

SWANSEA & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS' SOCIETY

Main Committee Meeting on (Tues) 19th March, 2019
at the New Lodge Social Club, Gorseinon

MINUTES

Present

Ian Algie (IA), Gerti Axtmann (GA), Julian Caruana (JC), Martin Davies (MD), Stephen Davies (SD), John Gale (JG), Mike Grinter (MG), Sue Lawrence (SL), Gill Lyons (GL), Paul Lyons (PL), Nicola Oulton (NO), Jean Salkilld(JS).

1) Apologies for Absence

David O' Carroll (DC)

2) Minutes of last meeting (held on 19th February, 2019)

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3) Matters arising from the last meeting

JC advised that the website is now up and running and he will upload the minutes of the last 3 years committee and society annual general meetings. PL will send JC list of the society's library books, to upload onto the website. The apiary blog will be updated by MG.

4) Treasurer's Report

Our Account balances are :	No: 1 Account	£ 12,941.84
	No: 2 Account	£ nil

In my February report I mentioned we had paid the WBKA our Capitation fee of £1,062.00.

Checking our bank statement yesterday I noted our cheque had not been presented. I have queried this with the WBKA Treasurer asking for confirmation that the cheque had been received. That confirmation has been given.

The only other noteworthy item is that we have received £224.00 in respect of honey sales to Llys Nini. This I assume would be Apiary honey; a very welcome addition to our receipts.

5) Sub-Committee Reports

Apiary

MG advised that bees are flying well and there are now 16 colonies, the colony that had a drone laying queen and a weak colony being amalgamated. We have been given permission to have another shed at Llys Nini but the shed we hoped to have from there is not available and MG is still waiting for quotes for a new shed.

It was agreed that the apiary could sell a colony of bees to this year's beginners for £100. They would put the colony into their own equipment and then manage it at the apiary, under the supervision of the apiary team. MG will put together rules for the scheme.

Bee Tent

MD has had confirmation for the Small Holders Show 18th /19th May. Other Bee Tent outings will be The Gower Show 4th August, The Vale Show 14th August and possibly, depending on the weather, The Heart of the Valley Show on the new date of 7th September. MD will look to see if it is possible to fit any other events in.

Education

NO advised that this year's class is the biggest yet, with 38 students. On Saturday there are module exams and SD is holding a microscopy class at Pontarddulais Comprehensive School.

Gower Show

The schedule is with the printers

6) Events

GA advised that Peter Tomkins is giving a talk on 9th April and his fee is £100. JG to arrange. GA advised we need to ensure a screen and a lap top are available NO and GA to arrange.

Despite various agreements there have been problems securing the big room for free on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. GA advised that if we pay £20 per month we can secure the room. GA will contact the New Lodge and then pass on to the acting secretary for formalisation (MG at the moment)

Bernard Diaper is unfortunately unable to do the preparation talk for the Gower Show on 11th June, GA said Emyr Jenkins has kindly agreed to give the talk instead.

7) Correspondence

None received.

8) Any Other Business

PL summarised his attendance at the WBKA Council Meeting, one of the main points for SDBKS was that capitation will remain the same for 2020. The full minutes of the meeting will be made available by the WBKA through their usual channels

NO advised she has been approached about holding another NDB class in 2020.

A swarm page for the website will be put together by MD and DOC.

9) Date of next meeting – 16th April, 2019