

# South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association



Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 via  
[Zoom Meeting](#) at 7.30 pm

	Actions																																																										
1. <b>Present:</b> Alan Greenman (Chair), Barry Crossley, Claire George, Ed Bennett, Stuart Roberts & Trevor Smith.																																																											
2. <b>Apologies:</b> Dayna White & Clive Stewart.																																																											
3. <b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> Ratified.																																																											
4. <b>Matters arising or items not on the Agenda:</b> None.																																																											
<p>5. <b>Review of Previous Committee Meeting Actions</b></p> <p>5.1: Outstanding actions were reviewed; 10 remain open.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Count of Actions</th> <th colspan="4">Months Open</th> <th rowspan="2">Grand Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>1</th> <th>12</th> <th>15</th> <th>18</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Committee Area</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Events</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H&amp;S</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quartermaster</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td><b>7</b></td> <td><b>1</b></td> <td><b>1</b></td> <td><b>1</b></td> <td><b>10</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>5.2: Actions raised in Sep '20: 11 of 18 were closed – Well done committee!</p>	Count of Actions	Months Open				Grand Total	1	12	15	18	Committee Area	3				3	Education				1	1	Events		1			1	H&S	1		1		2	Membership	1				1	Quartermaster	1				1	Treasurer	1				1	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	
Count of Actions		Months Open					Grand Total																																																				
	1	12	15	18																																																							
Committee Area	3				3																																																						
Education				1	1																																																						
Events		1			1																																																						
H&S	1		1		2																																																						
Membership	1				1																																																						
Quartermaster	1				1																																																						
Treasurer	1				1																																																						
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>																																																						
<p>6. <b>SSDBKA AGM</b></p> <p>6.1: Planning for next year's AGM is to commence. Considerations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How it will be held e.g. Zoom meeting.</li> <li>• Recruitment of new committee members; treasurer and events co-ordinator vacancies to be advertised in the newsletter.</li> </ul>	Alan																																																										
<p>7. <b>BBKA Annual Delegate Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Decision on Final SS&amp;DBKA Voting Position re BBKA Consultation documents on ADM (Annual Delegate Meeting) voting &amp; admission of new associations.</b></p> <p>a. The committee agreed to vote in principal for larger organisations and against the weighted voting proposal.</p>																																																											

<p>b. The committee agreed Stuart has delegated authority to vote alternatively if a compelling argument was presented at the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>8. Stakeholders update:</b></p> <p><b>8.1: National Trust (NT);</b> Alan met with the NT Head Gardner (Caroline) on 12<sup>th</sup> Oct. The NT organisation size at Shugborough has been reduced and plans for the walled garden adjacent to the apiary are on hold. Caroline will remain the club's point of contact. NT pleased we had tidied up the site. NT are keen to keep SS&amp;DBKA at Shugborough and work with the club.</p> <p><b>8.2: Apiary location:</b> NT are happy for the apiary to stay in its current location.</p> <p><b>8.3: Marque location options:</b> It has been agreed we can locate the Marquee on the hard standing adjacent to the bridge or anywhere along the side of the apiary up to the end of the wall.</p> <p><b>8.4: Access to NT Shugborough Facilities:</b> NT is willing to provide access to onsite facilities once Covid meeting restrictions are lifted; Facilities include a lecture room with a kitchen, seminar room, a gardener's building in the walled garden and café.</p> <p><b>8.5:</b> Club to request viewing of facilities in early December to better understand how they could be used to support beekeeping and if this would change plans for marquee purchase options, e.g. potential fund diversion to fitting out a more permanent facility.</p>	<p>Alan / Stuart</p>
<p><b>9. Treasurer's update</b></p> <p><b>9.1:</b> A Finance Summary showing a £22.1k balance with an updated Cash flow has been issued to the Committee.</p> <p><b>9.2:</b> Despite the year's challenges we appear to have had a good year. We had £20.5k at the start of 2020 and are heading to circa £24k at the year's end. This is due to decreased expenditure on lectures whilst income has been maintained.</p> <p><b>9.3:</b> Cash flow has increased above the previous projection due to income from ambrosia and honey sales and the Honey Bee Experience day.</p> <p><b>9.4:</b> A zoom subscription has been included in the cashflow. The Committee agreed next year's cashflow should also include provision for this.</p> <p><b>9.5:</b> Remaining income expected in December is predominantly membership renewals.</p> <p><b>9.6:</b> Next year's cashflow, is presently based upon 2019.</p> <p><b>9.7:</b> Fundraising for the new marquee is to be covered by this year's honey and sugar sales.</p> <p><b>9.8:</b> Funds are available for a Christmas Special zoom lecture.</p> <p><b>9.9: Amazon Smile:</b> 22 people registered and 160 purchases made so far. 1<sup>st</sup> payment expected at the end of the month.</p> <p><b>9.10:</b> A £1m local grant opportunity has been investigated but was discounted.</p>	<p>Stuart</p>

