

**STANDING ORDERS COVERING
THE ANNUAL DELEGATE MEETING 2015**

Certain Clauses of the BBKA Constitution are applicable to the running of the ADM. Delegates should familiarise themselves especially with Clauses 11, 12, 14, 24 and Annexes A and B.

Clause 11 governs the appointment and duties of Delegates to the ADM. Clause 12 relates to the calling and conduct of the ADM.

Clause 14 regulates the voting at the ADM, both the 'Card Vote' procedure and the 'Registered Membership Vote' procedure.

Clause 24 specifies the conditions to be met by any Proposition that alters the BBKA Constitution.

Annex A states who has the right to attend the ADM and who has the right to speak.

Annex B states who shall be Chairman of the ADM and the business to be transacted.

Attendance at the ADM. Annex A states that all Classes of membership have the right to attend the ADM. Only Area Association Members, the Executive Committee and Specialist Members have the right to submit Propositions for consideration. Each AAM may have only one Delegate and only Delegates have the right to vote.

Speaking at the ADM. Only Delegates, Officers and members of the Executive shall have the right to speak at the ADM. If any other person wishes to speak he or she should request permission from the Chairman, preferably before the meeting, and stating the Proposition or subject, and whether it is in lieu of a Delegate. *It is important that each speaker should identify himself or herself both by name and affiliation.*

Voting at the ADM. Clause 14 governs the voting at the ADM. Card votes are taken at the meeting on the basis of one vote for each Area Association Member by the Delegate holding up his or her voting card or by using the hand-held electronic voting device as directed at the meeting. Registered Membership votes are counted on the basis of one vote for each *Registered and Partner Member of an Area Association.* Any Delegate may demand a Registered Membership Vote immediately after any vote taken.

A member of the Standing Orders Committee will be stationed close to the Chairman and may be consulted by the Chairman at any time on procedural matters. The Chairman may request a temporary suspension of Standing Orders (SOs) during a debate in order to clarify and fix the text of an amendment to the Proposition under discussion.

STANDING ORDERS

1. Order of Business

The items on the agenda shall be taken in order and no item shall be interrupted except as provided for below.

(a) All propositions relating to capitation and/or membership fees shall be taken in order immediately after the Finance Report, whether originating from the EC or from an AAM. Any such proposition from the EC shall be taken first and, if passed, may not be overturned or negated by any subsequent proposition. The arrangements set out in (c) below for changing the order of propositions shall apply also to Finance Propositions *except* that the EC proposition shall be taken first.

If an EC proposition relating to capitation etc. falls the next one on the agenda is taken and if passed may not be overturned or negated by any subsequent one, and so on until all propositions relating to capitation etc. are disposed of.

(b) If the Finance Report has been adopted, implying approval of the budget, then if any proposition relating to capitation etc. that is inconsistent with the budget is passed it shall be delayed in application until the EC have had time to adjust the budget and, by implication, the scale of BBKA activity.

(c) In the section of the agenda considering general propositions, namely those that, under Clause 5.1.1 of the Constitution, provide policy direction to the EC, the Chairman may allow or invite a proposal, under suspension of Standing Orders, to take the propositions in a different order. When such a proposal has been dealt with the Chairman shall propose Resumption of Standing Orders.”

2. No speaker may speak for more than five minutes except with permission from the Chairman. A speaker shall stand (unless he or she requires a wheelchair) when speaking and shall address the Chair. *When the Chairman stands all other members and delegates shall either resume their seats or remain seated.*

3. No Proposition or Amendment may be spoken to except by the mover until it has been seconded. After it has been seconded the Chairman shall offer the Executive the option of making a statement at that point. Any such statement may, as well as offering explanatory material, be a statement of the Executive’s attitude to the Proposition. If the Executive declines to do so it shall still be able to exercise the option later in the debate. Officers and members of the Executive (except for the member nominated to put the EC’s view) may only speak with the Chairman’s permission and only on matters of fact unless the Chairman grants special permission, in which case the individual concerned *must make it clear that his or her remarks are a personal opinion.*

4. A Delegate who speaks shall direct his or her speech directly to the Proposition or Amendment being debated, or to a Proposition (under SO 14) or Amendment to be proposed by himself or herself, or to a Point of Order.

