

## **Report on the BBKA Annual Delegates' Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Laurie Wiseman – Delegate for Suffolk Beekeepers' Association**

(For all papers of the 2019 ADM see - <https://www.bbka.org.uk/adm-2019>)

The Annual Delegates' Meeting was held at Myton School Warwick and was promptly started at 10.30am by the President Margaret Murdin. The President asked all delegates to stand for a minute in remembrance of the beekeepers who had passed away during the last year. The President then introduced the Trustees who were sitting beside her (most of whom were present) and asked Leigh Sidaway the BBKA's General Manger to introduced all the office staff who were present. She said that the office were to put telephone recording in at Head Office as the staff were being abused by some callers.

There were 8 Delegates absent from a possible 74 - there were 66 Delegates present at the meeting making a possible card vote of 23761.

**After the formalities of Apologies, Appointment of tellers and Adoption of Standing Orders** were concluded the substantive meeting started. **The Minutes of the 2018 ADM** were presented and accepted after a question was asked saying the minutes did not reflect some matters – a minimum amount of controversial and confidential matter was omitted.

### **Executive actions taken on resolutions of 2018 ADM.**

There was a debate about the Devon proposal regarding the importation of queen and packaged bees. 14,000 queen bees were imported into Britain last year but the greater majority of these was not BBKA members but commercial beekeepers. The BBKA have sat on a committee with DEFRA about the importance of bees in the countryside and what will happen Post BREXIT. Bees imported from Europe can come as it is a free market. If Britain crashes out of the EU it was felt that bees would be on a low priority of importance. Queen bees and package bees come in from Australia, New Zealand and Argentina but these have been certified so there is some control over these. It was said that 525 queen bees were imported from Argentina and that Argentina has Africanized bees.

### **Annual Trustee Committee Reports for the year ended 2018.**

The President said that Delegates had a view of all the reports in the ADM papers and that it was the intention was to present each report and if no questions were raised it would be assumed the report was accepted. This would speed matters and hopefully this would conclude matters of procedure by lunchtime and allow the afternoon for debating members Propositions.

Show Committee Report  
Spring Convention Report  
BBKA News  
Communications Committee  
Governance and Standing Orders Committee  
Fund Raising Report  
IMYB Report  
Examination and Husbandry Committee  
Research, Technical and Environmental Committee

**All Reports were Accepted - For 64 Against 1 Abstention 1**

### **Examination Board Report**

**Accepted - F 65 A 1**

### **Financial Report**

Unfortunately The Chairman of the Financial Committee Mr. Howard Pool was not in attendance but the finances of the BBKA are in a healthy sate with a surplus of £50,000 and that Capitation will again not be increased.

**Accepted - F 62 A 1 Abs 2**

## **Awards**

**The Surrey Shield** goes to the Association with the most passes of the Basic Examination (percentage wise). This year it went to **Newcastle and District Association**

**The George Memorial Appeal** (for the most examination results above the Basic exam) went to the **Gloucestershire Association**.

## **Appointment of Auditors**

Baldwins Audit Services were appointed as auditors.

**Accepted F65 Abs 1**

## **Budget Projections**

These were published before the ADM papers and sent to Area Associations for comment.

**Accepted F 60 A 1 Abs 5**

## **Applications for Membership of the BBKA**

Laddingford and District Beekeepers Association.

Laddingford has 59 members and had argued that their branch was forced to accept the BeeCraft magazine and wanted to join BBKA on their own to avoid this unfair practice. **The Delegates rejected this application.**

**F 34 A 20 Abs 12 Membership vote called for – F7520 A 10953 Abs 5288**

**Ellan Vannin Friendly Society - This application was withdrawn.**

## **Election of Executive Committee**

There were four vacancies and the three nominations. Three vacancies for three years, one vacancy for two years and one vacancy for one year. These nominations were voted upon:-

John Canning (62), Diane Drinkwater (58) and Margaret were (48) elected for three years.

## **Election for Examination Board.**

There were five vacancies and five nominations. Three vacancies for three years. One vacancy for two years and one vacancy for one year. These nominations were voted upon:-

Martin Anastasov (53) for three years

Lynne Ingram (43) for three years

Cellia Perry (34) for three years

Michael Cullen (61) for two year

StuartRoberts for one year

**Lunch Break**

## **John Hendrie Presentation**

A presentation was given to John Hendrie of his Past President's Badge for his services to the BBKA – he had occupied every position inside BBKA and represented BBKA on many other bodies.

## **Propositions**

It was agreed to take propositions in a different order than that show in the ADM Agenda.

## **Cleveland BKA Proposition No 8**

*“That video conferencing be available for all Trustee meetings”.*

A software package “Go To” was purchased for £240 last year which enables the intention of this proposition.

