

# South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association



Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at Surestore in Cannock and also via [Zoom Meeting](#) videoconference at 7.30 pm

	Action																																																																
<p><b>1. Present:</b> In the room: Alan Brewin, Chris Brewin, Claire George (Chair), Dayna White, Ed Bennett, Stuart Roberts &amp; Wendy Woodward and online: Julie Hamer.</p>																																																																	
<p><b>2. Apologies:</b> Alan Greenman, Jo Berriman &amp; Phil Atkin.</p>																																																																	
<p><b>3. Minutes of the last meeting:</b> Ratified.</p>																																																																	
<p><b>4. Matters arising or items not on the Agenda Item Schedule</b></p> <p>4.1: Nucleus sales 2022 – The committee agreed the sale price of Nucleus with colonies will increase to £155, to cover the increased retail prices of polynucs. A suggestion to use Corex-board nucleuses was discounted as it was felt polynucs were more useful to beginner's.</p> <p>4.2: Lawn mower repairs – The committee agreed to spend up to £500 refurbish the lawnmower donated by the National Trust.</p>																																																																	
<p><b>5. Review of Previous Committee Meeting Actions</b></p> <p>5.1: Outstanding actions were reviewed; 20 remain open.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 1301 997 1727"> <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>3</th> <th>4</th> <th>5</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Apiary</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apiary NT</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communications</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H&amp;S</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stakeholders - President</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td><b>6</b></td> <td><b>4</b></td> <td><b>7</b></td> <td><b>3</b></td> <td><b>20</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>5.2: Actions raised in January '22: 19 were raised – 13 closed; Well done Committee!</p>	Count of Actions	Months Open				Grand Total	1	3	4	5	Apiary	1		3		4	Apiary NT			4		4	Chair	1				1	Communications	3	1			4	H&S	1	1		1	3	Membership		1			1	Stakeholders - President		1		1	2	Treasurer				1	1	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	
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<p><b>6. Membership Secretaries update</b></p> <p>6.1: <b>Swarm Collectors List: 2no Additions approved;</b> Congratulations to Carl Stanyard and Phil Atkin.</p> <p>6.2: <b>Creation of corporate / commercial membership engagement policy inc. fees.</b> The BBKA membership office were approached, but offered little advice other than to set up corporate / commercial organisations as individuals in the ER2 as per schools. Association members currently supporting these organisations are to be canvassed for their opinions.</p>	<p>Claire</p>
<p><b>7. Education Co-ordinator's update</b></p> <p>7.1: Honey Bee Experience – Beginners Course Booking Process: The committee agreed website information could be improved to reduce queries and the booking system simplified and modernised. The committee has experienced some challenges communicated the status of bookings and payment, due to the devices used to access the clubs' records being blocked due to security and access to the bank accounts. Currently people's names are registered, but only added to the Gmail list when payment is confirmed. The process is felt to be admin heavy.</p> <p>7.2: Eventbrite is to be investigated for future Honey Bee Experience and Beginners course booking.</p> <p>7.3: Healthy bee day: Wendy has discussed combining this with the club's Honey Show, with the Regional Bee Inspector for Western England (Jonathan Axe) and it was agreed in principle that this could be done. It was agreed to progress this approach.</p> <p>7.4: Junior Certificate: It was agreed for arrangements to be made for Junior club members to take this in the summer.</p>	<p>Wendy</p> <p>Wendy / Stuart</p>
<p><b>8. Event Co-ordinator's update</b></p> <p>8.1: 2022 Honey Show location confirmed to be held at the Northfield Centre.</p> <p>8.2: Bee Safaris: The club intends to offer these this year. We have already had an offer from Matthew Ingram (<a href="#">Holt Hall Apiary</a>, Tamworth) to host one.</p>	
<p><b>9. SS&amp;DBKA AGM Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Shareshill Village Hall</b></p> <p>9.1: 2022 committee roles: Expressions of interest received for Membership Secretary from Chris Shaw and Stuart Roberts. All expression greatly received prior to nominating and voting at the AGM.</p> <p>9.2: BBKA ADM (Annual Delegate Meeting) representative – <i><u>not discussed but a new representative will be required for 2022</u></i></p> <p>9.3: The opportunity for general committee member positions is to be advertised.</p>	

