

Lincolnshire Beekeepers Association
Central Council Meeting
26th January 2021 @ 7:30pm
Virtual Meeting - Zoom

Minutes

Present:

Officers: I Burnley (Chair), Richard Harrison (Vice-Chair / Honey Show Secretary), C Lake (Treasurer), C George (Communications Secretary), G Luckhurst (Membership Secretary),

District Representatives: G Carrott (Horncastle), Keith Baker (Sleaford), F Ross (N. Lincs), P Verdegaal (Boston), N Gardener (Lincoln), L Burns (Market Rasen)

In attendance: D Harrison (Honey Show Treasurer), Simon Castleman (Sleaford), Andy Cursons (Sleaford), J Goodhand (Grimsby), Anita Carrott (Horncastle)

1. Apologies received – None
2. Approval of Previous Minutes - Approved
3. Matters Arising - None
4. Secretary's Report

Since my last report, we have had the most challenging of times. Covid has meant there has not been any meetings since the AGM but still work has been done on your behalf. The emails have been too numerous to report individually, but have all been passed on to either the District Secretary or individual concerned, or required advice, which I was able to give. There has also been plenty of telephone calls regarding swarms and these also have been dealt with by the Districts or by words of advice as to the course of action that the property owner could take. There has also been an increasing number of communications for 'all members' from the BBKA. At present all that I can do is pass them out via the Membership Secretary utilising the eR2 system. This process could be simplified by the BBKA sending them direct but at present our eR2 system does not allow this.

I therefore am making a formal request for our eR2 system to be adjusted to allow the BBKA to communicate with our members directly. It would also allow them to communicate with our other officers directly. If it is a matter requiring discussion then I ask that it be included in the next Agenda.

Action: CG to investigate and inform CL who is happy to make changes.

One email of note was a Wholesaler who has a pallet load of sugar that was in split packaging and destined for landfill and where we interested? Of course! Chris and Richard Arlett-Johnson and I managed to coordinate the distribution of in excess of 800 kg of sugar around the districts for them to use as they saw fit. It was a positive outcome for both parties and all of our thanks were passed to the company concerned.

There is a change to the Secretary's details at Sleaford. Simon Castleman (scastleman@btinternet.com) replaces Andy Cursons, who now takes on the role of Education Officer. All district secretaries have been informed.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

District Membership Secretaries are currently in the middle of collating membership returns and as members have until the end of the month to renew it is not possible to give a precise report on membership.

The following numbers come from the eR2 database and it is clear that some districts have not started entering this year's data. This may be due to them storing data locally on spreadsheets and they will upload in bulk at the end of the month.

I can take a stab at reporting our membership number. There are 830 entries in the database. Of which 150 are marked as lapsed. There are also a number of members who are Registered member in one district but also listed as Non BBKA members in one or more other districts.

There are 420 members (of all types) awaiting renewal.
There are 237 members (of all types) who have renewed.
There are 6 new members who membership started late last year.

These numbers are projected and NOT FINAL

Membership Type (Active & Awaiting Renewal)	2021
Registered (Full)	458
Partner	45
School	2
Country	9
Junior,	18
Honorary, Active	0
Non BBKA (Associate), Active	117
Totals	649*

*** This number will fall as not all awaiting renewal members will renew.**

I will submit a more accurate report including comparisons with 2020 in March.

6. Treasurer's Report

Autumn Capitation

In September we closed the Autumn capitation and any membership subs for BBKA, LBKA and BDI are sent to LBKA for any members joining since the spring. Monies owing to BBKA and BDI are then collated and paid.

Even without I expect, any meetings or beginners courses we added 32 new members bringing our total to 676 members (all classes) in 2020.

The total amounts paid in September were as follows:

BBKA – £601.00

BDI - £69.75

Which brings the total paid in 2020 to:

BBKA – £9,163.50

BDI – £1,544.90

Membership Renewals 2021

All current members have had their status changed on the eR2 database as of 1st November to 'awaiting renewal' and a note sent to all district membership secretaries to start processing membership renewals for 2021. Hopefully you should have all received a reminder form your membership secretary by now. I have asked them to ensure all the renewals are completed and their capitation closed on the eR2 system by 1st March 2021, this should give the district treasurers plenty of time to transfer the membership subs either by cheque or transfer into the LBKA account by the end of March. The deadline for payment to BBKA and BDI is 1st April 2021.