**Carried F 58 A 4 Abs 4**

### **Wiltshire BKA Proposition No 7**

*“To wind up BBKA Enterprises Ltd Company within twelve months of the BBKA becoming a charitable incorporated Organisation”.*

**Carried F63 A 1 Abs 2 (Hooray-LW)**

### **Executive Board of Trustees Proposition No 5**

*“That the non-recyclable plastic wrapping on BBKA News magazine be replaced with a recyclable alternative.*

**Carried F65 Abs 1**

### **Cleveland BKA proposition No 9**

*“That at least four hours of every ADM be dedicated to debating propositions from Area Associations”.*

**Lost F16 A 39 Abs 11**

### **Executive Board of Trustees Proposition No 4**

*“That a new category of Schools & Educational Establishments be admitted as a category of membership into the current BBKA constitution”.* This was amended to read *“That a new category of Schools & Educational Establishments and Universities be admitted as a category of membership into the current BBKA constitution”.* It was said that these university people were over eighteen and could join as registered members. **This amendment was lost F9 A43 Abs 4.** A second amendment was proposed to read *“That a new category of Schools & Educational Establishments registered with OFSTED and ESTYN be admitted as a category of membership into the current BBKA constitution”.* This amendment was **accepted F54 A8 Abs 4.**

**Substantive Proposition Carried F56 A 8 Abs 2**

It was stated that this proposition was for advice only and that branches would decide themselves whether to include this category into their own membership category and Constitution.

### **Dorset BKA Proposition No 6**

*“BBKA to participate in the Bee Trade Exhibition at Stoneleigh Park”.*

**Next Business was called for and the proposition was lost. F47 A17 Abs 2**

### **Executive Board of Trustees Proposition No 1**

*“That the BBKA adopt the new Trustee Discipline and Dispute Resolution Procedure (incorporating the Trustee Removal Procedure)”.*

**At this point the Executive said that although the documents for the new constitution had been published before the ADM date there have been many amendments and comments come in late and in fact at the ADM that needed serious consideration. These amendments and comments would affect the new constitution. It was asked that Delegates accept Propositions Nos 1 and 2 on the understanding that at the 2020 ADM the constitution would be debated and amended. Authority to be given to tidy up any grammatical errors. The general feeling of the Delegates accepted this.**

An amendment was made to Proposition No 1 to read *“That the BBKA adopt the new Trustee Discipline and Dispute Resolution Procedure (incorporating the Trustee Removal Procedure) and the Executive works with members to improve the Discipline and Dispute Resolution Procedure for re-adoption at the 2020 ADM”.*

**The amendment was carried F61 A 3 Abs 1**

**Substantive proposition required a 2/3 majority - Carried F60 A4 Abs 1.**

### **Executive Board of Trustees Proposition No 2**

*“That the BBKA adopt the constitution as amended with the new Trustee Discipline and Dispute Resolution Procedure (incorporating the Trustee Removal Procedure)”.*

On page 6 of new constitution item 10.1 (b) Area Association Members - there should be a **NOT** added between 'may' and 'apply'. **This correction was voted upon and carried F64 A0 Abs 0.**

Page 13 12 6 (b) delete the words 'by at least 10% of '. **This was voted upon F 23 A 30 Abs 6 a membership vote was called for F 14981 A 828 Abs 404 - the voted was carried.**

**Substantive proposition Carried F 64 A 0 Abs 0.** (one Delegate was absent at the vote)

**Item 5.1 in the old constitution - Delegate direction. It was accepted that this item although not appearing in the new constitution its content was spread about under different headings in the new constitution. This was voted upon and carried. F62 A 2.**

**A section on 'proxy voting' was voted upon (I did not get voting numbers) A membership vote was called for F 1630 A 6913 Abs 477 Proxy voting was lost**

On page 15 of new constitution item (vii) "each candidate (Trustee) must have carried out an administrative role within an Area Association" and item (viii) "each candidate must have kept bees for a continuous period of at least four years prior to his or her nomination". **This was voted upon F 29 A 32 Abs 2 a membership vote was called for F12280 A 9389 Abs 1812. This section was lost.**

**A vote was taken on the Proposition No 2 F59 A 4 Abs 0 a Membership vote was taken F 20414 A 3067 Abs 0 The Proposition was overwhelmingly carried.**

### **Executive Board of Trustees Proposition No 3**

*"That section of 19.5 of the current BBKA proposition to be replaced with the new Trustee Discipline and Dispute Resolution Procedure (incorporating the Trustee Removal Procedure)". **This was accepted on the understanding given by the Executive.***

**Carried (I did not get the voting figures)**

### **Devon BKA Proposition No 10**

*"If the intention of this proposition is not in the BBKA constitution, whether new or of existing, then the minutes of all elections, appointments and committee meetings of the Charity Trustees, both draft and final be available on the BBKA website as soon as they are composed for all members to see". **There were two amendments (which I did not manage to copy down). The last one asked that the final documents of meetings be published online.***

**Substantive Proposition Accepted F46 A 16 Abs 4**

### **Warwickshire BKA Proposition No11**

*"Contact suppliers of beekeeping equipment not to supply leather gloves in beginner kits".*

The Executive is to contact bee equipment suppliers to try and work with them to promote the wearing of disposable gloves over the top of leather gloves thereby maintain good hygiene standards.

**Carried F 44 A 6 Abs 6** (it was getting late and Delegates had left the meeting)

### **Meeting Closed 4:30pm**

Ps: I apologies for missing a few things but the meeting sped along and it was difficult to listen and take notes at the same time.

NB It was mentioned that Area Associations needed an Asian Hornet Coordinator was needed. This name would go on the Membership List at Head Office.