

South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 24th Mar 2022
at Shareshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Attendance:

There was excellent attendance with a packed village hall.
All 2021-2022 Committee Members were present.

1. Chairman's Introduction

- 1.1: Alan Greenman opened the meeting; noting this was his 3rd and final year as Chair, he thanked the 2021-22 Committee and noted the on-going challenges the Covid Pandemic had brought. He wished everyone well and hopes they are ready for the 2022-23 Beekeeping season.
- 1.2: An AGM Document Pack was issued in advance of the AGM, this included the Agenda, Treasurer's report inc. accounts, Education Report, Apiaries Report and previous minutes; For brevity, reports previously issued are not summarised here – but are referenced where appropriate in the minutes.

2. President's Address by Stuart Roberts

Since the last AGM a lot has happened. We successfully delivered a face-to-face beginner course after starting over Zoom for the lectures and we welcomed a delightful intake of new beekeepers.

A particularly good and engaging group. A number of them taking nucs of bees away from the apiary and starting their beekeeping journey at home. To which we offered support.

It is not always straight forward and there have been some issues to sort out such as queens living under the hive rather than in the hive.

Following the beginner's course, we had candidates who took the basic and the honey bee health certificates. There were also several successful people taking modules.

At the end of the summer there was the challenge of moving the apiary from the walled garden site to the new location at the Kennels. This was masterminded by Chris and Alan Brewin who deserve a huge vote of thanks – A presentation of flowers and wine was made to the Brewins and the room applauded.

They were assisted by an army of volunteers who gave their time over multiple weekends. It couldn't have been done without this massive team effort. Most

surprising, I guess, is the number of our new beginners who have helped over these weekends. We thank you for all your efforts.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Alan who has remained at the helm throughout. His calm guidance has been exemplary, and his excellent newsletters are universally liked. Hopefully he will continue to produce them.

So despite being in the middle of a global pandemic South Staffs has gone from strength to strength. I wish the new committee every success for the future.

3. Treasurer's report

3.1: Julie Hamer summarised her report, included fund raising and main purchases. The net income was circa £2k and cash balance of accounts is circa £25k.

3.2: Claire George independently examined the accounts and found them to be acceptable.

4. Other reports (included in AGM Pack) – Any questions?

- a. Education & Exam Secretaries Report (kindly received from Wendy Woodward & Trevor Smith).
- b. Apiaries Report (kindly received from Chris Brewin & Phil Atkin).
- c. Minutes of 2021 AGM.

No queries were received.

5. Constitution Changes

There will be no changes this year. Re the proposal to consider nomination of additional Honorary Life Members received at the 2020-21 AGM, this was considered by the 2021-22 committee, whom noted that there were no specific criteria for the basis of nomination and as such until this was defined it would not be appropriate to nominate new Honorary Life Members.

6. Elections

6.1: The following were elected, by a show of hands:

#	Role *Required by Constitution	Previous Role Holder	Nominations Received	Elected to 2022-23 Committee
a	President *	Stuart Roberts	As left	Alan Greenman
b	Chair *	Alan Greenman	As left	Claire George
c	Secretary *	Ed Bennett	As left	Ed Bennett
e	Treasurer *	Julie Hamer	As left	Julie Hamer
f	Membership Secretary	Claire George	As left	Chris Shaw
g	Education Secretary	Stuart Roberts	None	Wendy Woodward & Trevor Smith
h	Apiary Coordinator	Trevor Smith	As left	Chris & Alan Brewin
I	AHAT Coordinator	Clive Stuart	As left	Clive Stuart
J	Health & Safety Coordinator	Clive Stuart	None	Vacant
K	Communications Secretary	Alan Greenman	Jo Berriman	Jo Berriman
L	Events Co-ordinator	Vacant	As right	Phil Atkin
M	Quartermaster	Dayna White	As left	Dayna White

6.2: Thanks to Ex Committee Members: Stuart Roberts (departing).

6.3: Congratulations to existing Committee Members taking new roles: Alan Greenman (President), Claire George (Chair).



6.4: New Chair, Claire George, welcomed the new committee members saying that she was looking forward to a bright future for the club in 2022 and beyond.

6.5: Congratulations to new Committee Members: Chris Shaw, Wendy Woodward & Trevor Smith.

6.6: Please note post-election there are still vacancies on the Committee.

6.7: The 1st Committee Meeting for 2021-22 will be Wednesday 21st April.

7. Any other business by permission of the Chair

A question was raised by Phil Healey if we would support Ukrainian refugee Beekeepers – to which we responded we would provide as much support as possible.

8. Presentation of BBKA Certificates

Presentation of certificates: All the club members in the photograph below either earned their basic assessment or passed a BBKA module exam during 2021. Well done to you all.



Congratulations to Jess Bennett, Ed Bennett, Russell Barlow, Chris Brewin, Alan Brewin, Ben Bowen, Jan Horstink, Jo Berriman, Wendy Woodward and Trevor Smith who all received BBKA certificates on the night.

9. Key Note Lecture: Hayley Mival, General Manager, National Trust Shaping Shugborough: Designing for a sustainable future

The AGM concluded with a keynote talk by Hayley Mival (pictured right) and Caroline Beacall from the National Trust at Shugborough who told us about the Trust's exiting plans for the Shugborough Estate and how the association would be part of that future.

