

TWICKENHAM & THAMES VALLEY BEEKEEPING COMMITTEE MEETING NO: 718

WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2024 at 7.45pm

Virtually via Google Meet

MINUTES

Present:

Ray Nicol (RN); Patrick Brennan (PB); Jane Sachdev (JS); Irek Gajowniczek (IG); Alex Lawrence (AL); Harvey Kirk (HP); Phil Webb (PW); Mandy Moss (MM); Sally Ewen (SE); Greg Elliot (GE); Julie Hill (JH).

Apologies:

Warwick Francis (WF); Christine Betley (CB); Jonathan Palmer (JP); Candida Williamson (CW).

1. Minutes of the last Meeting (17.4.24) and Matters Arising

These were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Ray Nicol

Seconded Jane Sachdev

* Speakers - Sally Fletcher sent information to WF about suggestions for speakers which was forwarded to

ACTION: PN, RN, MM and SE.

* The first Gardening Group had been a success and thanks recorded to CB, MM and Greg who had done a huge amount of work. GE said he was happy to help every week with the gardening. Thanks were also recorded to JS for picking up the litter and AL who had fixed the railing on the wall.

* This Saturday morning after 0930 Mole will be open.

AL asked that the petrol should be turned off the mower when not in use. PW added the Carburetor should also be drained in the winter.

* JS confirmed that the Mole Observation Hive could be taken to the nursery school across the road next year if they would like a Schools visit.

* The availability of a stepladder at Twickenham to make it easier to access the top of the hide was confirmed.

* A lady from the theatre group was coming to Twickenham Apiary on Friday to borrow one of the WBC hives in the front garden.

* Warwick to set Julie up with access to the correspondence email.

ACTION: WF

* MM has access to manage the Instagram account and confirmed that TTVBKA now has a Next Door page

* The skip is in Mole, the grass has been cut as required and the Apiary looks good.
JS will check Mole water meter reading on Saturday.

ACTION: JS

* Mission Statement – MM circulated information prior to the Meeting. It is a bit more complicated than initially thought. We need to agree it is something we want to progress. It goes hand in hand with changing the structure to a CIO. MM asked all Committee members to read and feedback.

ACTION: ALL

* Meeting tomorrow at TTVBKA Apiary at 1930 for those involved to discuss changing to CIO.

* RN advised that following research, switching on the Website statistics is ongoing. MM will update the Asian hornet page.

ACTION: RN & MM

* Asian Hornet – Any traps for Queens should be taken down. RN to send out an email to advise members to stop trapping, with instruction on the next steps to follow.

ACTION: RN

* Richmond Council & local paper contacts – JH has now sent these to MM.

* JS has paid for a stall at the Molesey Carnival. It was suggested the observation hive is moved over from 2pm – 4pm. Maximum.

ACTION: RN to choose a suitable hive

2. Apiary and Mole Works

Twickenham – Rob has carried out work on the black shed. RN to speak to him for an update.

ACTION: RN

Mole - Leaks in kitchen area and gutters leaking on road side, due to where nails were put in. Trees need pruning back. These issues can be addressed at the weekend.

3. Education Group

JS reported everything was going as planned but the college has cancelled. A few spaces have not yet been filled. A decision should be taken at some point as to whether we should be promoting this more.

4. Correspondence received

Insurance renewal – GE picked up at detail was missing from the renewal.

Licences for individuals trapping and releasing Asian Hornets. Up to 11 people can be licenced.

RN proposed he signs up for this and speak to the BBKA

Update on Asian hornet resources. RN sent out.

5. Social Media

Covered earlier.

MM now has access to the website and can also add details of forthcoming events on Eventbrite

6. Membership Secretary's update (WF)

Two new members had joined since the last Report – one adult and one junior.

As at 15.5.24:

Registered: 114

Partner: 8

Junior: 1

Country: 3

Family: 3

Associate: 2

Hons: 6

Total: 137

7. Treasurer's update (WF)

Discussion took place about maximising savings and possibly moving some money into a higher interest account. This will be easier once the Association moves to a CIO.

A possible donation to bees Abroad and Bees for Development was discussed.

8. Asian Hornet Action Group

Discussed previously.

9. A.O.B.

Open Day – This will be on Sunday 15th June. Annette Duckworth is unable to attend this year so there will be a spare place for a Stall. A percentage of takings is the usual arrangement, or a one off payment could be agreed.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26th June.

JH unavailable for that Meeting. Please can CB or JS take the Minutes?

RN thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 2100.

Link to Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/xgw-ucbv-iiu>