

South Staffordshire and District Beekeepers Association



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 18th Mar 2021
via [Zoom Meeting](#) videoconference at 7.30 pm

Attendance:

There were 44 pre-registrations and 35 participants recorded in the zoom session.
All 2020-2021 Committee Members were present.

1. Chair's Introduction - see AGM Document Pack – page 2

- 1.1: Alan Greenman opened the meeting; noting this was his 2nd year as Chair, he thanked the 2020-21 Committee and noted the challenges the Covid Pandemic had brought, w.r.t. meeting and keeping in touch. He wished everyone well and hopes they are ready for the 2021-22 Beekeeping season.
- 1.2: An AGM Document Pack was issued in advance along with the invitation to register for the AGM, this included the Agenda, Chair's remarks, Treasurer's report inc. accounts, BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting Representative report and Apiary Report; For brevity, reports previously issued are not summarised here – but are referenced where appropriate in the minutes.

2. President's Address

- 2.1: Stuart Roberts welcomed members to the meeting. He noted that despite the covid pandemic and government restrictions to limit its impact; which curtailed the associations activities, the association was still able to support members through provision of information, help wherever and whenever possible, and entertainment.
- 2.2: Stuart thanked all those that had helped to keep the association going during the year. In summary this included the Committee including new Secretary, the Apiary Working Group (AWG), with special thanks to Chris and Alan Brewin, Paul and Penny Twibil (longstanding AWG Members) & Jo Berriman (for Queen rearing support). Apiary Equipment and clean-up crew especially Howard Price. Dayna White & Jo Berriman for supporting the Bee Keeping Experience Day and finally Alan Greenman for the excellent newsletter and keeping calm / measured throughout in chairing the Committee in this challenging time.

3. Treasurer's report - see AGM Document Pack – pages 4-8

- 3.1: Barry Crossley was noted as stepping down from the role and thanked for his support. Barry summarised his report, which included initial concerns re loss of income allayed by reduced costs and increased honey sales. He noted the successful application for a grant from *The Community Foundation* for Staffordshire for a new marquee facilitated by Lynne Lacey; both were thanked.
- 3.2: Julie Hamer independently examined the accounts and found them to be acceptable.

4. Constitution Changes

4.1: There will be no changes this year. A proposal to consider nomination of additional Honorary Life Members has just been received and is to be considered by the 2021-22 committee to be voted on at the next AGM.

5. BBKA Delegate's report - see AGM Document Pack – pages 9-20

5.1: In addition to his report, Stuart Roberts highlighted that the BBKA had challenged the government on the neonicotinoid derogation.

5.2: Stuart Roberts was re-appointed as the club's BBKA delegate for 2021-22.

6. Elections

6.1: The following were elected, by a show of hands:

#	Role *Required by Constitution	Previous Role Holder	Nominations Received	Elected to 2021-22 Committee
a	President *	Stuart Roberts	As left	Stuart Roberts
b	Chair *	Alan Greenman	As left	Alan Greenman
c	Secretary *	Ed Bennett	As left	Ed Bennett
e	Treasurer *	Barry Crossley	Julie Hamer	Julie Hamer
f	Membership Secretary	Claire George	As left	Claire George
g	Education Secretary	Stuart Roberts	None	Vacant
h	Apiary Coordinator	Trevor Smith	As left	Trevor Smith
l	AHAT Coordinator	Clive Stuart	As left	Clive Stuart
J	Health & Safety Coordinator	Clive Stuart	Russell Barlow	Russell Barlow
K	Communications Secretary	Alan Greenman	Jo Berriman	Jo Berriman
L	Events Co-ordinator	Vacant	None	Vacant
M	Quartermaster	Dayna White	As left	Dayna White

6.2: Thanks to Committee Members: Barry Crossley (departing) & Stuart Roberts (stepping down as Education Secretary).

6.3: Congratulations to new Committee Members: Julie Hamer, Russell Barlow and Jo Berriman.

6.4: Please note post-election there are still vacancies on the Committee.

6.5: The 1st Committee Meeting for 2021-22 will be Wednesday 21st April.

6.6: Paul Twibil was thanked for his support in maintaining and developing the website, where all committee minutes are made available.

7. Any other business by permission of the Chair

7.1: Membership location analysis and retention

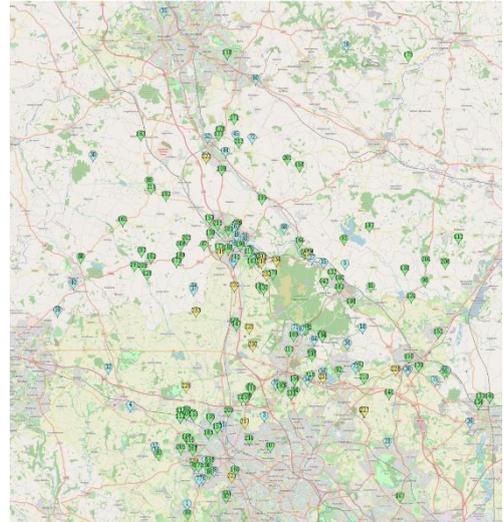
A request was received via e-mail to review and analyse member locations and retention.

Claire George presented a map showing new members, current members and lapsed members from previous years was shown.

164 renewed, 19 new this year, 36 new last year and 64 members lapsed last year.

50% of new members stay for at least one year.

Overall retention is circa 90%.



7.2: Education Secretary position remains vacant

Alan Brewin asked if we had an Education Secretary – the Chair confirmed the education programme for 2022 was in place, however the position remains vacant and approaches for the position are welcomed.

8. Key Note Lecture: Clive Stewart on the Yellow Legged Asian Hornet

A video player interface showing a presentation slide. The slide title is "Yellow Legged Asian Hornet (Vespa Velutina) 2021 Update". The main image is a close-up of a yellow-legged Asian hornet on a green leaf. In the top right corner of the slide is a circular logo for the "SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION" with a bee in the center and the Latin motto "NIL SINE REGINA". A small inset video in the top right corner shows Clive Stewart. The video player has a progress bar at the bottom with a timestamp of 01:05:50 and a total duration of 00:28:29.

Clive attended the 6th March '21 Asian Hornet Conference and gave valuable feedback on this including: the spread across Europe, UK sightings, how to monitor, trap and report sightings via the Non-Native Species Secretariat and the Asian Hornet Watch app.

He encouraged people in Wolverhampton & Stafford to join the Asian Hornet Team (a pre-requisite is taking the [Asian Hornet Exercise](#)) and add Asian Hornet week to their diaries – planned for 6-10th Sep '21.