

South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association

Approved Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9th January 2018 at Three Trees 102 Wolverhampton Road Cannock at 7.30 pm

	Action
<p>Present Paul Twibill (Chair), Charles Davies, Kate Davies, Claire George, Julian Malein, Chris Shaw, Steve Smith, Alan Greenman, Craig Dimberline, David Battersby & Lynne Lacey</p> <p>Apologies , Keith Thompson</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record, proposed by Julian and seconded by Claire</p> <p>Matters arising. Items covered on the agenda</p> <p>Apiary update & maintenance Apiary Working Group</p> <p>Attended by: Chris Shaw, Penny Twibill, Alan Greenman, Paul Twibill, Craig Dimberline, Charles Davis, & Kate Davis</p> <p>Date : 3rd January 2018</p>	
<p>Agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Winter treatments for apiary.2. Feeding for apiary.3. Meeting with National Trust.4. Healthy Bees5. Outline for 20186. Process for Hilton Green <p style="text-align: center;">AOB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Winter treatments for apiary.</p> <p>It was agreed to use the sublimation method for winter treatments on the bees. We have Api Bioxal in stock; Chris, Steve and Charles have 'wands' for the treatments. The suggested date is 3rd & 4th February. Safety equipment must be worn when completing treatment. <i>(Paul has sent e-mails)</i></p> <p>Feeding for apiary</p> <p>Feeding to be completed same time as treatments. <i>(Paul has sent e-mails)</i></p> <p>Meeting with National Trust</p>	

A meeting to be arranged.

(Paul has made contact with National Trust and meeting arranged 15.01.18)

Healthy Bees

Penny has been in touch with Colin Pavey, Regional Bee Inspector with dates when we might be able to use Entrust facilities at the back of Shugborough. It is believed that £100 will be available from BDI towards the costings. Provisional date 16th June.

(Penny has sent e-mails to North Staffs and made enquiries on costing)

Outline for 2018

After discussion, it was agreed that all AWG members do some research to create a list of processes to be decided for the apiary. A group to meet at Fire Station including other members. This to be a round robin e-mail to identify processes. Stuart has offered to demonstrate processes to apiary members.

Currently 16 hives on site which was to be the maximum number. We have beginners group; improvers group; possibly basic bee exam group and Healthy bee day, so a busy year ahead.

Process for Hilton Green

This site is to be used as a quarantine site. It was agreed that (providing the directors agree) three members (Chris, Steve and Mel) would be key holders.

- When someone has a swarm, which is to be donated to the association; they would contact the key holder and arrange to take it to the apiary at Hilton Green.
- Upon arrival, the bees to be moved into a nuc and the box they arrived in given back to the member.
- Key holders will need to keep a couple of new nuc's in stock.
- Contact details need to be obtained on a log sheet, this still to be designed.
- Varroa treatments can be done as there is no brood.
- Paint numbers on the nuc's, starting at No.1 and continuing until the end of the season.
- 6 weeks quarantine.
- A full hive to be taken to the site if directors agree.

(Chris has spoken to Mel and he has agreed to be a key holder)

A.O.B.

Penny has agreed to be Chairman of the Apiary Work Group and replaces Kate.

Beginners course 2018

Stuart and Alan had met up to discuss the teaching material for the beginners. Alan showed the suggested folder and outlined the costs and options. It was agreed that 30 folders would be made up, printing would be minimised by providing pen drives with a logo and information which the students could view and choose if they wanted to print. The approximate cost would be £330.

Stuart had suggested that some improvers may like to sit in on the beginner's lectures as space would be available. A charge of £2 or £3 would offset some of the costs of room hire; they could find this beneficial and have the opportunity to interact with beginners before meeting at the apiary.

Improvers group

A date and venue to be agreed either the pub or Fire Station for the first meet up to discuss what they would like to do during the season. Realistic goals to be set as time always seems short

Basic & Module update

Julian has 6 people interested in doing the basic exam. The group are meeting up next week. Julian has asked Trevor Smith to work with him.

National Trust

Paul has spoken to Steven Armstrong and has a meeting with Sara Jiggins on Monday. Julian, Alan, Charles Kate and Paul to meet at the apiary at 10.30 before meeting at the Farm at 11 am. Chris has contacts for a possible temporary site if the bees need to be moved.

Quartermaster

Craig appreciated that a stock take needs to be done. He listed 200 brood frames, 100 super frames, 10 supers, 20 poly nucs, 10 poly supers, queen excluders. Costs from Maismore £1,134. 300 jars with lids from Freeman. Craig to advise amount of association honey in stock. Supplying items to members was discussed. Monday's meeting with N.T has implications as to this decision.

Craig

Treasurer's report

Claire reported that we have 10K in the bank, the expenses for the year are 5K, at the moment we are showing a surplus of £3.5 K this amount is from honey sales, taster days, beginner's courses and selling nucs. The social skittles evening cost £80. The subscriptions are coming in.

Taster Days

Some places already booked. It was thought we could have a full hive at Hilton Green and run the days from there if needed. Chris to speak to them to ask if this would be possible.

A.D.M.

Correspondence and propositions have been circulated to the committee as they arrive by email.

Stuart is attending the meeting with Geoff; Stuart has the approval of the committee to vote on behalf of our members.

Chris

A.G.M

Shareshill booked for 22nd March, cakes from committee. Subscriptions were discussed and agreed that they needed to be reviewed. Proposition to be agreed at next meeting to put forward at the AGM.

Nomination Form to be sent to members, with details of those stepping down this time.

Calendar for 2018

15th May Stafford Castle, 30th & 31st May Stafford County Show, July date tbc BBQ. 22nd February Graham Royal lecture Swarms, 8th March Winter Lecture to promote Honey Show, Alan & Steve to liaise.

Working with Bidfest

Just 2 small deliveries of sugar recently, Chris has 15 buckets to take to February meeting, members to bring buckets if they want some.

Correspondence

<p>Email received from Burton beekeepers regarding setting up an apiary. They have visited 4 sites, are fund raising and forging ahead with this project. Alan to liaise if they would like to meet up or we can help in any way.</p>	
<p>Newsletter Calendar dates and future events to be promoted in the Newsletter.</p>	Alan
<p>Winter Lectures Graham Royal is booked for 22nd February Swarms, Stuart to message members. 8th March lecture to promote Honey Show.</p>	Stuart
<p>Future Events See above</p>	Alan&St eve
<p>AOB The website was discussed, Alan & Stuart to liaise to perhaps set up a new website</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	
<p>13th February 7.30 at Craig's company board room WV12 4HN</p>	Alan & Stuart