

## Medway Beekeepers' Association

### Minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 21 August 2018

at 7 South Avenue 2pm

**Present:** J Chapman, Mrs S Stunell, Mrs J Ferry, Paul Lawrence, Bob Smith, John Hendrie

**Apologies:** Elaine Laight, Mark Ballard

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2018:** Were signed as a true record of the meeting
2. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2018:** There were no matters arising which were not covered by the agenda
3. **Finance and Membership:** John Hendrie reported that the finances were good and on track. The paperwork for the signatories to the current account had been sent to Santander
4. **Future Events:**
  - Autumn Fair this would take place on 20 October  
Stalls would include:  
Wax products & wax wraps Jen  
Top Bar competition  
Shop Area – ask Sonia?  
Plants – Chris and Jane?  
Education with virtual Hive – Bob  
Refreshments  
Extraction  
Candle rolling -Sue  
Honey tasting  
Raffle
  - Annual Supper:  
Hire glasses from Asda  
Bring your own bottle  
Invitation tickets – Paul agreed to do e-tickets  
Sonia would be asked to do prizes for quiz and raffle  
Brandon James would do MC on arrival  
General quiz at the end of the evening  
Prizes presented by Kay  
Grace as usual  
Soft drinks on arrival  
Dinner family style on tables of eight  
Ask people to bring deserts which would be self service  
Seating and table plan  
Certificates for basic, modules, and certificates of attendance for beginners and intermediate courses presented by Bob  
Background music  
John to wrap up at end
  - Ploughing Match:  
Pitch has been booked. John will apply for entrance tickets.  
We need to focus on finding sites for bees.
  - Goatham's Packhouse Visit: on hold at the moment
5. **Correspondence:** BBKA sent a revision of the constitution for comment by associations. It was agreed that John Hendrie would keep a check on

this but for the most part we would leave it to the larger associations to deal with this.

6. **Website:** Jen Ferry asked if the website mentoring information could be updated with Tony's details. Paul reported that there had been general housekeeping done. In regard to a members' area which had been brought up on other occasions Paul agreed to speak to Michael. There would be a cost to this but it was generally felt that a members area would be a good move. As yet, nothing had been done about out apiaries.
7. **Out Apiaries:** It was felt that we needed to be more pro-active about sourcing possible out apiaries. Requests for possible sites should be on the website, and Facebook making the specific requirements clear. A simple leaflet for personal information with our contact name and admin e-mail address on the reverse, for visitors to the Honey Show and the Ploughing match should be available. Once sites were available, a description of the site would be listed for members in the members area
8. **Apiary site:** There would be a tidy up day on 1 September from 12-2pm which would then run into the open apiary afternoon.  
New sites: Bob Smith reported that there was a more than 50/50 chance of something at the cricket club. He had received an email from John Myatt. There are some security issues.
9. **Any Other Business:**
  - Sheila had received a request from the National Grid at Grain from a third party, David Green. The NG would like to place some hives on their site. This to tick the environmental box but also to sell honey for charity. They would need a beekeeper. It was not clear what the association or the beekeeper would get out of the deal and it was agreed that Sheila would arrange, to view the site and ask the relevant questions before a decision is made.
  - Extractor Hire: Sheila suggested that there be a co-ordinator for the hire of the extractor. This would ensure that someone knew where it was and could arrange for it to be passed on smoothly. At the beginning of the year it would need to be collected from the apiary and returned at the end of the extracting season. Sheila agreed to co-ordinate this.
  - Paul Lawrence reminded the committee that emails should be sent Bcc. Any messages that were encrypted should use the password available from Paul.
  - Bob Smith informed the meeting that he would be taking over in BBKA News, from Wally Shaw – watch this space!
  - Central Association of Beekeepers have offered a bursary for young beekeepers (18-25) to attend their Autumn Conferenc

10. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 18 September *at 2pm to 4pm* at 7 South Avenue

11. **Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_