

CONSTITUTION of
HARROW BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

1. Title

The Association shall be called "Harrow Beekeepers' Association" (HBKA)

2. Objects

To promote, and educate the public in, the craft of beekeeping and the impact of bees on the environment

3. Affiliation

The Association is affiliated to the British Beekeepers' Association BBKA, through the Federation of Middlesex Beekeepers' Associations FMBKA.

4. Membership

Membership shall be open to those interested in beekeeping. Membership categories are:

Registered Members: Individual members of the Association in respect of whom a capitation fee has been paid to the BBKA via FMBKA.

Partner members: Individuals living at the same address as a registered member who pay a reduced subscription.

Country members: Individual members of the Association who are not active in beekeeping, who wish to support and are involved with the Association and who are registered with the BBKA.

Associate members: Individual members of the Association not involved in active beekeeping and who wish to support and be involved with the Association on a social basis but who are not registered with the BBKA.

Junior members: Individual members under the age of 18.

Honorary membership: The Association may confer Honorary Life Membership on any person. Honorary members shall be proposed by the committee and approved by the membership at a general meeting of the association. Honorary Members may be registered with the BBKA as Registered, Partner, or Country Members for the purposes of subscription management.

5. The committee shall have the power to refuse or withdraw membership. The individual shall have the right of appeal to the Trustees.

6. Officers and Management

The officers of the Association shall be a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Trading Secretary. The management of the Association shall be vested in a committee made up of the officers and up to twelve paid up members of the Association all to be elected annually. Committee meetings shall be called by the Secretary as required. The quorum for such meetings shall be four. The committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members. The committee shall meet a minimum of six times a year.

7. Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are payable annually in advance and shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting and be due at that meeting. Membership of the Association shall be void by default if the Treasurer does not receive the subscription by 31st December following the AGM.

8. Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Association shall be held by 30th November in each year, at which time audited accounts and reports shall be presented by officers, and other committee members as necessary for the approval by the members, together with any other business appropriate to an AGM. At least twenty-eight days notice of the AGM shall be given to all members. The quorum for the AGM shall be six members excluding officers and other committee members.

9. Special General Meeting

A SGM may be called at any time by the committee or by a letter signed by eight- members of the Association to the Secretary. The Secretary shall call a SGM within two calendar months thereafter, giving all members fourteen days notice. The business shall be limited to that specified in the notice of the meeting.

10. Voting at AGM and SGMs

The method and procedures governing voting at the meetings shall be decided by the Chair who shall have the casting vote in the event of a tie. All members are eligible to vote.

Voting by proxy or post is permissible at the discretion of and in accordance with procedure determined by the committee.

11. Elections

The committee shall be elected at the AGM and hold office until the next AGM when they must retire but may be re-elected. Nominations for the committee may be made and seconded by any two members of the association, acceptance for nomination having first been obtained.

12. Finance

Payments to the Association shall be placed in accounts in the name of the H.B.K.A. Withdrawals to be made on the joint signatures of any two of the Treasurer's, or Trustees' signatures.

The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st December.

13. The committee shall not be empowered to dispose of or to distribute assets of the Association having a value greater than the total annual receipts of the preceding financial year plus ten per cent in each financial year without the assent of at least two thirds of the members present and voting at the AGM or at a SGM

14. Use of Resources

The income and property of the HBKA shall be applied solely towards the objects and benefits of the Association and its members

15. Auditor

An Auditor shall be appointed at the AGM.

16. Alteration to the Constitution

The Constitution shall not be altered except at a General Meeting by a majority vote. The notice of the General Meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.

17. Dissolution

The Association may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those voting at a SGM convened for the purpose. Twenty-one days notice of the meeting shall be given.

In the event of dissolution of the HBKA all assets shall be realised. After the discharge of all liabilities, any remaining monies and other assets shall be donated to any established organisation or organisations pertaining to beekeeping as decided by the committee

18. Trustees

The Association shall have between three and five Trustees (at least one of whom shall not be a committee member). The Trustees shall meet at least once a year. The quorum for such meetings shall be two. The existing Trustees shall appoint additional Trustees.