5. Each Delegate may speak only once to any Proposition and only once to any Amendment to that Proposition, and the Proposer may exercise a right of reply at the end of

the debate, but in doing so may not introduce any new matter into the discussion. The provisions of this SO shall not preclude a Delegate who has already spoken from raising a Point of Order or, with the permission of the Chairman, providing an explanation of some material of his or her speech that he or she believes to have been misunderstood. The Chairman, at his/her discretion, may allow a second contribution to the debate by a Delegate.

6. A speaker shall not be interrupted except on a Point of Order; the speaker shall resume his or her seat until the Point of Order has been disposed of.

7. A Proposition or Amendment once put and seconded shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the Meeting in a vote.

8. Every Amendment shall be directly relevant to the Proposition on which it is moved and shall not be a direct negative.

9. Any number of Amendments may be proposed, but no Amendment may be proposed until all prior Amendments have been disposed of, and no second or subsequent Amendment may be a repeat or paraphrase of an earlier one.

10. URGENCY PROPOSITIONS No Proposition, or Amendment arising from that Proposition, shall be accepted or moved if it has not first appeared on the agenda, unless 'LEAVE OF URGENCY' is granted by the Meeting. An Urgency Proposition shall be given in writing to the Chairman before the Meeting, and the text shall be displayed or circulated to the Delegates. Urgency Propositions should (a) address a matter of major concern and (b) that matter should have come to the Proposer's notice unavoidably too late to be included in the normal procedure.

11. POINTS OF ORDER Points of Order may be made at any time. They must be made briefly in the form of a question to the Chairman. If accepted by the Chairman, a Point of Order has priority over any other ongoing business before the Meeting. The purpose of a Point of Order is to draw the Chairman's attention to a *possible* breach of SOs.

12. CLOSURE OF DEBATE This SO provides for closing a debate where it shows no sign of ending naturally. SO 14(c) and 14(e) specify means to close or modify a debate without disposing of the business permanently.

(a) Any debate may be closed by the Chairman, or by a Delegate putting the Proposition: "THAT THE QUESTION NOW BE PUT". This, if accepted by the Chairman and seconded, shall be put to the Meeting without debate. If passed, discussion of the Proposition shall stop and the vote be taken. This procedure is intended to curtail discussion if the meeting decides that all the relevant facts, opinions, etc. have been expressed and that the matter may be safely disposed of. It is NOT intended to be a device to suppress the expression of opinion.

(b) Any Delegate may propose: 'THAT THE MEETING PROCEED TO NEXT BUSINESS'. The Chairman may refuse, but if he/she accepts and the proposition is lost, the business must be taken to a conclusion. If he/she accepts and it is passed, no vote is taken and the meeting moves on to the next business. If the Chairman refuses, the proposition may be put once more in the course of the debate, and the Chairman may accept or again refuse at that point.

NEXT BUSINESS is intended to avoid the Executive being charged with impossible, illegal or trivial time-wasting business, or where the meeting decides that the business cannot be safely concluded at the meeting or be disposed of under SO14(c).

13. Except as provided by SOs 10 and 14, no Proposition shall be put to the ADM unless Clause 12 of the Constitution has been complied with.

14. The following Propositions may be put at the ADM without the prior notice prescribed by Clause 12 of the Constitution.

(a) To appoint a Chairman of the Meeting.

(b) Propositions relating to the Accuracy of the Minutes, Closure (incl. SO12 (a) and (b)), Adjournment, Order of Business or Next Business.

(c) To refer business to the Executive.

(d) To seek leave to withdraw a Proposition.

(e) Amendments to Propositions that do not negate the Proposition, and that the Chairman accepts.

(f) To suspend Standing Orders. Suspension of SOs is normally invoked to enable the meeting, with the help of the Standing Orders Committee, to thrash out the wording of an amendment to a Proposition, but generally it allows the ADM to rearrange matters to improve the conduct of the ADM.

(g) To adopt Reports and recommendations of Committees or Officers and to move any resulting resolutions.

15. Any proposition passed at the ADM shall not take effect before the end of the meeting

16. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES The BBKA Constitution refers in two places to the election of Trustees and there is some room for confusion where a vacancy arises due to a Trustee not fulfilling a full term. At the ADM the election of Trustees shall be in two parts; the first will decide who is to serve as a Trustee, regardless of term and the second will allocate the terms to be served. In the first ballot each Delegate shall have one vote for each vacancy to be cast for one of the candidates. In the event that the number of vacancies equals or exceeds the number of candidates, the Chairman may, at his discretion, omit the first ballot. In the second ballot each Delegate shall have a single vote to be cast for one of the candidates successful in the first ballot. The vacant terms shall be allocated in rank order, the longer terms going to the candidates with, progressively, the most votes.

17. ELECTIONS TO THE EXAMINATIONS BOARD These shall follow the same pattern as the election of the Trustees.

18. VOTING AT THE ADM The Annual Delegates Meeting is the policy-making forum of the BBKA. Propositions submitted by Associations are debated and voted on to decide the policy of the BBKA. The ADM is an expensive function for the BBKA, and it is important that it should be both efficient and flexible with a good quality of debate. It is a matter for each Association to decide whether to mandate its Delegate on which way to vote on any proposition, or to allow the Delegate to act as its representative. Associations are encouraged to take a middle view on this, allowing their Delegates freedom on most issues, reserving the mandate for those on which the Association's governing body has strong views. This will tend to increase the quality of the debate.

Minutes of 54th Annual Delegates Meeting of the British Beekeepers Association held on Saturday 11 January 2014 at Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth, CV8 2LD

Delegates were asked if there were any objections to the meeting being recorded and none were received.

Present (also see annex)

<p>Martin Tovey, BBKA President/ADM Chairman Dr David Aston, BBKA Chairman Doug Brown, BBKA Vice Chairman Jane Moseley, General Secretary/Operations Director BBKA Trustees: Ken Basterfield KB Ian Homer IH Tim Lovett TL Margaret Murdin MM Roger Patterson RP Andrew Royce AR Michael Sheasby MS David Teasdale DT Peter Sutcliffe PS</p>	<p>Shena Winning Ruth Homer Apologies: Julian Routh Gareth Morgan Sharon Blake Alastair Welch Karl Showler Michael Badger MBE David Charles Ian Preece Paul Smith Karin Courtman</p>	<p>Standing Orders advisor: Mike Somers, Minute Secretary/Press Officer: Gill Maclean</p>
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1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Gareth Morgan (Candidate for BBKA EC), Michael Badger, Adrian Waring and David Charles.

2. Appointment of tellers

Clive Joyce, Mick Smith, Maurice West, Peter Spencer and Liz Bates were appointed as Tellers to be called upon in the event of a failure of the automated voting system.

3. Adoption of Standing Orders

Adoption of Standing Orders was proposed by John Charlton (Manchester) and seconded by Mike Cross and accepted nemine contradicente (nem. con.). Mike Somers was appointed as the Standing Orders officer.

4. Minutes of 2013 ADM

Acceptance of the 2013 minutes was proposed by Mike Duffin (Bournemouth & Dorset South) and seconded by Bob Hunter (Yorkshire). The minutes were accepted nem. con.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Derek Atkinson (Bucks County) asked for an explanation of how the BBKA budget was finalised. Michael Sheasby, Chair of Finance, responded by stating that the issue would be covered during the meeting under agenda item number 9.

6. Executive Actions

The actions taken by the Executive Committee were noted.

7. Annual reports for the year ended September 2013

7.1 Dr David Aston introduced this item by reminding delegates of the high losses incurred over the winter of 2012/13 and of the continued search for causes which may include forage, weather, husbandry or the impact of neonicotinoids. He commended the increased professionalism of the operation of the BBKA membership services team. He also thanked the teams running the Spring Convention and the BBKA's attendance at other shows for their work and for the work of local associations who also present beekeeping to the wide general public. On the topic of BBKA finances he noted that whilst additional funds need to be raised this is no small task in the current climate; corporate donors often want something in return e.g. permission to use the BBKA logo or access to expertise.

7.2 The Chairman invited questions for Lead Trustees with the first coming from Laurie Wiseman (Suffolk); he asked the Technical committee to comment on a perceived anti-honey bee stance in relation to the National Pollinator Strategy. DA responded that there are elements of the scientific spectrum who are particularly interested in representing the interests of non-honey bees e.g. Natural England, the govt. advisors, have mixed feelings about honey bees viewing them almost as an alien, introduced species; in the NPS and in other meetings the BBKA is often a lone voice against academia and other bodies representing the natural world. John Chapman (Medway) directed a question to the Public Affairs team and asked if the Bee Tradex Show would have any impact of the numbers of trade exhibitors attending the Spring Convention. Tim Lovett (TL) explained that the Bee Tradex Show had been set up in competition to the SC by a number of trade exhibitors and a former trade show manager of the SC (who was no longer involved with the BBKA); much has been done to improve the trade show element of the SC e.g. longer opening hours and the BBKA was very sympathetic to the needs of trade exhibitors; the BBKA has made many improvements to the overall event and urged delegates to promote the SC to members. Caroline Bushell (Berkshire) asked the Technical Committee if it was possible for details of research projects supported by the BBKA to be listed on the BBKA website. DA responded that plans were in place to do this. Colin Sherwood (Devon) asked what was being done to improve the training of honey show judges which he felt should be included within the Education committee's remit. Peter Sutcliffe responded stating that he was aware of a dearth of honey show judges but that this has never been in the E&H committee's remit. His view was that the training of honey show judges is best done by shadowing existing judges. CS suggested that there needs to be some co-ordination between local associations and the BBKA. PS replied stating that some current honey show judges have agreed to be trainers; the recruitment pool is known i.e. winners at shows; his view was that all that could be done has been done and it was a question of waiting for the results.

8 Examinations Board Report 2013

Acceptance of the Examinations Board Report was proposed by S Hollings and seconded by Trisha Marlow of Ludlow & District BKA. The report was accepted by the meeting Nem. con..

9. Finance

9.1 BBKA Report & Financial Statements

MOTION FIN-i/2014: That the BBKA Financial Statement and Report (in statutory form) be approved.

The meeting was asked to vote on Motion Fin 1/2014; the vote was carried by 61 votes For and 3 Against.

9.2 Appointment of Auditors

MOTION FIN-ii/2014: That Murphy Salisbury (Stratford-Upon-Avon) be appointed as auditors for the financial year 2014/15.

The meeting was asked to vote on Motion Fin 2/2014; the appointment of Murphy Salisbury as auditors was approved nem. con.

9.3 BBKA Budget Projections

Shena Winning (SW) was introduced as Treasurer designate. SW presented the proposed budget to September 2014, 2015 and 2016

JM presented details of fundraising activity and stated that she had reached 50% of the annual target in Q1 2014 and was confident of delivering the £150k target for the year. More corporate sponsorship is required.

SW invited questions and was asked about Gift Aid which seems low; should BBKA encourage more associations to transfer Gift Aid benefit to BBKA? SW agreed.

Robin Dartington of Buzzworks asked if any sensitivity analysis had been conducted on the impact of a reduction in membership numbers. MT replied that a survey of members leaving the BBKA had been conducted to understand the reasons for members leaving; the results were reviewed by the EC and published in BBKA News. The results give the EC confidence that membership numbers will remain stable.

Maurice Bichard of Vale & Downland suggested that the debate should be on what the objectives of the organisation are; capitation increases are unpopular. He thought budgets were not achievable.

DA thanked the meeting for its input to the debate and acknowledged that it is difficult to achieve buy-in from the membership and the BBKA must look at other ways of engaging with the membership to achieve greater understanding; the ADM is not the forum for this.

Bob Hunter of Yorkshire spoke against the increase in capitation; budget should be available for review before they happen. DA replied that the EC must manage the hand they are dealt and does seek the views of the membership to decide what activities the BBKA performs.

Martin Smith suggested that corporate income is the budget element most at risk and asked JM if she was confident that she would reach the fund raising target. JM stated she was confident of achieving the target; MS responded by suggesting that on this basis the meeting should support the budget.

SW reminded the meeting that fund raising helps mitigate membership risks and also helps the charity to fulfil one of its charitable objectives: to raise public awareness.

MOTION FIN-iii/2014 That the BBKA Budget for 2014 and projections for financial years 2014-2016 be accepted was proposed by Martin Smith of Lancashire and seconded by Fred Ayres of Lancaster and was carried by 49 votes For, 11 Against and 4 Abstentions. A membership vote was requested by Yorkshire and the motion was carried by 17,097 votes For, 4,313 Against and 1,445 Abstentions.

9.4 Capitation Proposition

A proposition to increase capitation was proposed by the EC.

The proposition read:

Proposition 1/2014

That, in view of the budget and projections presented, annual capitation rates per member to be increased with effect from 1 October 2014 (payable in April and September 2015) as follows:

Registered members from £17.00 to £18.00

Other categories of member, pro rata:

Partner members from £11.20 to £11.90

Country members from £8.50 to £9.50

Junior members from £8.50 to £9.50

Individual members £37.00 to £38.00

David Atkinson of Bucks County spoke against the capitation increase and proposed an amendment which would defer the proposed £1.00 increase for a year; this was seconded by Bob Hunter of Yorkshire.

The amended proposition would read:

Proposition 1/2014

That, in view of the budget and projections presented, annual capitation rates per member to be increased with effect from 1 October 2015 (payable in April and September 2016) as follows:

Registered members from £17.00 to £18.00

Other categories of member, pro rata:

Partner members from £11.20 to £11.90

Country members from £8.50 to £9.50

Junior members from £8.50 to £9.50

Individual members £37.00 to £38.00

A vote was called to accept the amendment to the proposition. The vote to amend the proposition was carried by 35 votes For, 27 Against and 2 Abstentions

The amended proposition was debated. SW advised that a delay in increasing capitation would have an adverse effect on the organisations' ability to rebuild reserves and would result in the budget being in deficit. MS advised the meeting that the income is only half of the story; a

delay in increase would cut income and leave the EC to determine how to balance the budget i.e. without agreement of the ADM; no increase could lead the BBKA to “go bust”. DT spoke in strong defense of the organisation stating that he viewed capitation as good value for money and argued in favour of an increase.

Paul Honigmann delegate from Oxfordshire remarked that the meeting had effectively voted for a £24,000 cut in the budget and asked if there were there any suggestions as to how the EC could deal with this loss.

STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED

In the ensuing debate it became clear that there was confusion in the meeting as to the impact of voting in favour of amending the proposition. Some argued that they had thought they were voting to debate amending the proposition when in fact the vote had been to proceed to amend the proposition. If the amended proposition was put to a vote and was carried it would put the budget in deficit; if the proposition fell then the budget would similarly be in deficit with no increases made to capitation. There was a discussion as to whether a membership vote could be held which may alter the outcome of the vote to accept the amendment but it was ruled that the length of delay in calling for this rendered it impossible.

SO adviser suggested that the EC could request permission of the meeting to withdraw the proposition before it is submitted to a vote.

Cambs delegate asked why budget is voted for separately and in advance of capitation propositions. MS responded stating that delegates had always requested that the budget be reviewed before the capitation is debated and voted on.

SO Officer suggested that the meeting could ask that the meeting move to next business which would have the effect of removing proposition 1/2014 from the order of business. This move was proposed by Mark Holt, seconded by (delegate name indistinguishable)

A vote was called to move to next business and was carried by 53 votes For, 9 Against and 2 Abstentions.

10 Elections

10.1 Election of President

There was one nomination for President: Dr David Aston. A vote by show of hands vote was called for and David Aston was duly elected President by 60 votes For and three Abstentions.

10.2 Election of trustees

MT advised the meeting that Treasurer elect Shena Winning was standing as trustee. The Chairman invited Martin Smith to speak; Martin Smith explained that a subsequent proposition which may affect whether a Treasurer of the BBKA may also be a trustee be ignored in this election. If the subsequent proposition is carried he suggested the EC be allowed a year to resolve any issues arising and consequently members should not be put off voting for Shena Winning as a trustee.

The six nominees were introduced to the meeting in person with the exception of Gareth Morgan who had earlier given apologies.

There were five vacancies and the voting results were:

Ken Basterfield	52	
Doug Brown	54	
Ruth Margaret Homer	48	
Gareth Morgan	45	
Roger Andrew Frank Patterson	47	
Shena Winning	38	

Shena Winning was not elected a trustee.

10.3 Election of Examination Board

There were three vacancies of three years each and two vacancies of two years each. There were six candidates for the five vacancies so a first ballot was held to select the five nominees with each delegate having five votes to cast; a further ballot was held to determine which nominees would serve for three and which would serve for two years with each delegate having one vote to cast.

The first ballot resulted in the votes:

Dr Lea Bayley	49
Thomas James Canning	34
Pamela Ann Hunter	55
Margaret Murdin	57
Peter Sutcliffe	57
Alastair Welch	43

Consequently Thomas James Canning was excluded from the second vote.

The second vote resulted in the votes and terms:

Nominee	Votes	Term
Dr Lea Bayley	7	two year
Pamela Ann Hunter	13	three year
Margaret Murdin	18	three year
Peter Sutcliffe	23	three year
Alastair Welch	3	two year

11.0 Confirmation of appointment of Treasurer

Shena Winning advised the Chairman that she had withdrawn her candidacy and consequently there was no candidate for the role of Treasurer.

12.0 Propositions for consideration

12.1 Proposition 2/2014

Proposed by Martin Smith, Lancashire BKA and seconded by Bob Hunter, Yorkshire BKA.

2/2014 That the BBKA constitution be amended as follows:

Clause 20.6 which currently reads:

Co-opted members of the EC shall not be Trustees,

be amended to:

The General Secretary & Treasurer (as the principal officers of the charity) and Co-opted members of the EC shall not be Trustees.

Martin Smith spoke in favour of the proposition stating that the BBKA has become very complicated and needs good financial controls. The EC now no longer has accounting expertise (with the withdrawal of Shena Winning as Treasurer) but this proposition is about the separation of the role.

Andrew Royce spoke against the proposition reminding the meeting that the BBKA no longer had a qualified accountant as a trustee and this could be risky for the association. He stated that the EC's response was that it agreed it was inappropriate for the General Secretary to be a trustee but that there was no reason why a trustee may not also be Treasurer.

There was a debate when views were expressed that the earlier vote for trustees had been clouded by some delegates anticipating the result of this current proposition.

A proposal was made by John Charlton of Manchester and seconded by Stephen Barnes of Cumbria to amend the proposition by removing the words "& Treasurer" and adding the words "The Chair of Finance sub-committee may not be Treasurer". The amended proposition would read:

That the BBKA constitution be amended as follows:

Clause 20.6 which currently reads:

Co-opted members of the EC shall not be Trustees,

be amended to:

The General Secretary (as the principal officer of the charity) and Co-opted members of the EC shall not be Trustees. The Chair of the Finance sub-committee may not be Treasurer.

The vote to **accept the amendment to the proposition** was carried by 39 votes For, 20 Against and 5 Abstentions. Bob Hunter, (Yorkshire) asked for a membership vote and the amendment was carried by 12,375 votes For, 9,071 Against and 1,409 Abstentions.

Penny Learmouth, (Surrey) asked that it be recorded that no slight against Shena Winning had been intended in earlier voting.

A vote was then called **on the amended proposition**.

The amended proposition was carried by 54 votes For, 7 Against, and 3 Abstentions. NB For a change to the constitution to be effective this vote required a two-thirds majority. This majority was achieved as the vote was carried by 84% in favour.

12.2 Proposition 3/2014

Proposition 3/2014: That the BBKA should freeze capitation rates for 2015 to those of 2014 and thereafter be limited to an increase no higher than the published CPI of the previous year.

D Atkinson of Buckinghamshire asked the meeting for permission to withdraw this proposition. The SO officer reminded delegates that the earlier proposition covering capitation had been set aside and that there was now an opportunity to amend this proposition to achieve a change in capitation. This would require the meeting to deny permission to withdraw allowing the EC to propose an amendment to Proposition 3/2014 to reinstate the increase.

MS spoke in favour of denying permission to withdraw to enable an appropriate amendment to be tabled.

MT confirmed that this would be the only opportunity to effect a capitation increase and balance the BBKA budget.

Bob Hunter argued that the budget approved was for this year alone and that there was no need to change capitation this year.

Ivor Davis suggested that the approved budget was for three years not one; it was stated it was for one (NB projections were for a longer period).

Delegates were asked to vote on whether Bucks County be allowed to withdraw the proposition and permission was denied by 54 Against, 8 For and 2 Abstentions.

The EC subsequently proposed an amendment to this proposition to read:

That the BBKA capitation rates for 2014/2015 payable in April 2015 and September 2015 be raised as follows:

Registered members from £17.00 to £18.00

Other categories of member, pro rata:

Partner members from £11.20 to £12.00

Country members from £8.50 to £9.00

Junior members from £8.50 to £9.00

Individual members £37.00 to £38.00

A vote was called to accept the amendment to the proposition and this was carried by 50 votes For, 12 Against and 1 Abstention.

