

HARROW BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 5th January 2011
8.0pm at the ABC Hatch End

ACTION

Present: Judy Earl, Odette Thomas, Jo Telfer, Aline Bowers, Brian Desborough, Pat Dutson,
John Lawton, Jessie Atack, Rob Atack.

Apologies: Moira Spiers, Danuta Loveday, Van Hinman, Susan Kelly, Aubrey Kutner

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

Matters Arising:

Generator needs servicing urgently.

Brian

9-frame electric extractor sold on E-bay for £470. Commission to E-bay of £39.

Money to go towards replacement of smaller extractor/s.

Odette will look at Park Bees' extractors and others.

Odette

Moir thanked for organising the AGM evening and the delicious food.

Judy to look at metal/wood options for the plaque in memory of Dawn.

Size of plaque agreed. Pat will also investigate possible suppliers.

Judy/Pat

Jo and John to investigate purchase of new/second hand stereo/compound microscope with digital projection from Brunel Microscopes. Given budget of £1000. **Jo/John**

Calendars – Judy thanked for organising the production and sale of HBKA calendars.

Treasurer's report:

No formal accounts produced as Aubrey not yet received Dec. bank account details. 17 members have not paid their annual subs. Therefore no January Beecraft and no BDI in force for these members. Aline and Aubrey to contact members.

Aubrey/Aline

Apiary sub-committee:

Minutes of 3.12.10. circulated. Main points highlighted.

Brian has produced final sketch for generator housing.

Scalpings on track are great improvement.

Painting of ABC nearly completed. Large filing cabinet to go.

Sheds cleared during last Sunday's working party.
Two hives have been removed from Orchard Grove site.

Insurance

Quote obtained from Zurich Municipal of £255.19 plus 5% tax. This includes cover for accidental damage; buildings cover for £30,000 plus £10,000 contents.
Harrow Council will provide a licence for us when insurance in place. Agreed to go ahead.

AOB:

John discussed the website. He would like hive order form to go on the site; also yearly queen colour codes. Would like members' page password changed.
Guest book not used, this to be closed down. Book list to go on website. Photos from 2010 to stay for this year.

Equipment for loan to be put on website members' page. Rob and Jessie to coordinate and will set up own system for lending out items.

Pat raised the Twickenham & Thames Valley BKA's proposition to the BBKA's Annual Delegates' meeting in January 2011 to break the links with the agro-chemical industry. BBKA has now withdrawn their endorsements for products used by agrochemical industry and the final payments to BBKA will be 2009 – 2010.

The Middlesex Federation AGM in February will look at proposition of Natural Beekeepers, a new Association in East London, who would like to be affiliated with an already established local association. Some concern raised regarding their beecraft methods as they use top bar hives, allow swarming, don't use sugar feed or any medication.

Jo outlined the Capital Bee Campaign launched in December 2010 by Mayor of London to offer 50 hives to 50 food growing community groups in order to boost bee numbers in London. They would require help with mentoring from established associations. Felt that our association stretched enough with own training requirements.

Number on beginners' course to be limited to 26.

Jo would like to hire the ABC for 3 sessions for Federation use for the module exam. A figure of £30 suggested.

Jo showed the Course in a Case (quite heavy). It seemed to contain much surplus paperwork !

Dates:

26th February 2011 Federation Day in Perivale; Ealing to organise.

26th March, 2nd April, 30th April 2011 Beginners' Beekeeping Course.

Date of next meeting:

Meeting ended at 9.55pm

Date of next meeting: 23rd March 2011