

Minutes of the 686th Meeting held on Wednesday 21st October at 7.30pm

Virtual meeting Google Meetup

Present: Warwick Francis, Patrick Brennan , Ray Nicol, Chris Betley, Candida Williamson, Ted Chatley
Jane Sachdev, Alex Lawrence, Harvey Kirk,

Apologies: Ted Chatley, Sarah Crofton, Candida Williamson,

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

Attention brought to correction regarding Dr Kennedy/Prof Osborne Bumbebee experts

2. Apiary and Mole Works

Mole:

Fence (discussed at last meeting) to be erected in the off season.

Petrol mower to be moved away from the area containing the torch which is now working.

Construction of new shed to be left until next season

Mick and Diane have done a sterling job in keeping the apiary neat and tidy and a pleasure to visit.

Twickenham Apiary:

1. The tap in the honey prep room has been replaced by Alex, high pressure hose is now fitted with non return valves fitted. Alex to produce receipts in due course
2. End of season, hives closed, tidying needed, sorting solars, cleaning of kit and cleaning of Margaret English room to deter wax moth. List of cleaning jobs was sent to committee on 10th Sept by Ray.
3. Sale at the shop early December pick up. Fondant, apibioxal added to list to be available to pick up at the apiary as usual.
4. Website based ordering to be rolled out next year, Sum Up charge 2.5% on sales. Ray and Patrick willing to take this forward, with replenishing stock/deliveries to be investigated further. Ray suggests IT meeting every other Tuesday, Candy, Ray and Patrick welcome any other interested parties to join. Next IT meeting Tuesday 3rd November at 7.30.

3. Coronavirus

Protocol for next year will be ready for the next meeting (Ray)

End of season event of holding a quiz is proving challenging. Ray to look into zoom facility.

4. Membership Secretary (WF)

1. Warwick sent out an email to people signed up for the winter course. A series of online seminars to be held starting at the beginning of January. The email explained that no practical time envisaged.
2. 32 have signed up for intense practical weekend at one or both apiaries, with mentoring.
3. One extra member has signed up since last meeting.

5. Treasurer's Update (Warwick)

Warwick is to send the completed set of accounts to the wider membership. It appears they can be signed off by the committee. The accounts can then be sent to the Charities Commission, if the association members have no objections.

John the Auditor has sent the invoice to Patrick to forward to Warwick.

Gift Aid is down £200 from the normal amount. Gift aid has to be ticked online or the Association does not receive it. Warwick to mention this on the next renewal email.

Income of £11,000, expenditure of £6000.

COIF bank requires another cosignatory in addition to Patrick. Chris B agreed to be additional cosignatory.

6. AHAT

No activity. James Mackenzie to be added to the list.

"Palm Centre" thought they had AH, Jean reported that DEFRA were notified but it was European hornet.

The only reported incident this year was a single hornet sighted in Gosport, Hants.

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Jean mentioned that garden centres are in a great position to provide information to the general public re. AH. There are packs provided by Non Native Species directive which may be useful in this.

Ray suggests a 30 minute talk on AH which could be advertised to the general public.

7. AOB

1. Jean is stepping down from the committee and moving to Seaford. On behalf of the committee Patrick would like to thank Jean for all her sterling work for the Association and for being a great ambassador for T&TVBKA over the years.
2. Jobs around the Apiary. Ray, Patrick, Chris, Jane willing to start but need to involve the membership before the next season begins.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

Next meeting December 2nd at 7.30pm Virtual on Google Meet.