

6) **Sub-Committee Reports**

Apiary

MG advised that there are currently 9 hives at the Society Apiary. The Apiguard and ekes will be taken off this weekend and the colonies will be checked as some may need a little more feeding. The new shed is now fully operational and Claire was thanked for organising the interior of the original structure.

MG will be holding an acetic acid demonstration to treat for wax moth, at the same time they will be cleaning and scorching boxes before storage for winter. Details will be emailed to members

Bee Tent

MD has bought four new storage boxes and labelled them with their contents so packing the trailer, which has been tidied ready for the Winter, will be easier. The Bee tent has been invited to the 2020 Vale of Glamorgan Show and Go Wild Show, which is in Tredegar in 2020. It was decided not to charge (suggested minimum donation) for entry to the Bee Tent at the Pontardawe show in 2020.

Education

NO mentioned that the N.D.B course which was held at the weekend was very successful and the organisers want to come back next year. The excellent catering at the event was also complemented.

Gower Show

GL advised that Bernard Diaper will judge the 2020 show, a succession is being agreed if Bernard Diaper is not able to judge for us at any time in the future. GL is in process of contacting everyone concerned and hopes to have more information shortly. Two cups have been donated to the Society and will be used at the Gower Show and the Society Honey Show.

Events

GA advised that the Christmas meal will be at the Rake and Riddle 7 pm for 7.30pm on 7th December and there will be 3 courses for £26 including a tip and the society will give will also give 4 jars of honey to the staff. There will be a raffle. MD will send out a menu as soon as possible payment can be made by BACS, cash or cheques at the Society Honey Show. The Society Honey Show is on November 12th at the New Lodge and it is being organised by Claire, Ade and George. GA mentioned that there would be 3 Honey Classes, Light, Medium, and Other. There should be no foreign honey, honey should be from members own apiaries. There are also 2 Wax Classes 6 Wax Blocks and a Pair of Beeswax candles.

7) **Correspondence**

Correspondence has been received from Rebecca Davies, Environmental Health on behalf of Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Councils. Those who supply and sell honey to the final consumer or other businesses (even if they make no profit) are defined as a food business and are legally required to register as such with their local Council. MD has already circulated the email to the society. PL checked what is required a clean domestic kitchen in good state of repair, with no animals or dirty clothes around while working with honey. It is advisory to do the food hygiene course. Premises will be inspected approx every 3 years – defined as low risk and a low priority by authority.

8) **Any Other Business**

WBKA - will be asked to put some information about the requirements of selling honey on their web site.

Membership Form - SL is revising the Membership form.

Beginners Classes Form - MD is working on a new form and when NO has confirmed the dates for the class it will be put on the website.

Society Honey - It was agreed that whoever deals with/jars up the Society's honey must be registered with the local council as a food producer.

- 9) Auction - It was agreed that only beekeeping equipment would be auctioned, no bees. The auction will be in March or April and MG will draft an email for MD to send out. To rent the hall at the New Lodge, would cost £30 and the auction would have to be on a Sunday. The possibility of holding it at Pontarddulais Comprehensive School will also be looked into. Details will be discussed at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 19th November, 2019