

Stowmarket & District Beekeepers' Association

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 18th July, 2019, 7.30pm.

The meeting took place at Tony Payne's.

1. Present. Richard Martin (Chair), Andy Smith (Treasurer), Caroline Crosthwaite, Roger Chapman, Sue Haynes, Bohdan Antoniwi, Tony Payne (President).
Apologies. Alan Seager, Maggie Lawrence, Felix Oliver.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as correct.
3. Matters arising:
Gazebo, It was agreed to purchase a yellow gazebo Andy Smith had sourced. The structure, quality and size were the same as the present one.
Richard Martin had attended Alder Carr Market.
Andy Smith has contacted Alan Seager about the observation hive. It is to remain where it is unless required for a show.
Roger Chapman has sourced the contact details of the sugar contact. Tony Payne is to discuss sugar with Alan Seager.
4. Correspondence. Maggie Lawrence had forwarded a letter to Andy Smith re a possible new Member in Mellis.
5. Treasurer's Report.
£5584.11p in the bank, £20 cash from honey sales.
There are no outstanding bills. The registration of two new Members this month might lead to Capitation fees.
6. Membership Up-date.
There are 115 registered and paid Members, none unpaid. 2 are County Members, 11 partners. 128 in total. There are possibly 4 Mentees requiring Mentors.
7. Summer BBQ.
28th July. 30 people have replied. Food, drink and help was discussed and organised.
8. 2019 Shows.
Bacton, 3rd August. 12pm start. Tony Payne setting up at 9.30am.
Walsham Le Willows 25th, 26th August. Setting up will take place Friday evening.
An observation hive will be needed for both events as will honey for sale.
Maggie Lawrence is to be asked to send a flyer to all Members asking for help to man the stall at both events.
9. Club Apiary.
Richard Martin reported all hives were in good condition. 2 nuks were to be put in National hives. This would bring the total number of hives to 9, the agreed number for the site.
There would not be as much honey as last year.
It is thought that the £18 annual insurance for the site has been renewed by Alan Seager. Andy Smith has not received a bill.
10. Beginner's Course.
Roger Chapman had sent a document re the course to all Committee Members.
A survey showed the Students felt the course was generally of good value but they felt it was too cheap.
There appears to be £1,500 profit but the book payment does not appear to have been deducted from this.
It was felt that T Hooper's book might be too complicated for Beginner's.

A discussion re these aspects and the timing of the theory and practical sessions of the Beginner's course is to be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Tony Payne's suggestion that any claims for travelling expenses for lecturers to the course should be met, was agreed.

11.AOB.

Roger Chapman is to obtain badges for New Committee Members.

Caroline Crosthwaite reported on a successful talk she and her husband gave to some pupils at Great Finborough School.

It was agreed to purchase and enlarge some photos Caroline had used.

12. Date Next meeting.

5th September 2019, At Caroline Crossthwaite Home.