



**DORSET COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 8 March 2020**  
**held in Sunninghill Community Hall, Dorchester**

Recorded attendees: 27

AGM Chair, Lesley Gasson; Secretary, Liz Rescorla

- 1) **Apologies** were received from Chris and Carol Donaghy, Michele Vassar, Ivor Kemp, Jim Dunne
- 2) **Minutes of the AGM on 10 March 2019** were signed as a true record. Proposed by Geoff Buckland, seconded by Carole Browne
- 3) **Matters arising:** none
- 4) **Council reports:** all previously circulated. Comments:

Education Officer Geoff Buckland advised the meeting:

- a. the Dorset BKA Convention to be held on 4 October 2020 at Blandford School will be on the theme of honey bee queens. Confirmed speakers to date are Clive de Bruyn and Michael Waite; further details will follow
  - b. Geoff Buckland will run a queen rearing course over three days: 9 May, 13 May and 16 May 2020. Methods will include Miller, Jenter and grafting; further details to follow
- 5) **Asian Hornet Action Team:** report previously circulated. The County AHAT Coordinator advised the meeting that Dorset BKA AHATs have joined forces with Bournemouth and Dorset South BKA and New Forest BKA and have agreed to pool resources if necessary. In April 2020 they will commence two months of trap monitoring. In respect of recommendations in the report:
- a. *equipment:* it was agreed that the County Association will pay for one set of equipment for each Dorset BKA Branch Association. The County AHAT Coordinator will draw up a list of equipment together with Ben Benjamin and purchases will be made in bulk for both standardisation and cost benefits
  - b. *AHAT Coordinator trips to Jersey BKA:* it was agreed that the County Association will not fund trips to Jersey. Individuals who wish to take up Jersey BKA's invitation will need to meet the cost themselves and/or arrange funding with the prior agreement of their Branch Association

Proposed by Ben Benjamin, seconded by Geoff Buckland

- 6) **County Honey Show:** it was agreed to accept the recommendation of the Council to discontinue the County Honey Show with effect from 2020. Proposed by Peter Crabbe, seconded by Chris Slade

7) **Adoption of audited accounts:** copies of the accounts were distributed. A query was raised about the high Postage, Stationery and Miscellaneous expenditure for 2019 compared to 2018. The Treasurer advised that this was due to the Honey Show prize money provided to Dorchester and Weymouth BKA in respect of the 2019 County Honey Show. The accounts were adopted; proposed by Geoff Buckland, seconded by Tim Villiers

8) **County capitation fee:** the Council proposed a fee of £3.00 which will be reviewed at the January 2021 Council meeting. The fee was approved; proposed by Terry Payne, seconded by Carole Brown.

9) **Proposed constitutional amendments:** the following changes were agreed:

a. *Officers:* notice previously circulated

- remove Show Secretary
- include Membership Secretary, Website Manager, County Asian Hornet Action Team Coordinator

Proposed by Terry Payne, seconded by Judy Easdale

b. *Change to the name of the County Association bank account from Dorset County Beekeepers Association to Dorset BKA:* this had arisen shortly before the meeting due to the pending introduction by the bank of a 'confirmation of payee' scheme; the name of the account needs to be shorter to fit into the payee box

Proposed by Cuffy Laverton, seconded by Geoff Buckland

10) **Election of officers and others**

| <b>Position</b>         | <b>Current Officer</b>                   | <b>Elected Officer</b>                   | <b>Proposer</b> | <b>Seconder</b> |
|-------------------------|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| President               | R Norman                                 | R Norman                                 | Nem con         |                 |
| Vice Presidents         | Ken Bishop<br>Mervyn Bown<br>Chris Slade |  | Nem con         |                 |
| Chairman                | L Gasson                                 | L Gasson                                 | Nem con         |                 |
| Vice Chair              | T Ford                                   | T Ford                                   | Nem con         |                 |
| Secretary               | L Rescorla                               | L Rescorla                               | Nem con         |                 |
| Treasurer               | R Camping                                | R Camping                                | Nem con         |                 |
| Education Officer       | G Buckland                               | G Buckland                               | Nem con         |                 |
| Examinations Secretary  | T Payne                                  | T Payne                                  | Nem con         |                 |
| Membership Secretary    | R Benjamin                               | R Benjamin                               | Nem con         |                 |
| Honeycraft Editor       | T Villiers                               | T Villiers                               | Nem con         |                 |
| Website Manager         | S Potts                                  | S Potts                                  | Nem Con         |                 |
| County AHAT Coordinator | M White                                  | M White                                  | Nem Con         |                 |
| Accounts Examiner       | M Clarke                                 | M Clarke                                 | Approved        |                 |
| BBKA Delegate           | 2020 ADM<br>L Gasson                     | To be nominated at Sept 2020 Council mtg |                 |                 |

|                              |                                   |                                   |             |                |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| SWBKF Representative         | R Benjamin, L Rescorla, C Slade   | R Benjamin, S Potts, L Rescorla   | Terry Payne | Cuffy Laverton |
| BeeCraft Trustees            | G Buckland, R Camping, L Rescorla | G Buckland, R Camping, L Rescorla | Nem con     |                |
| National Honey Show Delegate | L Gasson                          | L Gasson                          | Nem con     |                |

Confirmation of uncontested re-elections proposed by Cuffy Laverton, seconded by Sue Billington

- Treasurer Robert Camping advised that he will step down at the 2021 AGM and invited anyone interested in the role to contact him
- Membership Secretary Ben Benjamin would also step down at the 2021 AGM if anyone was interested in the role

## 11) Any Other Business

### a. SWBKF

- i. *subscription*: this will be £50 for 2020
- ii. *contribution to Asian hornet tracking research project [Peter Kennedy, Exeter University]*: information previously circulated. The Council proposed a contribution of £240 [£225 tag + £15 share of activator]

Both approved. Proposed by Mark White, seconded by Terry Payne

- b. *Module Study Groups*: for several years these groups have been run by three Association members; DBKA Chair Lesley Gasson reminded members that anyone could consider setting up a group to work through a Module syllabus for learning support and/or exam preparation

## 12) Presentations

- a. the Hambro cup, awarded to the Branch achieving the greatest increase in membership in the previous year, was awarded to East Dorset BKA
- b. the Branch with the highest percentage of successful Basic Assessment candidates out of Branch members in one season, based on Spring capitulation figures, was Blandford and Sturminster BKA for the 2019 season

The meeting closed at 4.05 pm