

WEST NORFOLK AND KING'S LYNN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE SAILING CLUB
On Tuesday 1st December, 2009

PRESENT: Jill Tinsey, Penny Snell, Lorraine Gibson, David Bancalari, Diana Flower, Brian Gemmell, Stuart Grant, Colin Sayer, John Woodford

APOLOGIES: Joan Burton, Terry Gibson, Judy Heal, Keith Morgan, C. Snell, Kelly Thrower

MEETING OPENED: 20.16

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Item 2.3.1 Fakenham Farmer's Market/Poster for Taster Sessions

Lorraine advised that she had notified Ann Chappell that the Association would have a stall on April 24th. Clarification of stall size/layout to be clarified. Lorraine to liaise with Ann.

Item 9.1 St. Ambrose Church Service

John reported that the service had been a success. He had received positive feedback from a number of sources and asked whether a service should be held again in 2010. He suggested that if everyone was in agreement that a piece of music be commissioned for the occasion and performed by a group of musicians as part of the service. All were in agreement that the service be arranged. One area of concern was that details of the service had not been included in the postal version of the relevant issue of BeeAware. Jill thanked John for his organisation.

Item 9.2 Oxalic Acid Demonstration

Brian reported that the event had been reasonably well attended, mainly by new members, given the cold weather conditions. Stuart commented that the facility to have hands on experience at applying the oxalic acid had been a useful confidence building exercise. The professional manner in which Keith had performed the demonstration had conveyed the message that beekeeper's shouldn't be afraid to briefly open a hive in the winter to carry out procedures which could benefit the health and welfare of a colony.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

3.1 Copies of e-mails forwarded to committee members, as follows:

- FERA teaching course offer

3.2 Invitation to the 2010 Sandringham Flower Show had been received. Lorraine to complete and submit the application form.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Penny advised that as Chris was unable to attend there would not be a report, but that the accounts would be circulated to committee members in the near future. The item of recommendations for honorarium payments to be carried forward to the February committee meeting as was discussion of the Apiary budget which Brian had prepared.

5. BEE INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

6. TENURE OF OFFICE:

Brian explained that he felt if a time limit was set upon how long senior officers such as Chairman and Vice-Chairman could occupy those positions the body of knowledge on how the Association should function would increase. Stuart concurred, adding that it was usual in most organisations for there to be a period of tenure. He also noted though that this was not easily achieved as there was a general reluctance for people to put themselves forward for committee roles. Brian proffered that if the working groups were successfully implemented that this may provide a font of people who might be prepared to volunteer to be committee members. Jill expressed concern that that too many changes were being considered at this stage and proposed that establishment and trial running of the working groups ought to be the priority for 2010 and that consideration of tenure periods be deferred until 2011. Brian seconded. All in agreement.

7. AGM:

Penny read out a letter from Jill Tinsey, notifying the Secretary, that with effect from the AGM that she would be resigning both as Chairman and as a committee member. Penny noted that the posts of Chairman, Secretary and Show Secretary would need to be filled adding that as she would not be seeking re-election a Vice-Chairman would also be required. Penny felt that in preparation for the next committee meeting potential candidates should be identified for discussion. A number of committee members felt that there should be no delay in identifying and approaching people who might be suitable candidates, particularly given that nominations were ultimately the decision of the membership. Jill asked if everyone else was willing to stand again. Brian, Colin, Stuart and John all affirmed they were.

Particular items that needed to be borne in mind were

- the change to the Constitution agreed at the EGM of 27th November, 2009 requires ratification
- whether the Constitution requires further amendment given the proposed implementation of working groups
- given that the committee had decided not to implement the increase in 2010 membership subscription rates agreed at the 2009 AGM, whether an increase should be recommended for 2011. Further consideration to be given to this matter at the next committee meeting.

