

Committee Meeting at Chairman's home Brampton

Wednesday 9th October 2014

At 7.30pm.

Minutes

1. Apologies – Christine Matthews, Walter McPhee, Malcolm Cotter and Charlie Savage.

Attending were, Robin Macleod, Fiona Roebuck, Peter Harris, Syd and Monica Parker, Nick Mills, Lorraine Priestley, Pete Nanson, Stuart Bowie, Harold Bowron and Dieter Gringinger

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

3. Matters Arising:

Website: Debbie Penrith had been approached to see if she could revamp the website but was unable to take this on because of commitments. Pete Nanson advised that she may now be in a position to look at this. The approximate cost would be £300.

Richard Robinson runs the Cumbria website. Fiona suggested that he could be put in touch with Debbie Penrith to see if the Cumbria site should be renewed. Pete will sound her out and feedback so that Cumbria Executive can be informed as it may be more appropriate for this to be undertaken by the executive instead of the branches all doing their own thing.

Apiary Management: To be discussed in main meeting.

4. Forthcoming AGM agenda:

Reports from Chairman

Treasurer

Raffle

Election of officers:

Chairman (Robin),

Secretary (Fiona),

Treasurer (Dieter),

Apiary Manager?

Newsletter editor (Malcolm),

Auditor (Stella Bell),

Minutes Secretary (Lorraine)

Committee(Nick Mills, Peter Harris, Syd and Monica Parker, Pete Nanson,

Christine Mathews, Norman Toppin, Harold Bowron, Pat Whitely, Lorraine Priestley and Stuart Bowie

Robin will approach Louse and Joanne (new members) to see if they will come onto the Committee.

Education and training

Annual dinner

Subscriptions: There was a proposal from Robin that the subscriptions remain the same unless Cumbria or BBKS make an increase.

Emails to members: Fiona asked if she could have an up to day list of paid up members. Dieter will send her this list.

Robin will put an article in the newsletter advising that membership if not paid up by end of January no more newsletters will be sent out. Fees payable midseason if new members wish to join the club.

Stuart would like to analyse the membership list for increases, decreases etc.

5. Apiary Management, arrangements and equipment:

Nick reported that Stewart Beattie had told him the state of the apiary was a disgrace and there was general agreement that something needs to be done.

Equipment: New frames and foundation are needed.

A general clean up and disposal of poor equipment needs to be organised.

Nick, Pete and Syd are prepared to clear out the shed and in the new season Shook swarm the hives onto new frames.

Members need to be responsible for keeping the sheds tidy.

Dieter thought that it may be better to have one type of hive only at the apiary, but others felt it was important to be able to demonstrate different hive use.

It was proposed that a rota be drawn up to look at all hives in the non club meeting weeks, involving new members.

Syd advised that hives used to be numbered and all hive parts were numbered to avoid cross contamination.

Robin is willing to label hive parts.

There are 5 hives at present.

After a long discussion it was proposed that there should be team leaders and teams responsible for one month at a time, to all the checking of hives in the non apiary days. Stuart feels it is important to involve new members in the teams.

Possible team leaders would be: Nick, Syd, Mike, Charlie, Walter.

It is also important that the grass is kept cut at the apiary.

6. Programme: This has still not been finalised but proposals were as follows:

January: Annual dinner- proposal to be at Eden Golf club as last year. Pete is prepared to arrange this but would like Dieter to write a cheque for the payment with a 10% gratuity with monies paid back by the members to the club.

February: ? Ian Molyneux

March: ? Paul Smith or David Walmsley ? maximising honey production.

April:

May: Beekeepers Question time.

Visit to Janet Queen at Rose Castle

Talks at apiary days : Syd, Nick (queen rearing, Swarm control, Frame making, hygiene, record keeping and feeding.

September: Beewax products - Lorraine

October : Honey Show

November : AGM

7. Training

Beginners Course

Robin will ask Christine if she will be willing to do training and ask her for dates well ahead of the course to allow time for interested people to sign up.

Stuart also feels it is important to let people know about the correspondence course which he has done.

8 AOB:

Fiona advised we need to put on an education event about bees at Dobbies Garden Centre. She will discuss this with Dobbies and see if something can be set up for early spring.

Dieter asked if the hives were too exposed at the apiary. He asked if we should be planting in front of the hives or putting up a fence to give shelter.

This is to be reviewed in a year when the hives have been shook swarmed.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.