

weaker colonies have been combined to ensure they have the best chance of going through the winter. The shed is now up and some shelving is being put in.

Bee Tent

MD commented that at the Pontardawe Show donations were just over £57 while they had 39 adults and 93 children taking part. MJ proposed a suggested donation charge of £1 (minimum) for the Pontardawe Show in 2020, this was seconded by D O'C and passed by majority approval. The Bee tent will need some new storage boxes to get things ready for the Winter, MD will get at least 2 boxes which are £9 each.

Education

NO advised that she is already having enquiries about the Beekeeping Classes. It was agreed to put fees up for the 2020 Beekeeping Classes to £100 (single) person and £180 (joint). MD will remove the current class application forms from the website so details including price and dates can be updated. JG advised he must be advised if anyone is paying in instalments.

Gower Show

GL thanked everyone who had helped make the Gower Show a great success. The Judge Bernard Diaper commented on the high standard of some of the entries. GL commented that the Diapers had very kindly not charged us expenses this year. GL also asked that if anyone had photographs of the Honey Section that could be used for next year's Honey Schedule could they be forwarded to her or MD.

MD discussed the ongoing judging of the show with the Diapers, and whilst they are happy to judge again next year it was mentioned that at some future point in time they will be retiring from judging. With this in mind, they were asked if they knew anyone who could take over from them and possibly attend with them next year to "break the ice" with us. Bernard commented that he did have someone in mind and would discuss the matter with them. The possibility of having 2 sets of judges expenses next year was discussed and agreed in principle by the committee. To be discussed further with the Diapers to sort out details and reported back to the committee.

Events

GA is in process of getting people to help Claire Miller with the Honey Show which will be on the 12th November. It was agreed that GA could arrange for a buffet for 30 (at £5 per head). Society members will be charged £2 each with those who are not Society members paying £5 each. GA advised that the Christmas meal has been booked at the Rake and Riddle for Saturday 7th December but the menu will be available shortly. The next two events are Tues 8th Oct - Stephen Davies - Hygiene, and 12th Nov -SDBKS Honey Show with Buffet.

7) **Correspondence**

MD commented he had an email from Merryweather in New South Wales to remove a swarm, unfortunately they were not happy to pay expenses!

A flyer from Surrey Beekeepers given out to look at, with a view to doing something similar ourselves.

8) **Any Other Business**

Membership Form

MD will remove the current form from the website. SL is currently amending

Society Honey – selling, storing

MG is discussing with Llys Nini the possibility of selling Society honey in their Shops. It was agreed that society honey could be sold to members for £6 per pound or £4 per half pound. MD will send out an email to advise society members and D O'C will ask the National Trust about selling Society Honey in their shop.

Motorized Extractor

MG had suggested buying a 12 frame motorised extractor for the Society from Ian Roberts, who would store it for us. Thought it would not be easy for members to transport it around. Talk of Ian Roberts extracting and a place at Hendy. D O'C advised he is currently looking into the possibility of having the Gower Honey Coop extractor in Penclawdd. He will keep us updated on the situation and possibly a joint venture with the Society. This will be looked into further.

Honey Jar Labelling Machine.

MG also suggested the society buying a jar labelling machine for the Society honey. Would only do round jars and labels would be need to be at 90 degrees to most honey labels for it to work. Further discussion is needed.

Auction

GA will look into the society holding a bee equipment auction next year.

E2R System

JG and MD commented that the system is too complicated to use - for example with regards to reporting BDI. SL has discussed this with MD.

Bee Swarm UK

MD advised that the society had been signed up to Bee Swarm UK.

9) **Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 15th October, 2019**