

**Minutes of the 669th Meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm**

Miller Hall, 41, Whitton Road, Twickenham.

**Present:** Chris Betley, Patrick Brennan, Neil Hillbery, Ted Chatley, Candida Williamson, Michael Foster, Jean Loveland, Warwick Francis, Ray Nicol, Kim Coles, Sarah Crofton

**Apologies:** Jenny Band, Irek Gajowniczek, Harvey Kirk, Alex Lawrence

**1. Minutes and Outstanding issues from last meeting**

No amendments required, Minutes accepted as read.

Outstanding issues: Recycle bins to be dealt with in due course.

**2. Apiary and Mole works**

**a. Hide**

Patrick has been unsuccessful in getting a quote for the floor of the hide. Nicobuild are awaiting a structural engineer. There has been no reply from Charlie. Alex and Neil suggest that the foundation is of a suitable depth to bolt the gazebo onto. Unfortunately the delays mean that the new gazebo and hide is not going to be completed for the 2019 season. Apologies to the Education committee.

**b. Benches**

Oak 3 seater benches. range from £250 to £450 (oak or teak )like for like replacement. The Rosina Clarke bench needs replacing.

**c. Mole Apiary**

The clean up was carried out 2 weeks ago. The shed has been removed and rubbish into the skip. The Beehous ehas been cleaned out and all tools have been temporarily located to the clubhouse.

There has been some progress in clearing the grounds, with the brambles on the south side taken back to the fence.

The House builder's signage to go ahead once Ray has the planning application number. Meeting at Mole suggested in due course once the Mole committee has been established.

**3. Correspondence Received**

ADM propositions to be circulated to the membership, together with the Apimondia newsletter. Advertising in Beetradex declined.

**4. Membership secretary's update (Warwick)**

The winter course is scheduled for 23/01/19 Wednesdays for 8 weeks. %0 people are on teh list. Membership levels are the highest we have had for a number of years.

The new BBKA membership system requires a "chosen few" to have access to the database (for GDPR compliance) therefore keeping all data clean in theory.

Questions for membership: survey is required in due course.

**5. Treasurer's Update (NH)**

Summary is circulated. There are no great changes. Money from the Honey show received, money out for expenses.

Stock is £7000 at present (Ted)

Income/expenditure is £7300 for the year.

Chris Berry is again happy to perform the audit for £100.

**Internet Access:** eg for checking database here at the Apiary. 4G using phone as hotspot does not require a long term contract. A card system is also required for the shop in due course.

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**6. Health and Safety Policy (JB)**

Jen to sort this out next meeting

**7. Asian Hornet Action Group**

AH traps and information to be shown on the website. There is a trap designed in France which is specific to A.H. rather than European hornet which can escape.

**8. AOB**

- a. Presidents evening Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November is Cheese and wine.
- b. Jean suggests resurrecting "Ted's Tips"
- c. 4 Lectures on Thursdays whilst the winter course is taking place suggesting Natural History/swarming /Integrated pest management.
- d. The committee extends its thanks to Kim who will leave the committee in March for all the hard work in bringing the library into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There are lots of volunteers to man the computer going forward.
- e. Module study group to be set up at the beginning of the year to all interested in the spring examination.
- f. Bee lecture for the centenary celebrations. Warwick will work the dates out Dave Coulson, Dale Gibson's wife (gardening for bees).
- g. Sonia from the Education group has been looking at the idea of donating a book "Betsy Valentine and the honey bees" to each of the schools that visit the Apiary. They are £14 each or cheaper in bulk. There are 30 schools. The committee has agreed for this to go ahead.
- h. Tree surgeon to be contacted (Ray) regarding removal of overhanging tree on south side of Mole apiary

**Meeting closed at 8.35pm**

**Next meeting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm**