F.

Swarm liaison report:

BBKA website - swarm contact. To state our areas selected contact is P.C - to declare this to the ABKA secretary with contact details. = action H.F.

Avon delegate's report:

Next ABKA meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2013.

Web master's report:

The committee made a vote of thanks to the webmaster for his on-going hard work on the new branch website. The website is up and running. Forward all news and photos to the webmaster for adding to the website. To decide on a training session for members of the committee on "Twitter". = action S.R.

**5. AOB:**

5.1. Solarsense apiary site, Backwell

Solarsense apiary site= agreement signed for our use of part of the Solarsense site as a branch teaching apiary. Tenancy is for 4years (break at 4 years). Notice to end the agreement from Solarsense is for 1 year. Notice from BCD - at any time. Agreement was read to the committee by the chair W.W.

A discussion was held regarding then Solarsense development plan that has been construed by the apiary manager D.C. The materials for the construction of the site (e.g. hive stands and fencing) will be ordered by the apiary manager. = action D.C.

To contact potential suppliers of materials to discuss possible discounts. = action W.W.

To contact the media regarding the grand opening of the apiary - to provide publicity for the branch. = action S.R.

BCD sign to be added to the new apiary site - to improve publicity and to add a professional touch. To contact Solarsense to discuss the possibility of this. = action W.W.

A discussion was held regarding the shed to be erected at the new apiary site (Solarsense). Plan - to look at more prices for a shed and to give more thought to the future use of the shed - i.e. just storage or storage and an observation building? = action D.C.

To contact potential suppliers of sheds to discuss possible discounts. = action W.W.

To report the news of the agreement with Solarsense for the new apiary site on the BCD website. = action S.R.

#### 5.2. Paypal

The committee have discussed in detail the possibility of the use of PayPal in regards to the paying of membership or course fees for branch members. This was brought about by an enquiry by a BCD member. Due to the relatively small number of people involved and the additional costs and time it is not felt necessary at this time. The committee feel that offering the choice of paying in cash, cheque and bank transfer is enough options for members and potential new membership. Note to be added to the website stating the decision. = action S.R.

5.3. The date of the xmas meal 2013 - changed to Saturday 7th Dec 2013. Committee in agreement. Email to be sent to members = action H.F. Programme to be changed = action J.B.

5.4. Mikron theatre company: "beyond the veil". To gain more details regarding costs and the publicity needed. (What is provided by them and what we as a branch would need to provide?). To discuss at a future meeting. = action J.B.

5.5. Date of next meeting - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 @ 19:30 @ Withy Acres, Jews Lane, Churchill BS25 5NN.

Meeting closed @ 22:00.

Signed: