



CANTERBURY BEEKEEPERS



A branch of Kent Beekeepers Association

Agenda and Minutes of
Committee Meeting

**16TH NOVEMBER
2015
7PM**

THE OLD GATE INN

**162-164 NEW DOVER ROAD,
CANTERBURY, CT1 3EL**

Attendees:

Julian Audsley
David Cockburn
Adrian Davis
Magdalene Mei Halkes
Maggie McKenzie
Jan Soetaert

Martin Neame
Richard Kemball-Cook (for KBKA discussion)

Apologies:

Simon Daniell
Joan McAllister
Michael Roberts

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Magdalene Mei Halkes
Maggie McKenzie
Martin Neame
Michael Roberts

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Contact Newsletter editor
to contribute articles

AGENDA

ACTIONS

<p>1. Actions arising from last mtg <i>Identify incomplete items</i></p>	<p>JCA/DC equipment stock-take needs to be completed</p> <p>St Dunstons £14/hr fits 75 people, although parking would be a problem. Barham Village Hall small hall is £15. Large hall is approx. £30(although lighting is dull). Good parking</p> <p>Jan Soetaert has a large box of items from Jenny/Chris. Ernest Snow has extractor</p> <p>Action: AD to badger everyone to declare the CBKA kit, via DropBox</p>
<p>2. Branch correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BBKA (defer to 4) - Dunkirk apiary - School visit yr 1 (Ms K Hodge) - Wisborough Green beginners course - Ambrosia at DDBKA 	<p>MMH to contact</p>
<p>3. KBKA/BBKA business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation at 28/Nov KBKA council meeting • DEFRA response about BBKA contracts (see attached letter received on 19 October) 	<p>KBKA looking for a treasurer-elect; also needs to understand how to use funds wisely. RK-C suggests the Rotary Club model, where 50% funds comes from central organization</p> <p>Agreed that RK-C would try to attend in MR's absence (Richard will pay subs!)</p> <p>Quick discussion about DEFRA letter – no action</p> <p>DDBKA have asked for support for motions requesting more transparency specifically financial transparency (e.g. BBKA Enterprises). Also management of ADM business via Standing Orders</p> <p>Action: DC to share DDBKA proposals for discussions at KBKA council</p>
<p>4. Christmas Party <i>What else needs organizing (see Nov newsletter)</i></p>	<p>Some people needed to arrange hall at 6.15pm</p> <p>Main numbers on Friday 27th November</p> <p>MMH has key to hall, so could decorate on Thursday (MMH will ask whether we can take advantage of village party decoration)</p> <p>Bring your own drink</p> <p>Volunteers for washing-up duty</p> <p>AD Christmas music and sound system. MMH to bring song sheet</p> <p>AD to recruit the party-goers by email.</p>

<p>5. Finances and Membership renewal <i>Date to withdraw membership privileges</i></p>	<p>28 renewals so far. Moratorium on 1 January 2016 agreed (JS/AD)</p> <p>Action for JM/JS to discuss the GiftAid proposal</p> <p>Friends on JCA's courses: has been a policy to sign them up to KBKA for a few years. Change of friends' membership to £8 this year, and also the hassle from KBKA to get GiftAid. Friends are purely a KBKA issue</p> <p>Proposal: JCA will make a donation to CBKA equivalent to friends' fee, course members get e-comms for a year. No automatic sign-up at end of that period. Committee agreed to proposal</p>
<p>6. Club Priorities for 2016 <i>Based on feedback from AGM, committee and resources available</i></p>	<p>Mentor groups Would be useful to have members plotted on map to help identify nascent new groups(action: JS) Pubs and home visits for mentor groups. Pre-assign new members to a mentor group</p> <p>Benefits pack agreed to be a helpful handout.(action: AD to draft) Contact for mentor group leads</p> <p>Whitefriars – need more beekeepers to support, but is key part of CBKA identity (JS could help out with bee management). JC has always organized 2 BeeDays – needs coordination, JC/CB present all day, JCA supplies bees. Gazebo provided by Whitefriars. Organiser needs to get volunteers together and kit, and manage the day need at least 4 people. Action: Need a sub for CB/JC (volunteers?)</p> <p>Dane John Garden – very sales oriented (too many people), and we felt it wouldn't be a good event to attend</p> <p>Local Honey Shows – Thanet is a small show, needs more support than DDBKA or FoB Festival of Bees - discussed desire to maintain a respectful distance, but certainly members should be encouraged to attend and enter show</p> <p>Honey Tasting rather than showing - is there more we can do with this? Very popular event, but could benefit from a twist or two.</p> <p>Talk with Julie Coleman to see if there is any cooperation opportunities with Whitstable and Herne Bay BKA (AD)</p> <p>Training: safari (action: AD) and Basic Assessment (action: JCA) Focus on transition from beginner to</p>

	<p>self-sufficient. JCA course: Julian has now enhanced his support, and will provide bees in exchange for a nuc box</p> <p>Swarm collection - BBKA .v. CBKA. Canterbury CC have used both systems. To be settled later (action: DC/AD to bring back to committee)</p>
<p>7. Winter Schedule <i>Meetings for Feb/Mar/Apr</i> <i>Identify organiser for each</i></p>	<p>Ideas Sting de-sensitisation (DC) Quiz Swarm control (with Model hives) (AD) OSR preparation Optimising honey yield Relative merits of Varroa control (AD to talk to RS or JC)</p> <p>Post-Meeting Note Varroa for Wed 2nd Feb (Julie Coleman?? AD to check) Dr Alasdair Stewart booked for Wed 2nd March, to talk about sting de-sensitisation Swarms, Casts and their Control – Wed 6th April (AD)</p>
<p>8. Bekesbourne Apiary management through the winter and beyond. <i>Operating model, communications and relationship to committee</i></p>	<p>Record keeping (electronic and manual, centralized) Hut related work (equipment) Site related work (coppicing etc) Scheduling of beekeeping (senior+junior, regularity) Separate groups of people (bee inspection, site work)</p> <p>What are the objectives for each hive</p> <p>MN can manage the people, but the objectives should be determined by a wider group of experienced beekeepers.</p> <p>Action: MN to lead debate: develop a proposal through discussion in the committee</p> <p>Post meeting action: MN was formally adopted onto the CBKA committee, to facilitate good communications with the branch.</p>
<p>9. AOB <i>Dates of next meetings</i></p>	<p>Tuesday 19th January Thursday 10th March Tuesday 10th May</p>

ATTACHMENTS

1. Message from Doug Brown - 19 Oct 2015 with attachment
2. Minutes of committee meeting, 28 September 2015
3. Minutes of AGM, 4 November 2015
4. Extract from newsletter about Christmas party