



## SWANSEA & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS' SOCIETY

### Main Committee Meeting on (Tues) 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at the New Lodge Social Club, Gorseinon

#### Minutes

Present: Ian Algie (IA), Julian Caruana (JC), Martin Davies (MD), Stephen Davies (SD), John Gale (JG), Mike Grinter (MG), Sue Lawrence (SL), Paul Lyons (PL), David O'Carroll (DOC), Nicola Oulton (NO), Jean Salkilld (JS).

- 1) **Apologies for Absence:** Gill Lyons (GL) Gerti Axtmann (GA)
- 2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Minutes accepted as a true record
- 3) **Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting:** None
- 4) **Treasurer's Report:**  
Account balances: No: 1 Account      **£ 10,903.96**  
                                  No: 2 Account -   **£ nil**

The balance in No 1 account reflects the renewal of membership and some beginners who have already paid. The banked subscriptions paid by BACS and cheques total £2,706.55.

Not reflected in the figure is a further sum of £323.80 yet to be banked and there are a few members who have sent in forms but not yet paid.

About 70 members have re-joined plus 6 for the beginners class (3 of these are joint memberships) with around another 51 yet to re-join.

Although the balance in No 1 account looks very healthy it should be remembered that in the near future we have to pay WBKA our capitation fee (well over a thousand pounds) and other fees are due.

Our year end was 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. The accounts are in the process of being finalised and will be presented to our Scrutineer on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January. An early indication is there will be a small excess of income over expenditure.

#### 5) **Sub-Committee Reports**

**Apiary:** All colonies have been checked and fed where necessary. A demonstration of varroa control was held in the apiary 13<sup>th</sup> January. This done using oxalic acid by dribbling, sublimation and a demonstration of an insect fogger by Ade Bowen. There was also a demonstration of comb sterilisation using acetic acid. Though not well attended those present enjoyed the session.

The storage shed at the site is proving inadequate given the increase in colonies and the fact this is projected to be the norm going forward. MG will investigate the equipment, cost and suitability of solutions bearing in mind any restrictions imposed by Llys Nini and present the viable alternatives at the next meeting.

**Bee Tent:** MD has taken advantage of the post Christmas sales and purchased a supply of polystyrene cups very cheaply. Wellies are still to be cleansed and similarly the tent sections will be given attention. The new suits bought are all ready for the new season.

**Education:** NO has sent out welcome emails giving the outline of the course to those already signed up, with similar emails to those who have expressed interest (some of which have come back undeliverable). There have been around 24 expressions of interest but so far 9 people have paid (6 memberships as some are couples). Sessions will be held on a Wednesday.

There has already been interest in attending Taster Days. NO will examine when these can be held by the Society but also pointed out there is scope for individual members to hold taster sessions at their apiary sites. NO said that she could draft some guidelines for members interested in holding a taster session and they should be asked to contact NO in the first instance.

NO informed the Committee that she has put herself forward to the WBKA for the post of Basic Assessment Officer but doesn't yet know if she will be accepted for the post.

**Gower Show:** Nothing to report

- 6) **Events:** The next planned event is a talk about the Asian Hornet by Frank Gellatly. This will be after the AGM, which will also include a buffet (£5 to non members/ £2 to members). New Lodge membership fees are also due by the end of January but arrangements have been made for them to be payable at the AGM. JC asked to send email to members.

GA has already completed the majority of events for 2019 with updates on the Society website ([www.swanseabeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.swanseabeekeepers.org.uk)). At the recent social evening a request was made for an interested party to assist GA.

- 7) **Annual General Meeting:** No nominations for Vice Chair or Secretary have been received (closing date for receipt was 11<sup>th</sup> January). In the absence of any nominations NO put herself forward as Vice Chair and was proposed by DOC and seconded by MD.

There was then discussion on the way forward without a Secretary in post. MG suggested a fallback option, that the role be managed by members of the Committee on a month rotation basis. This was accepted by all present, JC to review the remaining secretary role to identify any areas of concern should this be necessary. Efforts will still have to be made to recruit a suitable Secretary candidate. To date no proposals have been received for the AGM. JC will prepare and distribute the required documents by 29<sup>th</sup> January (14 days before the AGM).

- 8) **Correspondence:** None received

- 9) **Any Other Business:** None

- 10) **Date of Next Meeting:** Next meeting is scheduled for 7.00pm on 19th February, 2019 (in the New Lodge Social Club, Gorseinon).

## Officers (as at the AGM 2018):-

<b>Chairman</b>	David O'Carroll ( <a href="mailto:sdbks.chair@gmail.com">sdbks.chair@gmail.com</a> )
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Paul Lyons ( <a href="mailto:sd_bks@btinternet.com">sd_bks@btinternet.com</a> )
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Gale ( <a href="mailto:johnhgale@hotmail.com">johnhgale@hotmail.com</a> )
<b>Secretary</b>	Vacant *

\* Julian Caruana ([sdbks.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:sdbks.secretary@gmail.com)) is covering the role in an Acting capacity only.

## Other Committee Members:

Ian Algie  
Gerti Axtmann  
Julian Caruana  
Martin Davies  
Stephen Davies  
Mike Grinter  
Sue Lawrence  
Gill Lyons  
Nicola Oulton  
Jean Salkilld  
Karen Squires

## Committee Roles:

<b>Apiary Manager</b>	Mike Grinter ( <a href="mailto:michaelgrinter@sky.com">michaelgrinter@sky.com</a> )
<b>Bee Tent Lead</b>	Martin Davies ( <a href="mailto:minarimartin@outlook.com">minarimartin@outlook.com</a> )
<b>Education Officer</b>	Nicola Oulton ( <a href="mailto:nikoulton@yahoo.co.uk">nikoulton@yahoo.co.uk</a> )
<b>Events Secretary</b>	Gerti Axtmann ( <a href="mailto:gerti.axtmann@gmail.com">gerti.axtmann@gmail.com</a> ) & Karen Squires ( <a href="mailto:kes.llanelli@virgin.net">kes.llanelli@virgin.net</a> )
<b>Gower Show Secretary</b>	Gill Lyons ( <a href="mailto:gillml@btinternet.com">gillml@btinternet.com</a> )
<b>Librarian</b>	Paul Lyons ( <a href="mailto:sd_bks@btinternet.com">sd_bks@btinternet.com</a> )
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	John Gale ( <a href="mailto:johnhgale@hotmail.com">johnhgale@hotmail.com</a> ) & Sue Lawrence ( <a href="mailto:kslawrence@virginmedia.com">kslawrence@virginmedia.com</a> )
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	David Salkilld ( <a href="mailto:d.salkilld1936@btinternet.com">d.salkilld1936@btinternet.com</a> )
<b>Webmaster</b>	Selina Taylor
<b>Web Administrator</b>	Jonathan Bowen