

Minutes of the 683rd Meeting held on Wednesday 17th June at 7.30pm

Virtual meeting Google Meetup

Present: Warwick Francis, Patrick Brennan , Ray Nicol, Chris Betley, Candida Williamson, Jean Loveland, Jane Sachdev

Apologies: Clive Harris, Michael Foster, Ben Donaldson, Sarah Crofton,

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes accepted with two amendments

2. Covid 19 (Coronavirus)

Mole Apiary : Covid 19 signs now up at gate, social distancing, no working on adjacent hives and no use of kitchen unless for beekeeping purposes. Also no working on adjacent hives.

Twickenham Apiary: Booking system for hive visits working, one incident where two trainees were brought into Apiary grounds when other people had double booked.

3. Honey Prep Room

Streamlining of equipment hire and stock levels of shop required. Kit hire has a different account to the shop. Stock levels cannot be accessed remotely so Ted has to go to the Apiary.

Going forward with equipment hire, risk assessments required.

4. Apiary and Mole Works

Mole: Jane extends her thanks on behalf of the committee to Mick and Diane O'Shea for keeping Mole apiary grounds and garden "a pleasure to visit". They also managed Ian Whitehall's hives while he was shielding.

Twickenham:

- a. Hide is on hold, sail company order is not placed yet. Off agenda till 2021.
- b. Quote for railings put on hold
- c. Hives: Three new queens brought in to replace drone layers. Ray waiting for buckets to arrive for honey extraction to go ahead.
- d. Honey sale at Twickenham. Provisionally August bank holiday for sale of Apiary honey.

5. Correspondence received

Nothing of note, lots of correspondence re training, and one from a company offering hive inspections (Covid)

6. Membership Secretary (WF)

No changes since last committee meeting

178 members with:

129 regular members

10 partner

1 junior

2 Country

14 Family

6 Associate

6 Honorary

7. Treasurer's Update (Warwick)

Paid out inc. Capitation and BDI insurance £6096.93.

Income £9729.70

Total funds £81,000

Options limited as to higher interest rated for funds (0.25% at present), require easy access ie 1-2 months notice account.

Rates are in credit (Covid 19)

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8. AHAT

Nothing to report locally, no sightings. New asian hornet videos produced by FERA accessed online.

Rumours that 6 nests have been destroyed this year.

9. AOB

- a. Ray/Candy and Patrick are looking at the website with a view to making it more “mobile friendly” also Candy suggests our own photos for the website.
- b. Winter training: Looking at live streaming form, practice required with lectures via google classroom.
- c. AGM: Suspension of normal rules because of Covid 19. Need to elect new committee, officers and approve accounts. A resolution has to be passed to allow online voting.
- d. Accounts are awaiting the auditor. Approval of accounts first before AGM after restrictions lifted.
- e. The committee thanks the following people who hosted the Friday evening sessions: Warwick, Ray, Patrick, Gia.
- f. 75 on list for winter course. Options to accommodate beginners for practical training include
 - a. Use Mole apiary (ask committee there) or b. Consider alternate Friday evenings.

Meeting concluded at 8.43pm

Next meeting Wednesday 29th July at 7.30pm on google meetup for ratification of accounts