

Warwickshire Beekeepers Association

Solihull and District Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at The Methodist Hall, Blossomfield Road, Solihull on the 11th February 2019.

Present: The Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, 21 full members, 0 junior member, 4 partner members, 2 associate member and 0 visitors.

1.Apologies: Chris Watts, Alan Taylor, Andrew Pike, Val Parry, Eve Jenner, Kay Davidson, Lynn Foord, Sean Flower, Suzanne Flower, Phil Webb and Valli Cawte.

2.Minutes of the AGM held on the 12th February 2018 were read out by the Secretary. The minutes were proposed by Andrew Heath, seconded by Tre Simkin 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:

Sarah reported that we had had a busy and eventful year, starting with a successful beginner's course. Apiary Meetings had typically had over 40 people attending and the apiary had produced 260 lb of honey. Queen rearing had been practised and 6 nucleus colonies had been produced and sold to beginners. We currently have 8 colonies. The year was marred by a break-in in late summer resulting in the loss of our electrical generator, the tent and all the bee suits. 6 members have passed their Basic Assessment and 3 members have passed modules. In August, the branch attended the Lawsonford and Rowington fair. The winter programme has had an interesting mix of topics. The Honey Show had 58 entries from 14 entrants.

Sarah thanked all those who had run the beginner's course, the apiary team for all their work, Brian and Mandy for extracting the honey, those who mowed the apiary grass, those who teach at the apiary, Celia for organising the assessments, Nicola for organising the Nosema Clinic, Roger and Rachel Taylor for organising the Honey Show, Graham Youdan for sending out the paper copies of WB, Valli for running the library for most of the year and Sheila for taking it over, the committee for all their work and all the membership for making the branch a success. Finally, she thanked Mandy and Denise for all the cakes and she made a presentation of flowers and gift tokens to them both.

5a.Treasurer's Report:

- **Accounts**

The Treasurer gave a walk through of the Account highlights for the year to November 30th 2018.

		2018	2017	2016
Membership	Full	81	88	84
	Partner	12	12	13
	Junior	1	1	1
	Associate	10	10	5

Financial Extract		2018	2017	2016
Received on behalf of BBKA and WBKA		£3,246	£3,040	£2,877
Total Receipts		£8,858	£7,649	£8,043
Including:	Branch Subscriptions	£513	£803	£513
	Donations & Grants	£780	£663	£715
	Gift Aid (to be received 2019)	£0	£537	£496
	Honey Sales	£636	£667	£520
	Nuc Sales & Talks	£480	£180	£0
	Training income	£1,045	£1,370	£1,235
	Insurance claim	£2,155		
Total Payments		£6,255	£6,882	£8,792
Including:	Apiary expenses	£648	£575	£816
	Room hire	£171	£193	£347
	Training equipment purchases	£0	£521	£985
	Training course expenses	£461	£574	£564
	Insurance	£356	£354	£390
	National Honey Show trip		£298	
	Insurance replacements	£683		
	Other - Newsletters, Speakers, Honey Show, Bank and Accounting fees			
Receipts less payments		£2,603	£766	£-748
Cash Funds at Year End		£9,145	£6,541	£5,774
Including:	Reserves - Contingencies and Replacements	£6,325	£6,000	£4,417

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. Some early 2018 membership fees were included in the 2017 accounts.

Thank you to all our members who help generate income for our continued operation and promotion of beekeeping.

Last year the committee had to deal with the disruption caused by the apiary break-in and we were fortunate to be able to recover the majority of the replacement funds required from the insurer. Items which the insurance did not cover were those supporting the upkeep of the apiary grounds. We are grateful for all donations received to help us out and the hard work of the apiary team in restoring the site security. Purchase of the replacement marquee is currently outstanding.

Nicola Content proposed that we accept the accounts and this was seconded by Celia Davis. The accounts were accepted unanimously.

5b. Capitation 2020:

Becky reported that the committee did not see any reason to increase the capitation fee for the year 2020 and therefore proposed that it remain unchanged. This was seconded by Tre Simkin and accepted 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's role as Chairman is a 2 year appointment. Andrew Heath was prepared to stand as Chair Elect. All these positions were proposed by Richard Collins and Seconded by Mark Robinson. Accepted unanimously.

7.Election of the Committee: Nicola Content has stepped down from the committee, but Mark Robinson, Jim Hamilton, John Mellor and Channy Collins are prepared to remain. In addition, Denise Grove has been nominated to the committee. Ian proposed that the committee be elected en bloc and this was seconded by Roger Taylor. Accepted unanimously.

8.Appointment of the Independent Examiner: Sarah Heath 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 Andrew Heath and as there were no objections it was agreed unanimously.

10. The Date of Next Meeting: The next Solihull and District Branch AGM meeting will be held on the 10th February 2020 at the Methodist Hall, Solihull at 7:30 pm and the meeting then closed.