



North Somerset Beekeepers

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

Minutes of Committee meeting 2nd Oct 2023 at 19:30 at The George

Present: Heather Pitch, Garry Packer, David Capon, Tony Slater, Eric Sortwell, Jodi Moger, Jen Stallwood, Adam Evans (by invitation).

- 1. Apologies:** Annabel Lewis, Paddy Brading, Tom Francis, Rob Williams.
- 2. Approval of minutes of Sep 4th:** The minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3. Matters arising (not covered below)** None.
- 4. Arrangements for AGM:**

David went through the arrangements for the upcoming AGM. Heather confirmed Hall and speaker booked, we need to check whether Ken Basterfield will require any hardware from us (Heather to check). David to arrange engraving of cups to be presented, and to check with Rob Francis recipients of Basic Assessment Certificates. Garry agreed to purchase tea, coffee etc, and to arrange refreshments after Ken's talk.

Officer reports: It was agreed to drop reference to Adam being Programme Manager from Rob's report; Garry would insert a short piece giving the background to the Ashfield Prison project.

Election of Officers: It was agreed to invite Rob Francis to take over the Presidency of the Branch (Heather to contact and confirm). Co-opted members (Jen Stallwood, Tom Francis, Roz Kiley, Michael Bachelor) to be put to AGM for formal approval, also propose that Michael does a phased takeover of Finance Officer, and Tony does a phased takeover of Secretary, these roles to be formally adopted at 2024 AGM. The

post of Programme Manager to be advertised to the membership; Adam agreed to consider taking over as Website Manager (this need not be a committee role, but the committee could decide to co-opt the Website Manager if appropriate). Eric Sortwell agreed to do a second term as Avon representative. Stephen Brain be proposed for Honorary Membership.

- 5. Meetings for 2024:** The following programme of meetings for early 2024 was agreed in principle:

Jan 13th Churchill, Garry agreed to do a presentation on his work with young people: "Bees and Insect pollinators – Engaging Schools and Students with Beekeeping".

Feb 10th Tickenham, Branch Honey Show

Mar 9th, venue to be decided, Focus on Asian Hornet, details to be confirmed.

Apr 6th, venue to be decided, Swarm prevention and control, Adrian Wells, David Capon, and others to describe the strategies they use. *Update: April 6th is Avon Spring Day so we need to choose an alternative date.*

- 6. Any other business:** Eric informed the meeting that the Avon Spring Day would be Sat April 13th. He also informed that he had about 30 interested in Christmas meal, with 20 deposits paid.

- 7. Date of next meeting:** Mon 4th Dec 7.30pm at The George.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

D Capon