

WHARFEDALE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 31st August 2023 7.30 pm (in person and online)

Matt Mason chaired the meeting and welcomed members.

1. Present

Chairman **Matthew Mason**

Treasurer **Katy Bell**

Secretary **James Bennett**

Education **Sophie Pringle**

Jo Johnson

Webmaster **Laurence Truman** (online)

Membership **Chris Duxbury** (hosting)

2. Apologies

Anne Jones (President) Anne Waddington (General Member), Laurie Prowse (General Member), Monty Pugh (General Member), Alan Raw (General Member).

3. Minutes of the June 2023 meeting

The minutes of the March 2023 meeting had been circulated to the membership prior to the meeting and were accepted. Matters arising were discussed as follows:

4. Accounts/ Treasury role

Accounts: Katy stated the final accounts for 21/22 have been completed. The committee agreed copies could be emailed out prior to the November honey show/ AGM with some printed copies available on the night. This would also include the 22/23 accounts. **Action: James to email out, Katy bring copies to the November meeting.**

Bank Account: Matt, Katie and James will all have access to the WBKA bank account.

Membership renewal: Chris confirmed process is working; Monthly statements go to Chris, Chris processes memberships, goes on ER2.

Fee payment: Agreed will be via online banking only. When send renewal reminders, ask to include name and sub detail on payment.

Action: Chris.

23/24 membership fees: Will remain at same rate as 22/23.

Gift aid/ claim to HMRC. Section at bottom of form says gift aid or not, goes into ER2. Katy has been in touch with Norbert, in hand with Norbert to identify list of those who are gift aid people. **Action: Katy/ Norbert.**

Sum up: Sophie and Katy have access, works ok.

D Wilson homes offer of donation of £500 to WBKA: Committee decided not to accept. James to inform D Wilson homes rep with suggestions of other local charities. **Action: James**

5. Gargrave show

Matt gave an update, was held on Saturday 19th August, went well with a lot of interest. Will look to attend next year.

6. Education plans/ New beginners' course 2023

Dates for winter course are 12 Sept, 10 Oct, 21 Nov, 9 Jan, 6 Feb, 5 March. 17 people on course. Jo asked if anyone would like to present any of the modules (confirm with Jo) and if Matt would like to attend one as Chair. Suggestion last module/ additional module a demo on building a hive. Venue is the Parish Room Burley in Wharfedale. Sophie/ Jo will purchase materials for course inc eg books for attendees and reclaim costs from the club.

Jo/ Sophie have purchased 3 hives from John F to put at Ashlands school to use as club demo hives, will reclaim costs from club.

7. AFB

Chris will contact Bradford, who offer members BDI insurance, and see how the process works- in terms of billing members etc, and costs. Wont offer this year but can see if offer for next renewal next year.

Action: Chris

James said he had seen an email from L Schofield that there will be a tick box on the renewal membership form asking if people would like their details to be added to beebase.

8. AGM/ honey show

James to check the prices for food with the rugby club. **Action: Matt**

Ivor is booked.

Matt will circulate beforehand to those persons who need to do a summary on the night. **Action: Matt**

Will email these around beforehand eg accounts. **Action: James to send out**

Need to identify new president, Anne is stepping down. **Action: People let Matt know if interested.**

9. Guest speakers

Suggested topics include eg;

-products from the hive.

-The removal of established swarms that need the comb to be cut out and put into frames

-Progress and activities of the queen raising group

-Neil/ Queen Rearing.

-Wharfe Valley Bee Improvement group.

Format; Eg 4 presenters, 20 mins each. Eg Clarke F, Christ Church.

December, could replace usual monthly meetings. **Action: James**

Chris also suggested a social meeting at buffers. **Action: Chris**

10. Equipment

Sophie said the equipment store at the Chevin is a possible option.

Action: Sophie

11. Website/ facebook

Chris has taken over managing the facebook page from Rob.

Buy/ sell page on WBKA website update, **Chris will speak with Laurence.**

12. AOB.

It was suggested if we could put any info/ link to other websites for information on how to help bees, in terms of which plants to plant, don't use pesticides etc. Could link to eg BBKA website, Climate Action Ilkley website. **Action: Laurence.**

13. Next meeting, 7th December.