

WHARFEDALE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Thursday 3rd March 2022

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
	General members	Jo Johnson
		Monty Pugh
		Rob Claxton-Ingham

Apologies:	Sophie Pringle
	Chris Duxbury
	Laurence Truman

AGENDA

1. AGM AND HONEY SHOW 2022

A provisional booking has been made for the 2022 AGM and Honey Show on Friday 11th November at 7 pm. The venue will be Ilkley Rugby Club.

Ivor Flatman, the Honey Show judge has been contacted and agreed to judge once again.

2. LongbEE TROPHY AND CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

It was agreed to have a trophy made for both of these awards.

ACTION

Laurie will ask his son, a graphic designer, to do a line drawing of a group of beekeepers around a hive for an engraving.

Matt will speak to Peter Longbottom regarding a suitable trophy for the Longbee Trophy.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF CENTENARY MUGS

John has already been distributing mugs locally. It was suggested that small batches could be given to committee members to distribute.

ACTION

When emailing a reminder of the Upper Wharfedale meeting, Janet will inform members that they can pick up a free mug at the meeting venue on the night.

John will do the same for the Lower group.

4. APIARY AT BOLTON ABBEY

Monty will be running a trial with a couple of hives at the location of Drebley on the Bolton Abbey estate.

The estate have requested details of public liability insurance and risk assessment.

Matt has already drawn up a provisional apiary risk assessment form.

5. GARGRAVE SHOW

Matt has emailed the organisers of Gargrave Show, which is scheduled to take place on Saturday 20th August 2022.

The organisers will get in touch with Matt in the near future regarding the Upper Wharfedale group having a stand at the show. There is support in the Upper group for this to go ahead.

6. OTLEY SHOW AND OTLEY GREEN FAIR

Otley show is scheduled to take place on Saturday 21st May 2022.

John will email members to see if there is interest from the Lower group at having a stand at the show.

Otley Green Fair is scheduled to take place on Saturday 9th April at Otley Courthouse. Gill Leggat takes on the responsibility for this event with support from members.

7. ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/2021

David presented the draft accounts, copies of which were circulated to committee members. The final accounts will be sent to the independent examiner shortly.

ACTION

The final accounts will be circulated to the membership. It will be noted that while the accounts will be circulated, they will be formally presented at the next AGM.

8. USE OF SURPLUS CASH

Much discussion took place regarding the use of surplus cash. Views expressed were:

- The club is not accruing huge amounts each year. The surplus was gained historically due to the award of grants
- A reserve should be maintained, possibly 50% or above of annual turnover
- There is no rush to spend this money unless the right opportunity comes up
- As a charity we should only have the money we need
- Free subscriptions
- Events for members, for example, candle making, cosmetics, mead making, hive making from kits
- Engaging with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Replacing show equipment, for example, gazebos, banners
- Outside speakers

ACTION

Sophie, Jo and Anne will perform an audit of existing equipment and see what needs replacing.

Ask the membership for suggestions at the regular monthly meetings.

9. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT

David has gone through our insurance policy and it is our understanding that the club's equipment is covered wherever it is.

ACTION

David will contact the NFU, our insurance broker and confirm if this is indeed the case.

Ask the membership at the regular monthly meetings if anyone is aware of premises where the club can store equipment securely.

10. APIARY MEETINGS FOR BEGINNERS

This suggestion came from the Lower group monthly meeting, from members feeling a lack of practical experience.

David, Monty and Laurie offered their own apiaries as appropriate. This will be coordinated through the beginners WhatsApp groups.

It was suggested that an experience beekeeper run through the requirements of the Basic Assessment at the regular monthly meetings to encourage the previous year's beginners to take this assessment.

11. BEGINNERS' COURSE

Laurie gave an update on this year's beginners' course. Talks to schools and other organisations are starting up again.

Please can anyone giving a talk inform Laurie as he keeps a record of talks given by Wharfedale Beekeepers.

12. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It is Janet's intention to step down from the committee and her post as Secretary at the next AGM in November.

It was suggested that additional committee members should be sought initially by asking at the regular monthly meetings.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm

Next meeting: Thursday 9th June 2022, at 7.30 pm, via zoom