If you haven't received any membership renewals from your membership secretary please can you check that they are on the case!

Note from ADM the BBKA capitation has increased from £19 to £21 from Jan 2022.

2020 Accounts

All district treasurers have now received the templates for the annual accounts and asset registers to complete for the 2020 accounts. I have asked for these to be returned once the accounts have been signed off by the districts' Independent Examiner, deadline for this is Friday 19th February. These will then be collated and sent through to the accountant in preparation for the AGM. We will also require each district to submit a small summary of their years' activity in achieving our charitable objectives (might be a bit tricky this year). This is a requirement for the Charity Commission and will be written published in the Annual Accounts. The instruction for this will go out in the new year.

I have received 2 district accounts as of 19/01

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid return was completed in October for 2020 and we received £1,628.16 from HMRC.

Bank Accounts

The current balances for the LBKA accounts as of 19/1 are:

Current (community) Account – £5,472.34
Savings Account (legacy money) - £5,032.24

Zoom licence purchased on 18/01/21

7. Lincolnshire Show Committee

To reflect on 2020, it is still with sadness we must remember Bill Williams, his passing was a shock and will be sadly missed, Bill was a past Secretary of the show committee and had been involved in the show for decades.

As usual all the preparations were completed, Judges booked, schedule printed and posted. Then the realisation Covid would change our lives in so many ways. The LAS (Lincolnshire Agricultural Society) kept an optimistic line that the show would go on but as we all know eventually everything was cancelled. The LAS did present a virtual show and asked us if we could supply any videos of beekeeping, unfortunately they left it to the last minute, but with the help of Paul Horton we did get a short video sequence put together which they were very happy with.

For this year 2021 although no stand applications have been issued (normally the preceding November) the LAS have however issued an event schedule and the Lincs Show is scheduled to take place 23rd & 24th June, so we will see how the year progresses, watch this space.

There was some discussion about the possibility of holding a Honey Show later in the year, but social distancing poses huge problems. It was suggested that we put the idea on hold until we know what the restrictions are later in the year. There were various ideas regarding collection and delivery of entries.

7. ADM Representatives Report

AW was not available to give a report. CL acted as an observer on the day and said that the process was quite difficult. The item on capitation was passed so from Jan 2022 the BBKA precept will go up from £19 to £21.

Most of the other items were procedural. The minutes will be produced in due course and will be circulated to members.

8. Policies

AW – was not available to present his report.

Some discussion revolved around the Agenda papers that AW had previously submitted and it was agreed that this being a key issue that we would hold an extra meeting(s) to discuss.

Action: CG to set up meeting with AW on zoom for Central Council within a fairly short timeframe.

9. Website

It was felt that the website could be improved. The current website was a stop gap solution to the situation at the time. It was suggested that the LBKA spend some money to get one built.

Action: CL to investigate and get a potential quote.

10. AGM Agenda and Arrangements

Agenda to be the same as 2020. AGM to be held via zoom. Proposed date Sat 17th April @ 1pm. Max attendees is 100 in our zoom contract.

Following the Discussion on holding a Honey Show, it was suggested that we ask one of the Honey Show Judges to give a presentation on zoom for members.

11. District Updates

Boston – Nothing to report.

Grantham – No report available

Grimsby – Held AGM virtually. Holding certain number of meetings online.

Horncastle – Apiary created – 8 hives presently. 10 beginners completed theory and some gained practical experience from the apiary. No AGM to be held but will hold EGM once we are able to meet.

Lincoln – Nothing

Louth – No report available

Market Rasen – AGM held last week. Membership fee not taken this year as no activities to be held.

North Lincolnshire – AGM held. Couple of committee meetings held on zoom. Beginner's course planned but is waiting for restrictions etc.

Sleaford – Not much else happening. Going to attempt zoom next week. Apiary opened last year. 20 students on beginners course last year. Will try to hold a course this year.

Ann Holderness had passed away recently. She was a long standing Secretary of the LBKA.

Action: IB to send a letter of condolence

12. Any Other Business - Ask Examinations Officer to talk to Central Council about new examinations online.

13. Date and time of next meeting – Policies -10th Feb 8-9pm on Zoom

Central Council Meeting –Tues 6th April 7:30pm