

WBKA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date of meeting: Thursday 4th June 2020

This meeting took place on-line using the application Zoom

Present:	President	Anne Jones
	Chairman	Rob Claxton-Ingham
	Secretary	Janet Hartley
	Education	Laurie Prowse
	Upper Chairman	Matt Mason
	Treasurer	Sue Hobson
	Equipment	Sophie Pringle
	Membership	John Forsyth
Apologies:	General member	Anne Peart
	Webmaster	Laurence Truman
	General member	Monty Pugh

AGENDA

1. Queen Rearing Group

Following from the last Committee meeting Rob has had a lot of correspondence and zoom meetings with those involved in the queen rearing group.

David Powell has stepped back from the group, and the remaining members, John Forsyth, Kate Lennard and David Rhodes, have decided to carry on a smaller scale operation. They have support from Whitby BKA.

The group have 2 sites for bees, one above Otley which already has 3 colonies on it, and one at Blubberhouses. The immediate plan is to increase the number of colonies.

Rob asked John to feedback to the group that the committee is glad that the project is going ahead and to apply again in the future for financial support as skills develop and the enterprise scales up.

2. Beginners' Course

Laurie has completed the course online, and the group of beginners have formed a WhatsApp group which is working well.

The beginners will meet up when restrictions on gatherings allows.

3-4 nucleus colonies are still required for beginners.

3. Library

Harrogate and Ripon BKA have been approached regarding the library books but no reply has yet been received.

It was agreed that any decision as to how to dispose of the books be left until the Association can have an AGM or resume local meetings. Rob will keep the books at his house until then. One suggestion was to have a silent auction.

There is a list of books on the Association website.

ACTION

Anne will contact Peter Longbottom regarding Eva Crane's book which he donated to the club.

4. Constitution

The committee agreed that they were in full support of the draft constitution except for the issue of trustees.

After discussion of committee members' views it was agreed that all members of the committee would hold the role of trustee. This is quite normal in small clubs as the committee is part of the management of the club and is able to keep an eye on what is going on and all can have an equal say.

It was agreed that there is a lack of training and knowledge by committee members as to the role of a trustee.

ACTION

Sue will inform the Charities Commission that all members of the committee are trustees.

Anne will redraft the constitution to include all committee members as trustees.

Once the redraft has been done it will be sent to all committee members for comment. They should respond within a week even if it is just to say they agree. Following this the constitution can be sent to the Charities Commission for approval.

Once the Charities Commission has approved the constitution it can be put to the members of the Association at an Annual General Meeting.

All officers of the committee to do a risk assessment of their own roles.

5. Chairman and Treasurer Roles

Both Rob and Sue have indicated that they will be stepping down from their roles as Chairman and Treasurer respectively at the next AGM.

NB Anne Peart has expressed a wish to step down from the committee at the present time.

ACTION

Janet will send a letter to all members asking if anyone has an interest in joining the committee. They can nominate themselves or someone else with their permission. If any interest is shown a zoom meeting could be arranged to discuss.

The Chair could ask at future meetings of the Upper and Lower groups.

6. Swarm Officers

John has had members asking to be put on the swarm officers list.

It was agreed that it would be reasonable to ascertain that they have at least 2 years beekeeping experience and have assisted with swarm collection. If not, they could be asked to accompany an existing swarm officer in a collection.

7. BBKA Delegates Meeting

All members have received minutes from the BBKA Delegates Meeting earlier in the year when there was an issue over voting rights. As Yorkshire BKA is the

largest Association in the country they can request a block vote which is a disadvantage to smaller counties.

There is a move to change the voting system to reduce the impact of YBKA.

This is just for information as members may be asked to comment on these changes.

8. Equipment

Equipment is stored at Sue's work premises. In the current health situation with Coronavirus this is problematic.

It was agreed that all equipment that is in general circulation remain out of store. If a member has a piece of equipment then they will keep it until it is required by another member.

Members are still required to let Sophie know the whereabouts of all equipment.

It was agreed that Sophie will go ahead and sell the Burco boiler.

9. Covid-19

Discussion took place about the possibility that this year the AGM may have to be held as a Zoom meeting. The Honey Show will almost definitely be postponed.

10. Claro Bees

This year Wharfedale BKA has received a donation of £450 from Claro Bees for help running the shop at Harlow Carr.

ACTION

Rob will send a thank you card to Claro Bees.

One of the volunteers to write an article for Combings.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 10th September 2020, 7.30 pm.

This will probably be a Zoom meeting. If not, the venue to be arranged nearer the time.