

# Lincolnshire Beekeepers' Association

Registered Charity Number 500360

## Annual General Meeting 2022

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 10.00am

**ZOOM!**

### MINUTES

**Attendance:** Iain Burnley (Chair), Richard Harrison (VC/Lincs Show Sec), Catherine Lake (Treasurer), Graham Luckhurst (Membership Secretary)

**Apologies:** Fran Ross (North Lincs)

Members in attendance – 9

1. Apologies and declaration of interests

Apologies: None

Declarations of interest - None

2. Approval of the minutes of the 2021 AGM

Proposal to accept minutes

Proposed: Keith Baker. Seconded Chris Arlett-Johnson

Vote: All in favour

3. Matters Arising from the 2021 AGM

None

4. Chairman's Report

I would like to start by thanking those in attendance for giving up their Saturday morning to support the LBKA.

It has been a challenging and difficult year with the many twists and turns to the COVID pandemic and several the county events such as the spring / autumn lectures and Lincolnshire show have regrettably not taken place again this year. I would like to thank Thornes and the honey show committee for putting an alternative show in place and it was fantastic to see so many entries even in spite of the social interaction restrictions that were in place.

It has been fantastic to see the creative use of zoom to facilitate activities at a district level and heart-warming to hear of the examinations success across the county including one member receiving an award for the highest intermediate examination mark in the country.

Central council members were involved with the NBU in relation to an EFB outbreak in the county and I would like to thank both them and members of the local district for their assistance and diligence during that worrying time. Hopefully we shall remain free of notifiable disease outbreaks during the coming year.

Central council has also been heavily involved with supporting districts experiencing membership issues in the last year. This has taken a considerable amount of officers' time and required guidance from BBKA. I would like to offer my thanks to Stephen Barnes and team for their involvement during this difficult process.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have held Central Council and officer positions over the last year. It is these individuals who truly make the association function and without generous donation of time and experience we would not have a Lincolnshire Beekeepers' Association.

#### 5. Secretaries Report

For LBKA 2021 was another challenging year. Covid 19 was still restricting many activities although some districts were resuming face to face meetings in the latter half of the year and others still using zoom to hold meetings and talks given by external speakers. All LBKA council meetings were held via zoom, as was the AGM in April.

Although the Lincolnshire show was cancelled for the second year where we usually hold our honey show, LBKA ran a honey show in September at Thornes in Wragby. It was extremely well attended and entries were of a good standard giving the judges some tough decisions. Thanks must go to the Honey Show committee for organising the event, to members for their entries and to Thornes for hosting.

Sleaford district held talks hosting external speakers and once restrictions were eased were back to meeting in person. Meetings continued to be well attended as was the Christmas dinner. Training courses offered by Sleaford have always been popular and 2021 was no exception enabled by delivering some parts of the course online. Over 20 people attended beginners' course including 9 from RAF Coningsby. They also saw 9 members successfully complete their basic assessment and 3 junior members complete the junior assessment, which is a record for the district. Their new club apiary continues to be well used for the practical elements of the beginner's course and exam sessions and have also had several club training days at the apiary including an informative session from Eddy Gadd. The apiary team already have a full programme of club events planned for 2022 building on the successes of 2021.

Lincoln district started the year as many others with meetings on line and activities then picked up later in the year where they managed to hold three member meetings. November meeting had a presentation on 'how the bees collect pollen' followed by a discussion on the use of oxalic acid as a varroa treatment. In December they ventured into the area of artificial swarming and the Patterson method of creating nucleus.

With assistance from David Knibbs and Chris Elliss, they now have a fully functioning apiary that has four complete hives in a clear and clean environment with storage space for all our spare equipment. They managed to deliver over 160 (a mixture of 8oz & 12oz jars) of honey to Gelder's to sell for charity and to give as gifts to suppliers and customers.

There was no auction held for the second year running although there are plans to hold one in 2022.

Market Rasen meetings recommenced in August and they also were invited to have a stand at the Lincolnshire show ground for Lincs Fest, which was well attended by members and the general public. Followed a week later with an open day at the Chairs house for tea, coffee, cakes and a general bee catch up. In October and November, they saw a return to formal meetings and in December the club honey show took place.

Horncastle also resumed their programme of events in the Autumn and were well attended. Their annual honey show was also held and thanks to everyone who entered.

LBKA were delighted to award this years Lesley Thorne Award to Oscar Niland from North Lincs district. Oscar has been a very keen member of the North Lincs for a few years and in that time has attended the district training courses, shows and meetings while continuing with his school work. The Pandemic put a significant barrier in place to Oscars further development in beekeeping and was unable to progress to keeping his own bees at that time but not to be perturbed by the restrictions he has continued to grow his knowledge through attending on line zoom meetings and whenever possible visited the district apiary, socially distanced, to observe and ask questions. He was formally presented with his award as was the 2020 recipient Rosie Christmas (also from North Lincs) at the honey show at Thornes by Gill Smith LBKA President.

Education continues to be an important part of association membership activities despite the restrictions and the details of the achievements of the districts can be found below.

