

# South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association



Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at Surestore in Cannock and via [Zoom Meeting](#) videoconference at 7.30 pm

	Action
1. <b>Present:</b> Alan Greenman, Claire George (Chair), Dayna White (via zoom), Ed Bennett, Trevor Smith & Wendy Woodward.	
2. <b>Apologies:</b> Alan & Chris Brewin, Chris Shaw & Julie Hamer.	
3. <b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> Ratified.	
<p>4. <b>Matters arising or items not on the Agenda Item Schedule</b></p> <p>4.1 <b>BBKA Link Trustee (Jane Medwell) advice re company requests for beekeeping support / advice:</b> Jane acknowledges that local associations are receiving increased enquires from companies associated with making ISO14001 Corporate Environmental Commitments and will raise the issue with the BBKA; It has been suggested a leaflet could be produced for associations to offer companies with some options, including supporting a wider range of forage.</p> <p>4.2 In the interim, it is suggested we direct companies to the existing BBKA website page (<a href="https://www.bbka.org.uk/offer-land-to-bees">https://www.bbka.org.uk/offer-land-to-bees</a>) which provides a service for those wishing to offer land to bees. This includes information on the considerations for siting apiaries, a map facility for those offering their land to advertise sites to beekeepers, and draft beekeeping agreements.</p> <p>4.3 Apiary sites requests for support – Wendy kindly supplied a report detailing five requests from organisations relating to apiary sites, categorised as:</p> <p>a) requests for support in establishing apiaries and beekeeping communities, b) requests to manage existing apiaries, c) offers of sites.</p> <p>4.4 Requests will be responded to on a case-by-case basis, whilst the association develops its policy / procedures for standardised responses to requests such as these; Chris and Alan Brewin are to be asked to review existing BBKA documentation and help develop our approach.</p> <p>4.5 <b>Shugborough Apiary Report October 2022</b> received from the Brewins; thank you; no action required.</p> <p>4.6 <b>Bees at work sign</b> – proposed for the Kennel Apiary to discourage public access – wording TBC.</p>	<p>Wendy</p> <p>Chris / Alan Brewin</p> <p>Chris / Alan Brewin</p>

## 5. Review of Previous Committee Meeting Actions

5.1: Outstanding actions were reviewed; 14 remain open.

Count of Actions	Months Open					Grand Total
	1	3	4	11	12	
Apiary					2	2
Chair	1	1				2
Apiary NT					3	3
Communications	3		1			4
Membership				1		1
Quartermaster	1					1
Treasurer	1					1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>

5.2: Actions raised in Sep '22: 6 were raised – 0 closed!

## 6. Stakeholders update

### 6.1: National Trust

- a. **Feedback from 4th Oct meeting:** Chris Brewin has kindly provided notes (Shugborough Apiary Relocation - Notes from National Trust Meeting 04/10/22), which document our requirements for the apiary site when it is relocated adjacent to the walled garden and our understanding of what the NT are proposing to provide. The proposed walled garden site and the current Kennels apiary site were visited by the attendees (Alan Greenman, Alan & Chris Brewin and NT representatives including a Landscape Architect (HTA Design LLP Oliver ?)).
- b. The meeting was very positive, although some concerns were raised relating to provision of sufficient space / facilities outside the bee yard to support for the association's activities, and proximity of the public access routes adjacent to the apiary site – risking bee stings.
- c. An offer has been made to NT's architect to visit the Kennels apiary site in the summer to see it during teaching operations.
- d. NT plan to submit their Planning Application in November. The apiary move is forecast for winter 2024 /25 if all goes to plan.
- e. Alternative apiary sites could be considered if NT provision considered insufficient. Analysis of active members and potential locations to be undertaken.

6.2: **Matters for 9<sup>th</sup> Nov meeting:** An agenda has been proposed by NT comprising: 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary plans – celebration event, apiary review: current year at the kennels; future planning and license 2022/23, AOB secure storage.

Alan

Ed

<p><b>7. Events update</b></p> <p>7.1: <b>Feedback from Honey Show &amp; Convention (15<sup>th</sup> Oct '22)</b> The show was a huge success considering there had been a break from honey shows and the format was new. All involved have been thanked. It has been reported on <a href="#">website</a> and <a href="#">facebook page</a> and will be featured in our <a href="#">November</a> newsletter. Great feedback has been received from the judge and members. The open judging was really appreciated by the membership. All agreed the venue and catering were of a high standard.</p> <p>7.2: <b>Honey Show 2023:</b> Members whom want to get involved with planning the 2023 show should contact the committee. John Goodwin has been booked again at the same location for Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2023.</p> <p>7.3: <b>Winter Social Event: Date announced 26<sup>th</sup> Nov @ Shareshill Village Hall.</b> The social will include the Honey Bees &amp; Hornets game and a raffle. Claire will co-ordinate event planning.</p>	
<p><b>8. Treasurers update – postponed till next meeting.</b></p>	Julie
<p><b>9. Quartermaster's update:</b></p> <p>9.1: Additional square readers purchased, total of 3 available now.</p> <p>9.2: Purchases relating to 2023 education programme and apiary activities are to be made including magnifying glasses, torches and water sprayers (if not donated).</p>	Dayna
<p><b>10. Health &amp; Safety check</b></p> <p>10.1: Health and Safety Documentation to be reviewed in the spring.</p> <p>10.2: No specific issues raised at this time.</p>	
<p><b>11. Communications update (including e-mail, Website &amp; Newsletter)</b></p> <p>11.1: Website to have imagery added from honey show</p> <p>11.2: Weekly e-mail: feedback received that this is appreciated and working well.</p> <p>11.3: Location of club image store to be communicated to Committee members and documented.</p>	Gemma  Alan G
<p><b>12. Correspondence – 8 items received (3 below – others in matters arising 4.3). 1 from BBKA. <a href="#">Responded to in green.</a></b></p> <p><b>September</b> 29<sup>th</sup> Bee Inspector Recruitment in the National Bee Unit Western Region</p> <p><b>October</b> <a href="#">11<sup>th</sup> - Armitage W.I. 2023 – Request for talk – Wendy has responded – Dayna &amp; Claire to take fwd.</a> <a href="#">14<sup>th</sup> - BBKA Leigh Sidaway: Support and share the New Honey Petition – fwd to members</a></p>	
<p><b>13. A.O.B. None</b></p>	
<p><b>14. Date of next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> November '22 &gt; postponed till 29<sup>th</sup> Nov '22.</b></p>	