

Apiary Working Group

18.06.2018

Present: Chris Shaw (CS), Penny Twibill (PDT), Paul Twibill (PT), Alan Greenman (AG), Kate Davis (KD), Charles Davis (KCD), Martyn Donald (MD), Mel Slater (MS), Steve Smith (SS)

Did not attend: John Danks (JD), Craig Dimberlaine (CD)

Agenda:

1. Minutes from meeting 15.05.2018, amendments and matters arising
2. Tasks at the Apiaries: Shugborough & Hilton Green June & July
3. Issues re:
 - Improvers' programme;
 - Beginners;
 - Basic Assessment
4. Healthy Bee day-progress

Item	Action
<p>1. a) Minutes of meeting 14.05.2018</p> <p>Martyn ask for amendment to minutes- should read that the remaining nuc at Hilton Green is a drone layer</p> <p>b) Matters outstanding from meeting 14.05. 2018</p> <p>Hilton Green: Solar lights to be purchased for inside container</p> <p>Bee Health: ➤ Bee Gyms</p> <p>Tasks at Apiaries</p> <p>Shugborough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ More jars of honey for Bee Experience day needed; ➤ Selection of Bee Keeper in Charge and Runner for Saturday. 	<p>PT will order two solar lights for container</p> <p>PDT to research which colonies had high varroa levels from archived records;</p> <p>KCD & KD processed 128llbs of honey; Member of Improver group to be asked on Thursday;</p>

<p>2. Tasks at Apiaries: Shugborough & Hilton Green June & July</p> <p>a) Shugborough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ants in the container; ➤ Bee Keeper in Charge & Runner for Saturday morning; ➤ Apiary tidy up; ➤ Suggestion to note hives by tagging with yellow sticker where supers of honey can be removed; ➤ Honey Show- remind members on 23 June and also to ask people on Saturday to record which hives have beginners' frames in them. CD has the boxes for displaying entries of drawn frames; ➤ Dirty frames-CD to be asked to make signs for area storing old frames for recycling. Frames to be kept in heavy duty plastic bags; ➤ Painting stands and floors ➤ Making up nucs ➤ Making up supers <p>b) Hilton Green:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chris to ask advice sought from Clive Stewart; ➤ PT to ask an Improver on Thursday night ➤ AG will liaise with Howard Price ➤ CS will ask CD for yellow markers ➤ PT to announce on Saturday 23 June ➤ PDT will purchase heavy duty bags ➤ KCD will paint two on a rolling programme ➤ PDT will ask Dave Rawsthorne if he will demonstrate manipulation for ensuring sufficient nurse bees; ➤ To check with CD if castellations have been ordered

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inspection of National hive to see if all's well; ➤ Selection of a nuc from Shugborough to paper in to queen-less hive at Hilton Green; ➤ CS reported that as contractors are working on site, beekeeping at HG should be confined weekends and after 4pm ➤ Six additional supers and two brood boxes needed; ➤ Green mesh needed at back of Apiary now that car park has been enlarged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MS, CS, MD to carry out inspection; ➤ CS will select an appropriate colony ➤ PT will email CD
<p>3. Issues re;</p> <p>(i) Improvers Programme: to have sessions on the remaining following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vertical splits ➤ Introducing a Queen; ➤ Papering colonies together; ➤ Bailey Comb change. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Last Thursday night Improvers' session on 23 August; ➤ SR & Queen Rearing group hoping to launch this at Shugborough in July, timescale will be tight <p>(ii) Beginners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Remaining four Apiary sessions for Beginners; ➤ Safeguarding procedure and practice will need to be developed/revised for future programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ KCD will discuss with SR

<p>(iii) Basic Assessment-five candidates and therefore five hives will be needed for assessment on 22 July;</p> <p>Discussion about what Trevor will need for assessments on</p>	
<p>6. Healthy Bee day</p> <p>We are falling short of expected 60 attendees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PDT will email Sutton, Solihull and Sutton Coldfield. BBKA website
<p>7 AoB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CS has sugar for members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ AWG members to take to Shugborough
<p>Date of next meeting: 20 August 2018 7.30pm Chris's house;</p>	