

WHARFEDALE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date and time of meeting: Thursday 10th June 2021 at 7.30 pm

This meeting took place online via the application zoom

Present:	Chairman	Matthew Mason
	President	Anne Jones
	Treasurer	David Powell
	Secretary	Janet Hartley
	Education	Laurie Prowse
	Membership	John Forsyth
	Equipment	Sophie Pringle
	Webmaster	Laurence Truman
	General members	Jo Johnson
		Monty Pugh
Apologies:		Rob Claxton-Ingham

AGENDA

1. Storage of Equipment

The equipment belonging to the Association is at present stored in Sue Hobson's barn. A new home needs to be found urgently.

Sophie will be going through the equipment soon to see what can be disposed of.

Points to consider are:

- Access
- Key holder

- If buying a container, size. A ball park figure of cost is £1000 – 1500.
- Site

ACTION

Matt will speak to a contact in Embsay who rents out container units

Sophie will speak to Jenny Liston regarding permission from Leeds City Council to use one of the buildings near Otley apiary.

2. Clarification of Protocol for Swarm Collection and Provision to Members

Matt has been contacted by Bob Hodgson, our swarm co-ordinator.

Discussion took place regarding charging for swarms which led to a discussion about charging for queenright nucs. It was agreed at the meeting that these were two separate issues.

The feeling at the meeting was that there should be no charge for a swarm that has just been collected. This should be operated as a free service with replacement of frames if required. This should go through the swarm co-ordinator and should be rapidly passed on to an experienced beekeeper.

Supplying a queenright nucleus and charging for it should be an agreement between the buyer and supplier. A queenright nucleus should be the choice for a novice and new beekeeper. Laurie co-ordinates the beginners.

ACTION

Matt will speak to Bob Hodgson in response to this issue.

3. Heather Apiary at Bolton Abbey Estate

ACTION

Matt will contact and speak to the keeper on the estate at a later date to arrange.

4. YBKA Strategy for dealing with questionnaires

A communication has been received from YBKA regarding Associations being approached to send out questionnaires to their members. It has been agreed that the YBKA Secretary will deal with the response to the sender. This means that such requests can be ignored as they will be picked up by YBKA.

5. Centenary Celebrations

It was agreed that the Association should go ahead with purchasing a good quality mug which would be given free to all members attending the AGM and Honey Show in November. Matt has agreed to put a design together.

Jo has been in touch with the Burley Festival committee regarding a circular bee walk as part of the festival. This will take place on Friday 27th August 2021 and will be approximately 4 miles long starting in Burley and going on to Menston then returning to Burley.

Jo asked if a leaflet could be produced with the history of the Association and could include other information such as a list of bee friendly plants.

6. Treasurer's Report

David gave a short report including his problems with Yorkshire Bank. The finances are in a healthy state.

David will meet with John and Laurie to discuss clearer referencing as to what payments are for.

David is asking for more than one committee member registered to view the bank account.

John is also looking at the possibility of online payments for subscriptions.

It was suggested that the Association could get a card reader.

Laurie would like to book Nell Bank for a face to face meeting with the beginners from this year. They have an outdoor covered space for up to 30 people. Date to be arranged.

7. Decisions taken by email or WhatsApp

Email and WhatsApp has been used as a way of discussing things between meetings.

It was agreed that these decisions be listed and minuted at committee meetings for agreement. Janet will action this.

8. Ilkley Apiary

David gave the background information of this apiary and the theft of 2 hives.

David has taken steps to make the site more secure and will be attempting to keep bees there again.

It was suggested that the WBKA website should only refer to either the Ilkley or Otley apiary rather than giving the address.

Any Other Business

John gave some feedback from the YBKA Delegates Meeting held in March.

There was discussion at this meeting regarding access to the BBKA database.

There was also discussion about Trustee and Officers insurance and whether this extends to committee members who are associate members and not full members. John is investigating these matters.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7.30 pm via zoom.