

Minutes of the 712th Meeting held on Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 7.45pm
on Google Meet

Present: Warwick Francis, Patrick Brennan, Phil Webb, Jane Sachdev, Julie Ray Nicol; Alex Lawrence; Harvey Kirk.

Apologies: Christine Betley, Jonathan Palmer.

1. Minutes and Outstanding Issues from last meeting

Minutes proposed by Ray Nicol, seconded by Jane Sachdev a true reflection of the meeting and unanimously accepted.

The Ted Chatley Cup is still being sourced. It will awarded for Best in Show.

2. Apiary and Mole Works

Twickenham

- a) Varroa treatment due to come off in next couple of weeks if weather improves
- b) Honey Prep Room has been cleaned
- c) Gill and Shaun took down the Hide netting and it is stored in the Discovery Room.
- d) It was agreed that from next year only hobbyist registered members of TTVBKA could use the Honey Prep Room. The cost will be increased to £10 per booking.
- e) Apiary Tidy Winter Works on 18th November 10-12.00pm. Refreshments provided.
- f) Presidents Evening to be held on 24th November
- g) Winter course – Ray and Warwick to liaise. ACTION: RN & WF
- h) Quiz Night – to be scheduled for March 2024 to kick the season off.
ACTION: PB to liaise with Fran

Mole

- a) The new lawn mower has not yet been purchased. It was suggested that this could be sourced from 'Black Friday' / New Year sales. ACTION: CB
- b) Alex said he would have transport in the next couple of weeks to remove the trailer, rubbish and empty hives from Mole. ACTION: AL
- c) Cement mixer – Phil will arrange for this to be removed and will liaise with Jane re. access to the Apiary. ACTION: PW
- d) It was agreed the dead Pear tree would be cut down.
- e) Thursday 16th November from 10am agreed as the date for the above works. Jane to email the Mole members. ACTION: JS

3. Education Group

Nothing currently to report.

4. Correspondence Received

Nothing of any significance had been received.

5. Social Media & Website

It was agreed that our existing social media presence is adequate and information is circulated as appropriate. We reach out as and when we need to.

Facebook accounts are:

TW1 Beeline

Twickenham & Thames Valley Bee-Keepers' Association

Warwick, Patrick and Ray to go through the website.

Recordings of the talks are uploaded on the public facing website.

ACTION: WF, PB, RN

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6. Membership

No change to membership.

7. Treasurers update (WF)

The papers had been circulated.

All capitation has been paid.

Gift Aid has been successfully applied for.

£2142 income from Honey Show.

Teas were down 5%

Honey sales down 6%. Sold just under 100 units of Apiary honey and 50 units of members honey.

Tombola up 131%.

Expenditure £330 including cleaning and Carl's Honey Show expenses

The footfall was felt to be less this year.

It was agreed that next year, the signage would be put up two weeks before the show.

More liaison with local allotments would be done, in association with Asian Hornet awareness.

Since Covid the Honey Show had been scaled down but it was felt that we would try to expand it again next year, with more entries invited from schools.

TTBKA funds are looking healthy. Money could be spent on:

* Asian Hornet awareness

* Bees in the Garden Event – suggested doing another talk next year

* Bee Inspector – suggested inviting to give a talk

8. SHOP

Harvey reported that takings over the past year do not tally and there were discrepancies with money on account, which is the Apiary. Harvey asked to go through this with Warwick.

ACTION: WF and HK

9. AHAT

Warwick has playing card and leaflets to raise awareness of Asian Hornets. Ray will use some leaflets when talking to Richmond allotment heads next week.

It was felt we should meet to discuss who we need to target and what with.

The possibility of an Asian Hornet Conference, sponsored by TTBKA was discussed, inviting as many key people as possible to raise awareness. We need to find a speaker and provide literature that can be taken away. The Conference would take place early next year.

Julie offered to contact Heads of Parks Depts at Local Councils, Royal Parks, Habitats & Heritage, Friends of River Crane to ascertain what awareness they already had and if they would be interested in attending.

Ray to organise a meeting of the Asian Hornet Team.

Trap making for everyone who wanted to attend would take place early next year.

Ray asked people to please keep empty 2 litre plastic water bottles for trap making.

ACTION: JH & RN

10. AOB

Honey Sale – Jane and Christine will arrange for the Mole Apiary to be represented with a honey sale at the Love Magical Molesey Christmas Street Event in Molesey on 30th November 5pm-7pm.

Harvey may have honey to sell. ACTION: JS & CB

Incorporation – ongoing.

The Meeting ended 9.00pm. Next meeting Wednesday 29th November at 7.45pm via Google Meet.

<https://meet.google.com/xgw-ucbv-iiu>