

**Harrow Beekeepers' Association**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday 7th November, 2009**

**President's Welcome:**

Van Hinman thanked everyone for coming to the AGM and thanked the Committee for their hard work over the past year.

**Apologies for absence:**

There were 19 apologies for absence from the members.

**Minutes of AGM 8th November 2008:**

Copies of the minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. There were no matters arising and the minutes were agreed, accepted and signed as a proper record of the November 2008 AGM.

**Chair's Report:**

Judy Earl began her report by stating that it had been a privilege to be Chair of Harrow Beekeepers. She outlined the major activities of the Association during our 90<sup>th</sup> year, starting with Gareth Thomas MP who planted a Pinner Seedling in the apiary to begin our celebrations.

Our website has been ably set up and run by John Lawton and our Ecotoilet is now in full operation thanks to our own funding and a grant from Harrow Council.

Our beginners and taster courses have been fully subscribed and new members have taken on swarms which have been collected by our busy swarm collectors.

A big thank you to Moira for organising the summer cheese and wine afternoon and tonight's event. Also to Van for the President's evening when we made inroads into his drinks' cupboard.

The public have shown an increased interest in beekeeping which was seen at the events we attended this year including Grim's Dyke Hotel, Bentley Priory, Harrow in Leaf show at Harrow Heritage Museum and at our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary day where the diversity of Harrow beekeeping was very evident.

She said there would be challenges for the Association next year with our spring course already fully booked and the pressure on members to find suitable sites.

On a personal note she finished by thanking the trustees, committee and members for their help and support during the year and hoped that the diversity of Harrow Beekeepers, its greatest asset, would continue so that there would still be a Chair of Harrow Beekeepers in 90 years' time.

**Reports from other Officers:**

**Brian Desborough - Apiary Manager/Trading Officer.**

Brian said that the year had been busy with the expanding number of members causing a problem of supply with the equipment sales.

The working parties on the first Sunday of the month had gone well as had the installation of the apiary toilet which will help with our educational activities.

He said that he plans to relocate the equipment for sale into the large container and he finished by thanking all who had helped him as Apiary Manager and Trading Officer during the year.

**Jo Telfer - Education Officer.**

Jo's report was circulated to the members and she listed the events we had attended during the year and the beginners' courses which had been held, thanking the teams who made them so successful. She thanked the members who helped at the apiary on Sunday mornings, the swarm collectors and Susan Kelly for organising a most successful 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary day at Hatch End Arts Centre which reflected the public's increased interest in bees and beekeeping.

**Treasurer's report:**

Copies of Aubrey Kutner's reports were distributed to members.

The first accounts were year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2008.

Total receipts came to £11,091.22. £965.51 is received in Inland Revenue Gift Aid.

These accounts have been submitted to the Charity Commission and can be seen on their website.

We have to submit detailed reports when our income is over £10,000.

Aubrey produced accounts for 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009 along with detailed notes and answered questions from members. Total receipts for this year - £13340.63.

The beginners' courses and sale of beekeeping equipment produces income for the Association. John and Mary were thanked for helping to obtain the grant from Harrow Council towards the new Enviroloo. The subs. for next year were discussed. It was proposed that they should remain at £47 in spite of the fact that Forager will in future be issued on a quarterly basis. The vote was carried that the subs. should remain at £47.

Aubrey was thanked for his detailed accounts and the work which goes into producing them.

**Election of Officers:**

Chair:	Judy Earl
Secretary:	Aline Bowers
Treasurer:	Aubrey Kutner
Trading Secretary:	Brian Desborough
Education & Membership Officer	Jo Telfer
Social Secretary:	Moira Spiers
Apiary Manager:	Brian Desborough
Deputy Apiary Manager:	John House
Equipment Officer:	Odette Thomas
Librarian:	Van Hinman
<i>Forager</i> Editor:	Jeremy Moore
<i>Forager</i> Deputy Editor & Harrow Notes:	Susan Kelly
<i>Forager</i> Distribution:	Danuta Loveday
Harrow in Leaf Delegate:	Judy Earl
Federation Representative:	Pat Dutson
Auditor:	David Passey of Landau & Morley, Lanmor House, 370-386 Wembley High Road, Wembley, HA9 6AX

As there was no other business, the meeting came to a close at 7.45pm followed by the members' dinner and social.