<b>10. Membership Secretary's update</b>		
10.1:	Annual Survey results: were reviewed by the Committee. There was a good level of returns and positive responses. The following points were noted along with <i>actions</i> the committee intend to take to address them:	
10.2:	Notable that people want to return to the apiary on preferably on Saturdays to join inspections (Friday least popular).	
10.3:	There was clear desire for mentoring programme to be maintained and expanded where possible.	
10.4:	Interest was expressed in virtual beekeeper catch-ups with similarly experienced peers, chaired by a more seasoned beer keeper. <i>Stuart is to propose groupings initial thoughts are Thursday nights cycling weekly beginners, intermediate and advanced levels with proposed topics of conversation.</i>	Stuart
10.5:	Interest in bee safaris – <i>to be built into education programme.</i>	
10.6:	Interest in purchasing of beekeeping materials remains high.	
10.7:	Little interest in equipment hire (limited to extractors) idea of extraction room at the Shugborough Apiary not supported.	
10.8:	Interest in supporting apiary maintenance remains high and is welcomed <i>Significant contributions from the Brewins were noted and they are to be formally thanked.</i>	Alan/Ed
10.9:	A high proportion of members would support donation to a marquee fund.	
10.10:	Several ideas for fund raising were received and noted. Ideas will be taken forward if considered viable.	
10.11:	Provision of food for Apiary Maintainers was suggested – <i>to be trialled at spring session.</i>	Trevor
10.12:	Other event ideas were suggested including a mead tasting evening and Bee keeping equipment auction; <i>these have been noted for consideration in future events programme.</i>	
10.13:	Several Social media requested were made for e.g. Facebook and What's App – <i>there are existing groups, these are to advertised via the newsletter.</i>	Alan
10.14:	Communications: What's on this Week and the newsletter were well received.	
10.15:	A plan for Hilton Green's apiary was requested – <i>We will arrange a meeting with Hilton Green representatives to discuss this.</i>	Stuart / Trevor
10.16:	Website events calendar needs to be maintained - <i>action is to be taken advertise known events and maintain currency of information.</i>	Alan

<p>10.17: A request was made to consider the balance, mix / pattern of theoretical beekeeping versus practical experience opportunities. <i>To be considered subject to education team's other commitments.</i></p> <p>10.18: Club presence at community events was suggested – <i>we will continue this when possible.</i></p> <p>10.19: The suitability of hire equipment was questioned – <i>equipment hire options are to be limited and only equipment suitable for hire will be offered.</i></p> <p>10.20: A committee 'Who's Who' page was requested – privacy concerns were raised re putting info on the website; <i>however, the April newsletter is to consider a new committee spotlight item.</i></p>	Alan
<p><b>11. Correspondence</b> None received.</p>	
<p><b>12. A.O.B.</b> None.</p>	
<p><b>13. Date of next meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b></p>	