

HARROW BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17th February, 2010
at the ABC Hatch End

Present: Judy Earl, Danuta Loveday, Odette Thomas, Aline Bowers, Jo Telfer, Susan Kelly, John House, Moira Spiers.

Apologies: Aubrey Kutner, Brian Desborough, Pat Dutson.

Minutes: of the committee meeting of 13th January, 2010 read & accepted.

Matters Arising:

Profit from calendars is £201.

Most of the subscriptions have now been paid. Several members have not re-joined.

Treasurer's report:

Aubrey sent in a short written report.

Current account is £5,854; from this we will soon pay out around £1400 to BDI, Capitalization for Middx. Federation and BBKA. Remainder of £4,500 plus savings account of £4,000 makes a total of around £8,500.

2010 membership form brought up-to-date with a few alterations. Aline to contact Aubrey.

Aubrey concerned about the wording on the form of 'annual fee' and suggested the word 'fee' be replaced by 'donation'. He felt the Inland Revenue might make it awkward for us to receive gift aid.

This discussed and there was a feeling that some members might object to the word donation and not pay the full amount.

Judy will check with the charity commission website and contact Aubrey.

Apiary sub-committee:

Judy went through the main items of 27th November report. She is in contact with Kazuba as the Enviroloo roof needs replacing with one piece of wood.

They seem keen to solve the problem.

PRIORITY is housing for the generator which throws out fumes and leaves the inside of the shed covered in soot. John House to contact member at West Harrow allotments where there is a purpose built cover for their generator.

Continuing Education:

Jo was thanked for a successful top-up course; she thanked the team for their help.

25 members on the spring course. 3 on the waiting list.

3 out of the 4 Association hives used for teaching have died. Buying in more colonies discussed; suggestion that these hives should be sold off at the end of

the season and money put towards new hives and bees. Jo given go-ahead to buy two nuclei.

Website:

This is working well. Suggestion that the forum should be opened to all without a password.

This was questioned as it could be open to abuse. Agreed to trial run; Judy to ask John Lawton.

Request that non members and lapsed members should not be able to access members' area on the site. This would require occasional change of password.

Middlesex Federation:

Pat unable to give a verbal update on the elections and results of voting at the ADM of the BBKA on 16th Jan. but written list provided. This item will probably be on the agenda at Federation Day.

Jo to provide a raffle prize worth £10 for Federation Day. Danuta offered to donate a smoker.

Jo would like an invoice produced for cost of using the ABC for general husbandry course.

Harrow in Leaf show:

Show schedule now out. Same judge as last year.

As HBKA's rep. on the Harrow in Leaf show committee, Judy felt that the concerns she raised at the last meeting were not clearly minuted and she'll ask this to be rectified at the next meeting.

AOB:

Aubrey had suggested that there should be attempts to do Queen rearing this year and appoint someone in charge. John and Moira said they would co-operate on this.

4 apideas to be retrieved from Ron Small.

Jo would like to purchase a table-top notice board - £59. Given the go-ahead. Susan mentioned the sad news of the death of Evalynn Kurrant, a good friend to HBKA. Six members attended her funeral.

Susan would like to borrow some items from the ABC for a talk on bees on 16th March.

Moira would like us to have a stall on one of the days of the Middlesex show, particularly as Pinner & Ruislip will be elsewhere. Costs & times not yet known. Aline has been sent details of the open day at the Grim's Dyke Hotel. This will be a free entry for us. Details of May Day at the Manor House & times at Grim's Dyke not yet out.

Odette would like a key to shed as equipment officer. This to be arranged.

Danuta said that the printers of Forager are happy to carry on with 100+ copies

each quarter. They will print more than 100 if requested. Out of the 100 printed, 92 posted, 2 delivered by hand and 6 spare. Pinner & Ruislip no longer receive it; they still owe us 4 copies from 2008 and 5 from 2009. Danuta to ask Aubrey to raise an invoice for these back copies.

Dates:

27th Feb 2010 Federation Day, Broomfield School.

6th 7th & 13th 14th March 2010 Beginners' course

25th March 2010 BBKA exams

20th April 2010 – Stoneleigh

3rd May 2010 May Day at the Harrow Museum & Heritage Centre

31st May 2010 Open Day at Grim's Dyke Hotel

19th & 20th June Middlesex Show

Date of next meeting:

Wed. 14th April, 2010 at 8.00pm at the ABC, Hatch End.

Meeting ended at 10.15pm