

Stowmarket & District Beekeepers' Association
Founded in 1947

Minutes of ZOOM meeting held on Thursday 19th June, 7pm

1. Present. Tony Payne (President), Roger Chapman (Vice-Chairman), Andy Smith, Caroline Crosthwaite, Sarah Neesam, Linda Stuart, Maggie Lawrence (Secretary)
Apologies: Richard Martin, Felix Oliver, Bohdan Antonwiz
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and Roger will sign them
3. Matters Arising
 - a. Caroline to liaise with Felix over up-dating the website
 - b. Andy has temporarily mislaid the minutes during his house move, but will find and circulate
 - c. Creeting village hall booked for lunchtime AGM on 28th February 2020
 - d. Bohdan to talk to British Sugar about exchange visits to factory/Apiary
 - e. New laptop
 - f. Roger will continue liaising with schools once they return in the autumn?
 - g. Roger to word an amendment to the constitution regarding voting online for next AGM.
4. Correspondence:

It was noted that Richard Childs emailed on 7th June asking what was covered by ok BBKA insurance. Documents on BBKA website – 3rd party liability, notifiable diseases and replacements to hive parts – bees not insured. Roger to reply
5. Treasurer's Report:

There is £5,379.61 in the bank
6. Membership Up-date

130 members, 13 Partners, 4 Country. It was agreed that Jane Tuke, a long-standing Association member, would not be chased for subs this year. The committee agreed that the Association would sponsor all young members up to the age of 18. Mark Holtom gave Sam Montagu Smith a hive and Michael Heath provided a nuc, through Richard Martin, on the understanding that the bees went to a member. Andy to sort his membership.
7. Beginner's Course:

All but the last evening on diseases took place and Roger and Caroline tried twice to give the last talk on Zoom, but not many attendees. Caroline said the format of small groups of students with 1 experienced beekeeper was successful. All students who wanted swarms have them. Tony offered that once social distancing measure was down to 1m, he would be happy to host apiary visits. 7 people have already registered for 2021 course
8. Club Apiary

Roger has been to Baylham with Richard and taken 306lb of honey. 36lb given to Neil. Wyken is changing format but Association continues to attend. Maggie and Linda volunteered to fill and label jars before next Wyken market on 11th July. Richard has requested a few days' notice. Committee authorised the purchase of honey buckets with taps.

9. 2020 Shows

- 16th May – Hadleigh Show – in response to her enquiry, Maggie was told that Paul White who organised the stand in 2019 will be given priority in the future.

10. Club Events

Due to Covid-19, the BBQ will not take place and President's Day on 20th September remains a query.

Red Gables has been booked for member events on the following days: 1st October, 12th November, 10th December (Christmas), 14th Jan 2021, 18th Mar and 15th April. Suggestions made at last meeting

- Flowers for Bees
- Commercial beekeeping – Bob Powell from Shotley or Zac
- Bee Officer – David Burns
- EARS lady (Anne the student)
- Wild Survivors – Francesca Jane Mahoney

11. Any Other Business

- a. In the absence of events, it was agreed that Roger and Maggie would send out a newsletter to all members
- b. Observation hives – Richard has 2 broken hives which Roger and Andy have agreed to try and mend
- c. It was agreed that if the Association supplied swarms to non-members, we would ask them to join the Association

12. Date Next meeting:

30th July 2020, 7pm Zoom meeting
Meeting ID: 755 5421 9471
Password: 9aukGe

Signed Roger Chapman – Vice Chairman
30th July 2020

