

# SWANSEA & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS' SOCIETY

Main Committee Meeting on (Tues) 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2019  
at the New Lodge Social Club, Gorseinon

## MINUTES

### Present

Gerti Axtmann (GA), Julian Caruana (JC), Martin Davies (MD), Stephen Davies (SD), John Gale (JG), Mike Grinter (MG), Gill Lyons (GL), Paul Lyons (PL), Nicola Oulton (NO)

1) Apologies for Absence

Sue Lawrence (SL), Jean Salkilld

2) Minutes of last meeting (held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019)

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3) Matters arising from the last meeting

None

4) Treasurer's Report

Our Account balances are : No: 1 Account	£11,785.49
No: 2 Account	£ nil

The above balance for No:1 Account takes into consideration payment to WBKA of £1,062.00 in respect of Capitation. This is based on membership numbers in 2018.

At this precise moment our paid -up membership, including those on the Beginners Course is 108. For BDI purposes the honorary members and the apiary have to be added. However, there are some in the figures who have paid out but not yet submitted membership forms. And, as far as I know, there are additional enrolling for the Beginners Course which starts tomorrow evening.

There appears to have been a significant number who have not re-joined for one reason or another, between 26 and 28. It is possible that some may have given notice and they have not yet been notified to me. JC has put out several "chasing " emails. There is not a great deal that can be done.

## 5) Sub-Committee Reports

### Apiary

MG advised that there are 17 colonies and the majority are building up well and flying. Lys Nini has been approached about the apiary having another shed but to date have not come back with a decision.

A brief update was given regarding the cost of purchasing a further shed however there are 2 sheds at Llys Nini being taken down in the near future that might be suitable if the society is given the go ahead, MG is investigating. GA asked if there could be a bench to put bags and equipment on safely off the floor. It was decided that whilst a bench might not be practical (due to flying/following bees etc) a suitable shelf/space will be incorporated into any new shed, space allowing.

### Bee Tent

MD advised that all the wellington boots have been sanitised with vinegar and all the bee suits have been checked and are ready for use. He will look into sanitising spray to use with the wellington boots. MD advised he will check the trailer tyres before the first outing which is the Small Holders show at Buith. Other outings will include the Gower Show and the Vale Show.

### Education

NO advised that beginners' classes are starting tomorrow, 20.2.19 at 7pm at Pontardulais Comprehensive. GA and MD will be helping NO and SD with the classes. NO and MG will also be looking at altering the way the apiary is open so that more people attend possibly holding special days. There is also the possibility of selling bees to beginners who look after the bees at the apiary with guidance for the season at the apiary using their own equipment.

NO advised that she is now the WBKA Basic Assessment Officer. SD advised that to date he has only had one applicant for this year's Basic Assessment Course.

### Gower Show

The schedule is with the printers

## 6) Events

Sue the author of Bumbles of Honeywood, will be our speaker on 12<sup>th</sup> March. GA is arranging a speaker for the Show Preparation Talk on 11<sup>th</sup> June and looking into the Christmas Meal which we hope will be on 7th December.

7) Member Mailing

JC discussed the best ways of mailing the membership as it is no longer possible to use gmail and google groups is not ideal. Mail chimp, E2R which is currently being developed and Member Mojo, which is chargeable were discussed. Until a new Secretary is appointed David O'Carroll, MG and MD will cover the role in rotation.

8) Website

The Website will be up and running shortly and someone will be needed to ensure the information is kept up to date.

9) Correspondence

None received.

10) Any Other Business

JG proposed adding SL as a signatory on the bank mandate as 2 people will be removed shortly (David O' Carroll and J C) this was seconded by MG and agreed by the committee unanimously.

MD thanked JC for all his work for the society, as secretary bee tent lead and also the main person to tow the bee tent trailer. Other people will now be needed to tow the trailer to events. If anyone is interested in helping out with the bee tent and is experienced at towing (the trailer is approx 800 Kgs) please contact Martin Davies.

JC advised that the WBKA will need to be advised of the delegates representing SDBKS at the AGM and Council Meeting.

11) Date of next meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019