

Warwickshire Beekeepers Association Solihull and District Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at The Methodist Hall, Blossomfield Road, Solihull on the 12th February 2018.

Present: The Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, 25 full members, 1 junior member, 4 partner members, 2 associate member and 0 visitors.

1.Apologies: Mark Hope-Urwin, Sheila Vanhouse, and Chris Watts.

2.Minutes of the AGM held on the 13th February 2017 were read out by the Secretary. The minutes were proposed by Celia Davis, seconded by Nicola Content and were accepted unanimously by the meeting attendees and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3.Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4.Chairman's Report:

Mark thanked Jim Hamilton, John Mellor and Chris Watts, Roger and Rachel Taylor, Channy Collins, Ian Davidson, Sarah Heath, Andrew Heath, Becky Hall and Celia Davis for all their work at the apiary, running the Honey Show, supplying content to WB magazine, as secretary, membership secretary, treasurer and education coordinator. He reported that the previous year had been stable with typically 40+ attending apiary meetings. He said that the apiary team had split the apiary into a number of 'zones' which had improved the experience of people attending the apiary and had simplified the work of the apiary team. He said that we could look forward to an exciting season.

His report was accepted by the meeting.

5a.Treasurer's Report:

- **Accounts**

The Treasurer gave a walk through of the Account highlights for the year to November 30th 2017.

		2017	2016
Membership	Full	88	84
	Partner	12	13
	Junior	1	1
	Associate	9	5

Financial Extract		2017	2016
Received on behalf of BBKA and WBKA		£3,040	£2,877
Total Receipts		£7,649	£8,043
Including:	Branch Subscriptions	£803	£513
	Donations & Grants	£663	£715
	Gift Aid	£537	£496
	Honey Sales	£667	£520
	Nuc Sales	£180	£0
	Training income	£1,370	£1,235
Total Payments		£6,882	£8,792
Including:	Apiary expenses	£575	£816
	Room hire	£193	£347
	Training equipment purchases	£521	£985
	Training course expenses	£574	£564
	Insurance	£354	£390
	National Honey Show trip	£298	£0
Receipts less payments		£766	-£748
Including £502 membership and training income relating to 2018			
Cash Funds at Year End		£6,541	£5,774

Reserves held for Contingencies and Asset Replacements	£6,000	£4,417
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Commentary

Money coming in for memberships and insurance and being paid over to the BBKA and the WBKA make up the majority of the funds going through our accounts and the receipts which we have available for our activities are those generated from branch subscriptions, donations, grants and sales of goods and services. Thank you to all our members who provide their services free of charge generating the income needed for our continued operation and success in promoting beekeeping to new beekeepers and the public.

The committee has decided that due to the need for the branch to subsidise the National Honey Show trip organised this year any future outings must be fully self funded or they will not go ahead.

Thank you to all our members who have worked to reduce the costs we have to expend on meeting venues, speakers and refreshments and to the apiary team and volunteers for their continued maintenance and improvement of the training apiary, which has become a gold standard for other branches to aspire to.

Following a review of the Reserves Policy, the branch now holds reserves which are in line with expected future requirements in respect of asset replacements and also an appropriate amount for contingencies.

The report was proposed by Valli Cawte, seconded by John Narramore and accepted unanimously. The accounts were signed by 2 members of the committee.

5b. Capitation:

Becky proposed that “The committee have the right to increase the 2019 SBKA annual fees up to an amount that does not increase the overall cost of each total membership by more than £3.00 compared to the 2018 fees. E.G. the maximum total Full membership for 2019 could be no more than £34.50 + £3.00 = £37.50.” This proposal was seconded by Andrew Heath and carried unanimously.

6.Election of Officers:

Ian Davidson and Becky Hall were willing to continue in their roles as Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer respectively. Sarah Heath had previously been voted Chair Elect and was still willing to take on the role. Mark Robinson proposed that these positions stand and Valli Cawte seconded the proposal. This was carried unanimously.

7.Election of the Committee: The other members of the Committee – Jim Hamilton, John Mellor, Andrew Heath, Nicola Content, Channy Collins, and Mark Robinson were available for re-election and they were proposed en bloc by Ian Davidson. This proposal was seconded by Celia Davis and carried unanimously.

8.Appointment of the Independent Examiner: Mark Robinson proposed that Ruth Galvin, who had been approached and had agreed to continue as our independent examiner, be nominated by the meeting to continue. This was seconded by Sarah Heath and as there were no objections it was agreed unanimously.

9. Education Coordinator

Celia Davis reported that 7 members took the BBKA Basic Assessment in 2017 and all passed.

10 Solihull members attended the Beyond the Basic Course in February 2017 but none have shown any interest in attempting the General Husbandry Assessment. The Solihull apiary was used for one of the practical sessions as part of this course. The Branch received £50 from the County (and the Portaloo was paid for by them.) Notice was given of the Bee Husbandry Day, to be held on May 19th 2018 at Stoneleigh. This will be run by the Regional Bee Inspector and his team and will cost each delegate £15. Each will be provided with the IBRA disease booklet. There will be a total of 60 people and it will be first come first served.

11. The Date of Next Meeting: The next Solihull and District Branch AGM meeting will be held on the 11th February 2019 at the Methodist Hall, Solihull at 7:30 pm and the meeting then closed.