

**Minutes of the 706th Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm**

on google meets/hybrid at Miller Hall

**Present:** Warwick Francis, Chris Betley, Harvey Kirk, Ray Nicol, Jane Sachdev, Julie Hill, Patrick Brennan, Jonathan Palmer

**Apologies:** Irek G

### 1. Minutes and Matters Arising

Karen Mann and Melanie/Ewan are also presenting at the Education group at the AGM. Jane has a list of school visits **not** outside visits.

Jane proposes the minutes as a true representation of the meeting, Julie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Outstanding issues: Patrick to sort out link to library once database complete.

Julie to contact M&S re. surplus sandwiches for a Friday night, Pret have been contacted.

Ray to deal with waterbutt overflow problem.

Reigate beekeepers visit on 5<sup>th</sup> March, Patrick to host.

### 2. Apiary and Mole Works

#### Mole:

1. Apiece of overhanging roofing has broken off at the porch area, suspected asbestos.

Jonathan to get advice from specialist.

#### Twickenham:

- a. **Ted's funeral** for close family only, A memorial for Ted to be arranged at the Apiary. Warwick to discuss with Fran (Ted's daughter).

Ideas for a fitting tribute to celebrate and remember Teds contribution to the life of the Apiary : ?A Ted Chatley memorial cup to be given at honey show in future/ ?best in show cup/naming of shop? More details in due course.

- b. **Future of shop.**

This takes time and commitment, frequent trips to Thornes in Windsor. Harvey willing to carry on with shop in short term but focus on items that are commonly bought eg.

Foundation /frames/jars/feed/treatments. We also need to find out the deal that Ted had with Thornes. Warwick thinks it is 10% discount with exclusivity to Thornes.

Ordering of perishables eg. Treatments possibly to go online.

Harvey to put all stock onto computer database and look to discard/sell equipment/items that do not sell regularly.

The membership are encouraged to come together on Friday evenings for social/lectures and talks as well as beginners' sessions. To leave shop open on Fridays as it was pre Covid.

Julie also suggests expanding the rentals for extractors. Patrick to set this up.

- c. **Prep for AGM**

24<sup>th</sup> March, Minutes and reports as one document. 28 days notice of date and time to be given. The pack to be given to membership 14 days beforehand.

- d. **Prep for upcoming season**

Earmarked March 4<sup>th</sup> for Apiary tidy day.

### 3. Education Group

A sum up of last year's activity to be submitted for the AGM. This information will include the number of schools/volunteers, included in the presentation organised by Jane, Karen Mann and Melanie.

### 4. Correspondence Received

Julie is willing to take this on ie [secretary@twickerbees.co.uk](mailto:secretary@twickerbees.co.uk). Warwick has passed on relevant communication to the membership

### 5. Membership

Email sent out in January, reminder to be sent in due course.

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Winer course fee charged at £75. A discount given to encourage them to become members (£25 per year) Beginners also get 3 months free Beecraft magazine.  
Carl has submitted a piece to both Beecraft and BBKA magazine in tribute to Ted, including a recent photograph.

**6. Treasurers update (WF)**

Warwick chasing COIF bank for information, the Auditor to receive this and all information for end of year report.

**7. AHAT**

BBKA Asian hornet day, Ray attended, recorded sessions available, link to be sent by Ray  
Alistair Christie from Jersey included in the list of speakers.

Of interest to everyone, there are 4 phases from prevention phase (1) to give up (4). Jersey is in phase 3 (manage). Andrew Durham has indicated that in France and Spain the government has given up. Defences are now front of hive, mesh deters AH and bees can get in and out. Electric harp used, which deters AH lets bees through, although can shock the beekeeper! Every hornet trapped and genome checked for provenance, they are trapped with a simple dish with paper towel dipped in trappit or pressed apple juice.

Hornets close to nest are aggressive, a special beesuit has been developed by BB wear. Away from their nests they are no more aggressive than European hornets.

Some French beekeepers are covering trapped queens with pesticide. Ray to email the link

**8. AOB**

1. Margaret Barron former member died recently (Patrick)
2. Alex getting together pictures of Ted.
3. Warwick has been asked by Melanie if she can become an associate member, she doesn't keep bees and does not need insurance, Warwick to find out if they are full members of another association. Proposal of £20 for Melanie and £5 for Ewan, total £25 for both. They would not be able to claim expenses unless they are members.
4. 17<sup>th</sup> March start of season,
5. Record keeping talk 14<sup>th</sup> April
6. Swarm night 21<sup>st</sup> April
7. IPM/Varroa 28<sup>th</sup> April

Meeting ended at 9pm.

Next meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March postpone till 5<sup>th</sup> April online