

# **Bournemouth & Dorset South Bee Keepers Association**

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting held at West Parley Memorial Hall at  
7:30 pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## **Chair's welcome**

Elizabeth El-Dars welcomed the members to the AGM

She thanked the members for their support throughout the year,

## **Apologies**

Heather Bartlett, Adrian Dwyer, David Lloyd, Kanta Seewooruthun, Andrew Smith, Keith Starks.

## **Adoption of Constitution**

The revised constitution was presented to the members by David Aldersey who had dealt with its revision.

David informed members of the two amendments,

1: To increase the age limit for Junior members from 16 to 18 (clause 3f) to coincide with age limit set by the BBKA.

2: To alter the last few words of clause 4 (c) to read "with effect from midnight of the preceding 1<sup>st</sup> October".

David advised that the revision was based not only on our previous constitution but on several others in a very similar form. He wondered if the BBKA had sent out a model constitution in the past for Associations to adopt.

There followed a vigorous debate between David and Chris Downes about two further amendments that Chris wished to incorporate, plus others. However the mood of the meeting was that the members should be asked to approve the constitution as drafted.

This proposal was carried by a large majority.

## **Election of the Committee:**

**Chair:** Elizabeth El-Dars **Vice Chair:** Helga Aldersey **Treasurer:** Emma Fisher

**Secretary:** Sheila Orr

## **Committee Members**

Carole Davies, David Lloyd, Bob Menz, Alla Neal, David Neal, Steve Parlour

The committee members were proposed, seconded and duly elected

## **Vice Chair's Report:**

Nothing to report.

## **Treasurers Report:**

Emma Fisher was pleased to present her first report as treasurer.

The accounts for 2015/2016 have been signed off by the auditor.

Emma mentioned that many members are now using internet banking, which makes it easier for her, so hopefully more members will do this.

The club finances are looking very positive, at the start of 2015/6 we had £7,660 in the bank. During the year outgoings were £8,125, and income was £9,368 ending with a healthy balance of £8,903, a £1,143 increase on the previous year.

The increase was due to £700 raised by the Waitrose green token scheme plus other monies from the very successful BIBBA day. Also an increase in membership.

The members approved the reappointment of Edwards & Keeping as auditors.

## **Secretary's Report:**

As Sheila Orr was only elected as the Secretary in December, she had nothing to report.

## **Education Co-Ordinators Report:**

Helga Aldersey was very pleased to report that in the last year talks on various aspects of Beekeeping, given by some of our experienced members were very well attended.

The Wannabee day was attended by about 20 people, some of whom then continued to attend our beginner sessions.

The Beginner Sessions were run by various members but as the summer progressed less people were able or willing to participate, which was a pity.

We started Module 3 last November with 10 people and hope some will go on to sit the exam in March.

The basic course starts 21<sup>st</sup> January, and 18 people so far have shown interest.

This year we hope to concentrate on Practical Beekeeping, bio-technological methods of Varroa control, Bailey comb change, shook swarms and swarm control.

We also will be running Queen raising sessions organized by Bob Menz.

Interesting times lie ahead for those members that wish to attend some if not all of the sessions.

### **Speakers Secretary Report:**

Carole Davies reported that the 2017 programme of speakers was complete. Speakers were need for the 2018 programme, and hopefully members will make suggestions for talks.

Carole has suggested an in-house speaker for February 2018.

### **High Mead Report:**

David Aldersey reported that this has been our third season at High Mead.

Like last year the colonies have struggled to get sufficient stores. David suggested that this could be due to power lines being 300 metres east and west of the site so restricting foraging. Due to this the bees needed feeding in May/June.

To add to the problems the first 2 colonies were affected by Chronic Bee Paralysis. In one the Queen failed to come back into lay and was dispatched. The other hive survived with the bees (except the Queen) and were shaken into the air some 50 metres away from the hive.

There were several Queens superseded this year in the apiary, but a swarm was hived in mid-June, bringing the colonies back to 7. All were treated with MAQs in August and Oxalic (trickling) just before Christmas. Fondant was added to each colony at the beginning of January.

Honey sales this financial year based on honey extracted 2015 (only 27lbs) totalled £145.00. Operating costs were £730 including licence fee of £150.

Honey taken off this season will form the sales for the year commencing 1/10/16 as follows: Floral honey 54 lbs, Heather honey 16lbs.

### **Dudsbury Report:**

Bob Menz reported that the main expenditure this year has been the installation of electricity to the Apiary, and repairs to the shed roof.

This year has seen many hives superseding, but all the hives now have their own home raised queens (with help from Roger Patterson).

At present there are 9 Hives inc 2 member's hives.

It is hoped to use the hives for Queen rearing (Horsley Method), splitting and manipulation in the future.

Bob reported that no honey was taken off this year, and that the hives have been treated twice for varroa.

### **Webmaster report:**

Chris Downes reported that the website is still secure, there have been attempts to infiltrate the web site but this was not successful.

Members wishing to enter the Members ONLY area will need the password from Chris.

Please note only members can enter the website and Chris is willing to give help on how to use the site if needed.

Chris noted that we do not have Web Editor after the departure of Liz Rodgers, but sadly no volunteer came forth at the meeting.

Chris has requested a copy of our members Email addresses for his files and he has agreed to print the Membership Cards for the year 2017.

At the meeting it was decided that the Forum will go live (proposed and seconded).

### **A.O.B.**

BADS Convention Day: This takes place on 25<sup>th</sup> February at the Memorial Hall Parley.

Alla Neal has arranged the Convention but still has 10 places left. Alla has contacted other clubs to see if there was any interest but has had little or no uptake. Members were asked if anyone else would like to attend.

Mike Duffin represented our Association at the ADM meeting of the BBKA on January 14<sup>th</sup> 2017

Mike said that the BBKA increased their revenue in 2016, a new team in the office headed by George Brown recovered a lot of outstanding money. Mike mentioned that John Hendrie spoke on the problem of fragmented member societies leading to loss of income. This is an ongoing problem.

Mike Duffin is to be reimbursed for attending the meeting on our behalf.

It was with great pleasure that Elizabeth our Chair presented Paul Mann with a Citation in recognition of the 30 years with our Association. Paul has helped so many members with teaching, support and encouragement and also the association in his time as Chairman. We all congratulated Paul and thanked him for all his hard work over the years.

Paul in reply said that a club is made up of the Committee and members who keep a club going and make it work. He suggested that maybe members could open their gardens for club members to visit?

Elizabeth our Chair thanked Peter Darley (not present) for all his help and hard work for the Association as Secretary over the last 9 years, it was very much appreciated. Elizabeth also thanked Liz Rodgers (not present) for all of her hard work as Web Editor.

Meeting ended 9pm.

Sheila Orr

Secretary