<p>9.4: Honorary Life Members Nomination: The request to consider a member for honorary Life membership (made at last year's AGM) was further considered (note Precis of relevant clauses from constitution in May '21 minutes, page 2). The constitutional process requires a resolution to be made by the committee for the membership to vote upon. However, at this time the committee, are unwilling to do this, as there is no established criteria on which to base the nomination i.e. the length of and quality service to beekeeping required, and it was felt that several members of the association could be eligible. In order to progress this, criteria would need to be established and incorporated within the constitution.</p> <p>9.5: Presently the association only has one Honorary Life Member Geoff Hopkinson, whose status was conferred by the BBKA and then matched by the association.</p> <p>9.6: An alternative proposal to create concessionary membership was discussed. However it was felt that as the membership fee is relatively small and the intention behind the initial proposal was to confer an honour on a member, which this would not address – concessionary membership creation would also require constitutional change and as such the committee decided not to progress this.</p>	
<p><b>10. Communications update (including Website &amp; Newsletter)</b></p> <p>10.1: e-mail and contacts process: Stuart has documented the process and it has been included in the new committee member starter pack; text to be adjusted for new committee members question perspective e.g. How do I?</p> <p>10.2: Correspondence: it was agreed to forward only unusual items to the secretary that require discussion at committee.</p> <p>10.3: SS&amp;DBKA Annual Overview – The draft single page overview of activities add to new Committee Starter Pack – comments welcomed.</p> <p>10.4: Website update: An exercise has been undertaken to confirm what the committee thinks a good website homepage should look like – which will be used to inform design of a new home page.</p> <p>10.5: A Honey Map - to advertise where people sell their honey is to be considered as a feature for the new website.</p>	<p>Ed / Stuart</p> <p>All</p>

<p><b>11. Correspondence</b> – 25 items received. Responded to in green  3 from BBKA  7 No. relating to Honey Bee Experience  14 No. relating to Beginners Training Course</p> <p><b>Jan</b>  14<sup>th</sup> - Beekeeping opportunity at HMP Swinfen Hall – Wendy responded.  14<sup>th</sup> - Request for Beginner course info.  16<sup>th</sup> - Request for Beginner course info.  17<sup>th</sup> - Request for Beginner course space.  18<sup>th</sup> - Request for Honey bee Experience day and Beginner course info.  19<sup>th</sup> - Request for Honey bee Experience day dates and availability.  20<sup>th</sup> - Request for Honey bee Experience day and Beginner course info.  20<sup>th</sup> - Frames offered for sale to the association – not accepted as not good value.  21<sup>st</sup> - Request for Beginner course info.  22<sup>nd</sup> - Request for bee Experience day and Beginner course info.  25<sup>th</sup> - LS 2022-01-25 Spring Convention adverts for your Newsletter.  25<sup>th</sup> - Uttoxeter Biodiversity Open Day - 24th February – see below  26<sup>th</sup> - Request for 2 spaces on Beginner’s Course.  26<sup>th</sup> - Request for honey bee experience day space.  27<sup>th</sup> - LS 2022-01-27 Use of Neonicotinoids on Sugar Beet.  31<sup>st</sup> - HBE or Beginners Course booking request.</p> <p><b>Feb</b>  1<sup>st</sup> - Member of public request – when is next Beginners course and how to sign up for it?  1<sup>st</sup> - Beginner’s Course Booking request.  3<sup>rd</sup> - Wildlife at Stafford Castle Event 22nd May 10:00 – 16:00 – Stall opportunity  5<sup>th</sup> - Request for Beginner course info.  8<sup>th</sup> - request for Beekeeping group info. info.  8<sup>th</sup> - Request for Beginner course space.  8<sup>th</sup> - LS 2022-02-08 Robert Paxton Lecture on Viruses 16th Feb. Plus Honey Labelling Petition – forwarded to Stuart to send to members.  10<sup>th</sup> - Request for Honey bee Experience day and Beginner course info.  12<sup>th</sup> - Request for 2No. Honey bee Experience day places.</p> <p>Strategy for club engagement with 3<sup>rd</sup> party shows (e.g. offers / requests for stalls) discussed its based upon historic attendance – these are primarily opportunities for members to sell their honey to the public – although at some the Association is represented and promoted. Opportunities to be logged for future reference in new committee starter pack.</p>	Ed
<p><b>12. A.O.B.</b></p> <p>12.1: The requirement to record attendees of the apiary was discussed and it was agreed this is only required for Beginners to confirm course attendance.</p> <p>12.2: The committee agreed to buy a wax stripper for the apiary.</p>	
<p><b>13. Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March '21 <b>by Zoom only</b> to inform AGM preparations</p>	