



North Somerset Beekeepers

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

Minutes of the 72nd Annual General Meeting of North Somerset Branch of Avon Beekeepers, held on Saturday 16th November 2024 at 2.00 pm at Churchill Memorial Hall

Before the business of the meeting, Professor Daniel Robet gave a talk on “The Bee, the Flower and the Electric Field”.

Professor Robert presented Jane House with:

- The Hans Wilson Trophy for the most points at the North Somerset Show Honey Show
- George Simms Cup for the most points at the Portishead Show
- The Golden Jubilee Trophy for the most points at the Branch Honey Show

It was noted that **Stefan Dewer** won the Stan Bailey Shield for the best novice at the Branch Honey Show but was not available to receive it.

The following **exam successes** were announced:

Modules passed in 2024

Michael Batchelor M3

Mark Hunter M1

Sandra Slater M3 Tony Slater M3

Jennifer Stallwood M2

Jennifer Stallwood M5

Sandra Slater Intermediate Theory Certificate

Tony Slater Intermediate Theory Certificate

Basic Assessment passes 2024

Clare Eden

Simon Erhardt

Adam Evans

Lotte Glasse

Saeeda Jameel.

Eric Sortwell was presented with a gift to thank him for his hard work during the last 6 years as Apiary Manager, and he responded with short speech.

Welcome: Rob Francis (President) welcomed members to the meeting.



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Members present were

Heather Pitch, Claire Banwell, Dawn Keedwell, Zdenek Kümpel, Yvonne Chapman, Michael Batchelor, Jane House, Ginny Gibbs, Tony Slater, Sandra Slater, Clare Eden, Doreen Ellerington, Tom Leimdorfer, Margaret Leimdorfer – guest, Charles Sutton, Martyn O’Shea, Stephen M’Caw, Eric Sortwell, Stephen Brain, Janet McCulloch, David Welham, Paddy Brading, Ivor Davies, Michelle Blackborow, Colby Blackborow, Claire Daly, Martin Gate, Belinda Kümpel, Fiona Eisentrager, Joy Webber Martin.

1 Apologies were received from

Bob South, Annabel Lewis, Tony Scrase, David Capon, Jacqui Lee, Neville Lee, Jennifer Stallwood, Jodi Moger

2 Approval of Minutes of 71st AGM held on 18 November 2023:

The minutes were circulated before the meeting.

Approval proposed by Zdenek Kumpel
Seconded by Michael Batchelor

Approved unanimously.

3 Officers’ Reports

These were circulated to members prior to the meeting.

President’s Report: Rob Francis

Chair’s Report: Heather Pitch

Treasurer’s Report and Accounts for 2023/24: Michael Batchelor

Secretary’s Report: Tony Slater

Membership Secretary’s Report: Heather Pitch

Education Officer’s Report: Paddy Brading

Apiary Manager’s Report: Eric Sortwell

Swarm Liaison Officer’s report: Adrian Wells

These reports were submitted together to the meeting for approval



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Proposed by: Ginny Gibbs

Seconded by: Jane House

Approved unanimously.

4 Branch subscriptions

There would be no change to the branch subscriptions this year. North Somerset Beekeepers currently has 246 active members.

5 Election of new officers

It was proposed that Jodi Moger takes over as Apiary Manager, following the end of Eric's 6 year spell in that position, Jodi to occupy the position for one year.

Proposed by: Clare Banwell

Seconded by: Ginny Gibbs

Meeting ended 3.56pm.



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5	Election of new Officers	Rob Francis
	Apiary Manager	Jodi Moger has been proposed to succeed Eric Sortwell – to serve for one year until the end of her total 6 year term.
	Programme Manager:	Currently Vacant
5.4	Members without portfolio:	
5.5	Honorary Members:	To be announced
6	Any other business	

Date and time of next AGM: Sat Nov 15th, 2025, at 2pm.