

# WHARFEDALE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 7.30 pm (online)

Matt Mason chaired the meeting and welcomed members.

### 1. Present

Chairman	<b>Matthew Mason</b>
President	<b>Anne Jones</b>
Treasurer	<b>David Powell</b>
Secretary	<b>James Bennett</b>
Education	<b>Sophie Pringle</b>
	<b>Jo Johnson</b>
Webmaster	<b>Laurence Truman</b>
Membership	<b>Chris Duxbury</b>
General Members	<b>Laurie Prowse</b>

### 1. Apologies

Anne Waddington (General Member), Rob Claxton-Ingham (General Member), Monty Pugh (General Member), Alan Raw (General Member)

### 2. Minutes of 1st December

The minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 had been circulated to the membership prior to the meeting and were accepted. Matters arising were discussed as follows:

### 3. Accounts/ Treasury role

The accounts for end Sept 2021 have been signed off.

The accounts for end Sept 2022 nearly done and need signing off, with Katie to approve.

Matt thanked David P for his time in the Treasurer role and informed the committee that due to time commitments David P has said he will have to end in the role.

Anne J informed the committee that Alan R has said his wife, Janet, may be interested in the role. The committee are pleased and would like Anne to pass on the committees thanks to Alan R/ Janet, the committee agreed it should send an email around the membership first to check if there is any other interest too, before discussing further with Alan's wife, Janet.

**Action: James to send email around members to check on interest in Treasurer role.**

**Action: David write main duties of Treasurer role, reviewed/ added to by Matt and committee.**

**Action: Matt/ James to progress following member response**

The committee also discussed the possibility to move to an online membership renewal/ payment mechanism to help with bookkeeping. Information provided by members included systems such as Square/ Web Collect, with costs of c£450 per annum. And to have more than one committee member having access to the bank account. **Action: James/ Matt to discuss further with new Treasurer/ Laurence and Chris when new Treasurer in post.**

#### 4. Supply of bees/ bee related items

Chris raised an item about the possibility to increase the club supply of nucs. This would help provide locally supplied nucs as opposed to the supply of poor quality/ or nucs from abroad. Welcomed, though also noted that due to the change in the new beginners course for 2023, there would be less of a demand from new beginners for this year only (see next item for beginners course changes). Attendees from the new beginners course usually require around 20 nucs.

The email from the bee improvement group was mentioned. Given the offer from Chris, and if say informally 3 or 4 members rear nucs as has been the case over years, it isn't proposed to endorse or forward the bee improvement group email, though if informally members wish to make it

known if they will rear nucs for sale, a note can be kept, and members wishing to buy nucs put in contact with those contacts. **Action: Potential raisers of nucs for sale let James know and he can keep a note and include details in a future email to members. James/ Alan can also raise at future monthly meetings to inform members.**

5. New beginners course 2023

Sophie and Jo updated the committee with the revised course details, it will comprise of a taster day (2 dates booked in case poor weather on first), 4 or 5 hands on practical hive visits over the summer followed by the more formal theory course over Winter.

The taster day could go ahead in eg June at Ashlands school. If want to access the school (eg to use toilets) there could be a charge. There was a thought to offer 1 or 2 teachers to go on the course, and perhaps it could work if the school allows taster days/ practicals, we could offer to train a couple of teachers/ parents. **Action: Sophie/ Jo to progress. James to check if WBKA/ BBKA insurance covers such situations ie taster days at school grounds.**

The committee thanked Sophie and Jo for their efforts in setting up the new revised course.

**Action: James/ Alan to add to the agenda at future Upper/ Lower Wharfedale meetings to inform members and ask for bee buddies who would be willing to either attend the taster day/ or have one or two potential new beginners over the Summer. David P offered to help.**

**Action: Sophie and Jo to talk wit Laurie to understand the involvement with the club and the BBKA basic assessment.**

**Action: All, if you receive any details of new beginners, or if you wish to be a nee buddy/ attend the taster day to help/ have a new beginner over the Summer please inform Jo/ Sophie direct.**

6. Equipment

Sophie updated the group that Anne has got the presses overhauled, the committee thanked Anne.

A discussion was held on potential locations for a store to hold equipment, a site on a school premises was discussed but decided not to progress in short term given the asks around taster days etc. A site at Otley apiary was discussed, as it is staffed during the daytime, access road is gated off. A contact could be Jenny Liston. **Action: Chris will include an ask re ideas for potential sites in an email he will send members.**

Sophie said instructions on how to use the kit have been prepared and will be available from now, with the first use this coming weekend.

7. Guest speakers

**James will contact the guest speakers committee members have suggested for availabilities/ costs etc and inform the committee.**

8. Charity commission news

James informed the committee that the charity commission are setting up a new website. James has registered and will send invites out as individual logins for each committee member will be possible when it is live. Trustee details were updated to the current committee in November and we have 5 months to submit the accounts for end of September 2022. **Action: James to send committee members email to register for charity commission site when live.**

**Action: James to submit accounts on charity commission site when 2022 accounts are signed off**

9. Honey and AGM 2023

Discussion if pay upfront- no decision made as yet

This years will be held again at Ilkley Rugby Club Friday November 10<sup>th</sup> 2023 (**Action: James to contact Ilkley rugby club for provisional booking**)

10. AOB: Swarm collectors.

Andrew Hinchliffe is on the list. An email to be sent to all members to seek if anyone would like to be included on the list which goes on the website as a swarm collector. List will be forwarded to BBKA. **Action: Chris to include in his email. Laurence will then add list to the website.**

11. AOB: Combings.

Committee agreed current editions should be on the website. **Action: Laurence**

12. Items for the next meeting, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

Finances: The 21/22 accounts

Safeguarding policy: Identification of whether any further action is required.

Guest speakers

Honey Show 2023: Whether or not to ask people to agree attendance upfront