

Stowmarket & District Beekeepers' Association

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 8th January, 2018, 7.30pm.

ACTION

1. Present: Alan Seager (Chair), Maggie Lawrence (Secretary), Richard Martin, Roger Chapman, Steve Galpin, Steve Hammond, Tony Payne (President).
Apologies: Stella Zephraeus, Felix Oliver, Andy Smith
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as correct
3. Matters arising:
Display boards have been purchased and now stored with Tony Payne.
Thanks to Roger and Robert for all their efforts in bringing this to fruition
- 3a. Following the AGM, Maggie Lawrence was co-opted as Secretary. Steve Galpin and Steve Hammond were proposed by Roger Chapman and seconded by Richard Martin to join the Committee. Tony Payne proposed and Roger Chapman seconded Richard Martin to continue as Vice-Chairman. Committee present unanimously voted these appointments.
4. Correspondence/Show organiser: further to the request for a presence at the Hadleigh Show, Alan Seager reported that Robert Crozier has asked to step down from being show organiser but was willing to be involved to a lesser extent. Allan Seager to determine how much Roger wants to do and once ascertained, the post of Show Co-ordinator should be made – entails making programme, talking to show organisers, getting kit together and co-ordinating team to set up and man. Steve Galpin offered.
Maggie was advised that normal practice was to forward any requests for attendance at shows to the show coordinator
Ordinary correspondence should be accumulated for the next committee meeting unless it required attention before the next meeting in which case it should be circulated to the committee for consideration.
5. Treasurer's Report: Andy absent
6. Other meetings: Suffolk County Committee meets 4 times a year and SDBKA needs representation. Stella normally attends, but Allan would be happy to take the role as he resigns as Chairman of the County Committee this year.
Suffolk Show: Felix has been representative but finds it difficult to get to the meetings – 1 in March, 2 in April and May. Allan to ascertain if he wants to this year.
7. Mentor up-date: Roger Chapman confirmed 15 requests had been received and 15 mentors found.
As a result of the Survey, SDBKA meetings would be held monthly through the winter and fortnightly at the Club Apiary in the summer

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days would be fortnightly and events include swarm control, honey extraction, disease inspection, training following education path. Other ideas requested and a non-beekeeper's days was suggested. Maggie to circulate proposed programme to Committee and once agreed would circulate to membership. Nuclei – after discussion, Alan to propose method of producing nuclei and will pass to Tony and Richard for comments. This production needs a level of expertise and maybe 2 days needed – one at apiary and second at Tony's.

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8. Events: Club BBQ – 15th July 2018, Richard Martin to host, 12 noon
President's Day – 2nd September Tony Payne to host.
Christmas gathering – 13th December

9. Any Other Business

- a. Badges – needed for training, identity, post. Agreed the best would be plastic, credit card type with logo and changeable name under. Magnetic fastener. Roger Chapman to cost.
- b. Website – Facebook going well, but website considered clumsy and should have up-to-date event information, courses. Committee to think about website.
- c. Stowmarket Food Fair – 21st July – Alan Seager to ring re SDBKA involvement.
- d. Top Bar Hives – the group consists of 7 members with 2 Francescas leading. Steve H to explain to group about warre hives, Andy Smith has offered to home hive on his land which it was agreed must be accessible to SDBKA members. All but Richard Martin agreed SDBKA to donate £200 to this project.
- e. Richard Martin requested the Association not to reprint Secretary visiting cards.
- f. Committee members agreed to their names and contact details being published. Maggie Lawrence requested that her telephone numbers were not shared beyond the Committee
- g. Richard Martin agreed to continue swarm list.
- h. Apiary sites – any offers of land should be passed to Felix to be put on website (with landowner's) permission so that any requests for land can be referred to website.
- i. Richard Martin and Steve Galpin to chase membership renewal.
- j. Alan Seager requested following topics to be included on Agenda at next meeting – Members contact list, asset register, school groups, new members,

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10. Date of next meeting: 12th April 2018, 7.30pm at Tony Payne's, Elmswell