District	Exam		Grades
Grantham	Basic	1	Credit
Lincoln	Basic	1	Credit
Sleaford	Basic	9	8*Credit 1*Pass
	Junior	3	3* Pass
Boston	Module 1	1	Result not known
Market Rasen	Module 5	2	1* Pass 1* Distinction
	Module 6	3	2* Credit 1* Distinction
	Int. Theory 2	1*	Credit 1* Distinction
N Lincs.	Module 6	1	1* Credit

It is also a great achievement that one of our members has received “The Robert Hammond Award” by the BBKA for their results at Intermediate theory level.

This is a national award and reflects the highest score across the country. The presentation will be made at the BBKA Spring Convention in April 2022.

## 6. Treasurers report and audited accounts

Firstly, I would like to thank Ben for preparing these accounts and nearly all the district treasurers for getting the information produced on time.

For those of you that haven't seen LBKA accounts before, the 10 districts, honey show and the LBKA accounts are consolidated to form the overall LBKA Charity accounts. As well as the income and expenditure we also ask each district for their asset register (a list of their equipment and the value they put on replacing it in that accounting year) and an annual report of their activity for the year.

The Trustees and other officers are listed at the front of the document and any changes to these positions during the year are recorded.

The review of activity on pages 4-6 is a consolidation of the district reports we receive, here we have to demonstrate to the Charity Commission how we are achieving our charitable objectives through the work carried out at a district level and the annual honey show. From information received we are starting to increase the activity as covid restrictions have been eased and are starting to provide both training and information to members and the general public.

In terms of the accounts, you will see a slight increase in income as more activities started to take place throughout the year and an increase in membership. In terms of expenditure there was an increase in bulk purchases for sale via the districts and drop of equipment purchased v's last year Overall, the net position has increased, so we are still in a stable financial position.

The statement on the Reserves is satisfactory and has increased in value again this year and the only other thing to note is that there was an increase in equipment value on last year.

There are some districts that have quite a bit of money in their accounts and it is hoped as things return to normal and district activities commence, investments will be made.

Finally, the independent examiners report, is positive and no issues that have arisen from that. No surprises this year and things are as expected.

Graham Luckhurst asked about the value of the equipment and is there a standard depreciation rate. CL to investigate.

7. Election of President

Gill Smith was proposed by Iain Burnley and Seconded by Ben Gibbon.

Vote: All in favour

8. Election of Officers

- Chair

Iain Burnley - Proposed Keith Baker, Seconded Gill Smith

Vote: All in favour

- Vice-Chair

Chris Arlett-Johnson – Proposed Richard Harrison, Seconded Keith Baker.

Vote: All in favour

- Secretary – there were no nominations for secretary - this will be taken to the next council meeting. We will also share with Districts the job description and ask them to send this out to members.

- Membership Secretary

Graham Luckhurst - Proposed Keith Baker, Seconded Andree Hall.

Vote: All in favour

- Treasurer

Catherine Lake - Proposed Chris Arlett-Johnson, Seconded Iain Burnley

Vote: All in favour

- Education Officer – there were no nominations.

- Examinations Secretary

Andy Cursons - Proposed Mike Seal, Seconded Iain Burnley.

Vote: All in favour

- National Honey Show Representative

Gill Smith - Proposed Iain Burnley, Seconded Keith Baker.

Vote: All in favour

- Asian Hornet Coordinator

Stewart Maher - Proposed Iain Burnley, Seconded Keith Baker.

Vote: All in favour

- ADM Delegate

Simon Castleman – Proposed Keith Baker, Seconded Catherine Lake

Vote: All in favour

- Welfare Officer  
Guy Williams - Proposed Gill Smith, Seconded Iain Burnley  
Vote: All in favour
- Publicity Officer  
Keith Baker - Proposed Iain Burnley, Seconded Catherine Lake.  
Vote: All in favour
- Website  
Steve McCarthy - Proposed Richard Harrison, Seconded Iain Burnley  
Vote: All in favour
- Lincolnshire Show Committee – Secretary  
Richard Harrison - Proposed Iain Burnley, Seconded Keith Baker.  
Vote: All in favour

#### 9. Proposals for changes to the constitution

Appendix A included in the pre read for the meeting. In summary it is proposed changes LBKA received from BBKA reference to the district membership issues we have experienced. There is nothing in the constitution explaining what a district can do in relation to accepting a member into the district. This has now been clarified and the constitution updated accordingly.

Proposed Richard Harrison Seconded: Iain Burnley

All voted in favour to adopt changes to the constitution.

#### 10. Vote of thanks for any retiring officers

Thanks to Mike Seal as the retiring Education Officer. He has been involved with LBKA central council over a number of years in other roles and a big vote of thanks goes to Mike for all his work in all the roles.

Also, thanks to Richard Harrison who is stepping down as vice-chair, help and guidance has been invaluable and many thanks to Richard.

AOB: Updates to the constitution will be made and updated on the Charity Commission website and then uploaded on the LBKA website. - CL

Thank you to all that attended

Meeting closed at 10.23 pm