8. ADM:

David Bancalari, having been nominated to deputise for John at the up and coming ADM, had requested that he be provided with a mandate. Discussion on the Nominations and Propositions took place, resulting in the following decisions

Nominations:

- BBKA Executive – 4 vacancies. One vote for David Bancalari. Remaining 3 at David's discretion
- BBKA Examination Board – 3 vacancies for three years and 2 for one. Vote according to discretion
- Membership of the BBKA – Rutland, Lancashire & North West, Bees for Development all 3 to be voted in support of

Propositions

- 01/2010 – against
- 02/2010 – discretion

- 03/2010 – support
- 04/2010 – support
- 05/2010 – support
- 06/2010 – support
- 07/2010 – discretion
- 08/2010 – discretion
- 09/2010 – support
- 10/2010 – discretion
- 11/2010 - support

9. ASSOCIATION APIARY UPDATE:

Brian reported that the fallen tree had been removed. All hefted and with the exception of one were not considered to need feeding. Oxalic acid treatment planned to be given within the next few days. Brian went on to raise the subject of what was envisaged would happen with the apiaries and whether the spare equipment would be sold, suggesting that this should be discussed further at the next committee meeting. Brian sought clarification from Jill as to whether she intended to carry out the Intermediate/Workshop sessions. Jill confirmed that she would. Penny asked Brian to prepare an inventory for the next committee meeting which he agreed to do.

10. WORKING GROUPS PROPOSAL:

In view of the discussions that had taken place on this matter earlier in the evening there was general agreement that there was nothing more to be considered at this stage.

David Bancalari wished to advise that he had identified and approached people for his group. David also requested that he be granted permission to carry out a survey that had been proposed by FERA regarding communication activities. All were in agreement.

11 FERA TEACHING COURSE OFFER:

Lorraine advised that an application form for John Woodford had been submitted to FERA. Brian would be making an application via the Bee Farmer's Association.

9. FUTURE EVENTS:

9.1 **Sun 21st February 2010, 2.30 p.m. at Tottenhill Village Hall – Wax-a valuable commodity.** Practical advice on how to get added value from the surplus wax from the hive, using old and ready to hand equipment. Plus a demonstration of some easy to make products such as foundation, furniture polish and lip salve. Refreshments available.

9.2 **Sat 13th March 2010, 2.30 p.m. at Tottenhill Village Hall – AGM** followed by the Dunkley Memorial Lecture. David Aston, NDB guest speaker on the importance of pollen to the honeybee. Refreshments available.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

10.1 A request for space to advertise The Beekeepers Quarterly had been received from Jeremy Burbidge. All agreed this would be a good idea. Lorraine to confirm decision to Jeremy.

10.2 Reminder that the fee of £20 for renewal of the gambling licence was due by 19th January. Letter passed to Penny for Chris to process.

10.3 A request had been received from John Bowen of 7th King's Lynn Scout Group for a visit/demo by one of our beekeepers. Jill and Penny offered to organise and

carry out the visit. Lorraine to provide them with the details and inform Mr Bowen that he would be contacted in due course.

10.4 Brian had a spare, new copy of Rex Sawyer's book on pollen analysis and asked if anyone wished to buy it from him. Jill proposed and all agreed that it should be bought for the Association's library. As John had previously volunteered to be librarian the book was passed to him.

10.5 David drew the committee's attention to the following

- that there were some inaccuracies regarding WNKLBFA in the 2010 Federation Year Book and that the Chairman's Report was missing. In addition the programme of events did not include any of those for WNKLBFA. Jill advised that she was aware of the problem and that as far as the programme was concerned she was making separate arrangements..
- that as a consequence of the Association Website not being maintained a separate site would be set up to contain the EARS information.

David then asked for clarification as to

- who the BeeCraft/BeeMail contact was. Jill advised this was Diana.
- whether the Membership Forms were ready for distribution. Jill confirmed that this was in progress.

10.6 Jill advised that she had received a suggestion from Margaret Rickard that a valuable addition to training material would be the compilation of a DVD documenting the basic steps of a typical beekeeper's year. All agreed that this would be a good idea and the suggestion was that this be taken up by the Education and Media groups.

MEETING CLOSED: 22.08

Next meeting is on 2nd February, 2010 at 8.00pm at the Sailing Club

Signed.....Dated.....