

**Minutes of the 711th Meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm**  
on google meets

**Present:** Warwick Francis, Patrick Brennan, Phil Webb, Christine Betley, Alex Lawrence, Jonathan Palmer, Jane Sachdev

**Apologies:** Ray Nicol, Julie Hill, Candida Williamson, Harvey Kirk.

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

Minutes proposed by Jane, seconded by Warwick as a true reflection of the meeting.

Unanimously accepted.

Ex-member's stuff in the Discovery room can be disposed of, possibly freecycle, Jane to go in on 15<sup>th</sup> September to sort.

The Ted Chatley Cup can be awarded in principle, the cup/board can be bought in the future.

The Bank Holiday Honey Sales did not take place this year, only three people expressed interest in it.

**2. Apiary and Mole Works**

**Twickenham**

- a. Varroa treatments placed on all hives.
- b. Quotes have been accepted for deep clean of the honey prep room
- c. A member from another association has asked to use the HPR. He has joined as an associate member. He is a commercial beekeeper and thus has more than the normal number of hives. There should therefore be a fair use policy as use of HPR for 60 hives puts strain on the mechanical parts of the extractors. He should be a member of the Bee Farmers association rather than BBKA. Patrick suggests new membership in this case.
- d. The HPR use per session to increase to £10 from next year for full paid up members with a cap on the number of hives. This will need to go to AGM in March.
- e. A member of another association has enquiries about using the HPR for a training session, WF has suggested they see the facility as it is restricted to 2-3 people at a time max. Our needs as an association need to come first. It was suggested that there will be a fee of £50 as there will have to be a member of our association to supervise.

**Mole**

- a. Cobra mower 20 inch wide petrol, all happy with spec. CB to purchase, passed unanimously.
- b. Pear tree in the middle of the apiary is dead. The be haven't swarmed there this year. The removal of the tree during the winter months.
- c. Cement mixer needs to go back to Irek. Phil/Patrick to sort.

**3. Education Group**

Review done, looking ahead to next year. Melanie McCain is not able to do the school sessions next year, therefore the core groups are one short. Scouting for new recruits is a priority.

**4. Correspondence Received**

All dealt with see AOB

Warwick wants to organise a trip to Jersey to see how they are dealing with AH. WF suggests putting money aside/match funding. This will need to be put out to membership.

**5. Social Media & Website**

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We have no concerns about lack of media presence unless close to shows/sales.

**6. Membership**

128 Registered

7 Partner

2 Country

8 Family

5 Associate

6 Honorary

No changes since last meeting. Lots of enquiries from general public wanting to sign up for the winter course. £75 per person

**7. Treasurers update (WF)**

Gift aid applied for, Expenditure £8232.64

Income £13961.67

Shop turnover £6067 in account.

The honey show we expect to bring in £2000+

**8. AHAT**

-Asian hornet video to publicise as soon as the video is available on Youtube. All BBKA info to be put on the association website/social media **AT**

37 nests found, areas are Rochester/Folkestone/Maidstone/Southampton/Whitstable

Sessions in making AH traps for Friday evenings in future.

**9. AOB**

-Ray suggests once a month in off season to tidy /sulphur stacks/making frames/ AH prep. To talk more at presidents evening.

-Jonathan to find a speaker for President's evening.

-The last night is 29<sup>th</sup> September. The Honey Show is the following weekend.

-Shaun and Sally want to borrow microscopes for practice. Ray is in favour of it, committee in agreement.

- Key safe discussed for entry into the apiary in due course.

Meeting ended 9.15pm. Next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.45pm via Google meet.