A vote was then called to accept the amended proposition and this was carried by 48 votes For, 13 Against and 2 Abstentions. A membership vote was called for and the result was 15,958 For, 6,232 Against, and 384 Abstentions. The proposition was carried.

12.3 Proposition 4/2014 Surrey Beekeepers Association

That the BBKA Executive Committee set up a working party to examine and reconsider the timing of key events in the BBKA's annual cycle as determined by the BBKA constitution, with a view to improving clarity and transparency in the running of BBKA and its interaction with its member associations; the Executive Committee to present their findings and recommendations to the membership not later than the 2015 Annual Delegate Meeting.

Bob Maurer of Surrey BKA spoke in favour of the proposition saying that capitulation propositions are voted on after budgets are already in place effectively rendering the budget unachievable if the necessary level of capitulation is not forthcoming. He would like to see a root and branch examination of the key dates by which the BBKA organisation operates so that delegates have some advance input into how budgets are set. The alternative is to vote down a whole budget. This would help avoid misunderstanding and miscommunications.

West Sussex delegate seconded the proposition.

DB gave the EC response which was that it supported the establishment of a working party to undertake this review.

Penny Learmouth suggested that a lot of the day's confusion could have been avoided if the forum had taken place in 2013.

A vote was called and the proposition was carried by 62 vote For and 1 Abstention.

12.4 Proposition 5/2014 Yorkshire

The Yorkshire delegate asked for permission to withdraw the Proposition; a vote was taken and permission was granted by 60 votes For and 2 Against.

12.5 Proposition 6/2014

That the BBKA introduces a Corporate or Institutional grade of membership suitable for schools and educational bodies who are keeping bees and using bees in the curriculum.

Bob Hunter of Yorkshire spoke in support of this proposition which was seconded by [Bucks]. He explained that district associations in Yorkshire have been very successful in working with local schools all without any assistance from the national association. The BBKA should do more to support schools.

JM explained that the BBKA does offer support but cautioned that the level of subscriptions needs to be set at the right level. John Charles (Manchester) asked if there would be problems with insurance. There is a need to ensure that school staff are members too. West Sussex suggested that the BBKA child protection policy would need to be reviewed. Robin Dartington stated that schools have their own insurance as long as a teacher is always present.

A vote was called and the proposition was carried by 49 votes For, 9 Against and 5 Abstentions.

12.6 Proposition 7/2014 Somerset

That the title of BBKA's monthly publication 'BBKA News' is changed to 'British Bee Journal'

Richard Bache of Somerset BKA spoke in support of the proposition explaining the history of the title which had begun in 1873 the year before the formation of the BBKA but had ceased to be published in 1998. In 2011 the BBKA gained the rights to use the title.

TL gave the EC response stating that the publication had become defunct and that the BBKA had been lucky to be granted the right to use the title. However, there is considerable brand equity invested in BBKA News which has strong recognition with readers and advertisers. The intention was for British Bee Journal to be used for more learned, 'heavyweight' purposes such as publishing the outcome of the Insect Pollinator Initiative. He accepted that the BBKA should make use of the title.

A vote was called for and the proposition was rejected by 55 votes Against, 4 votes For and 3 Abstentions.

12.7 Proposition 8/2014 EC

That

- a) an additional clause 9.4 be inserted into the Constitution which will state "If the primary or secondary dates fall on statutory holidays or at weekends then the relevant primary or secondary date will be postponed to the following working day. This also applies to the dates specified in clause 8.2." and
- b) clause 8.2.1 be amended to delete the words 'from the start of the BBKA Financial Year i.e. 1st October preceding' and replaced with the words "during the period from the preceding secondary date."
- c) in clause 9.2 of the constitution insert after the word "corrections" the words "at least two working days"

MS explained that the purpose of the proposition was to remove doubt around capitation due dates if they fall on bank holidays.

A vote was called for the proposition was carried by 59 votes For, 2 Against and 1 Abstention.

12.8 Proposition 9/2014 Devon BKA

That the BBKA launch active lobbying of Government to end or significantly reduce the practice of levying Value Added Tax (VAT) at the full rate of 20% on all beekeeping equipment. This will enable more people of limited means to take up the craft, which will increase the environmental benefits of beekeeping. Given the unprecedented levels of public concern about the decline of honey bee populations and the recent high-profile media coverage of beekeeping, there has never been a better time to challenge this imposition. This proposition was seconded by Dorset Beekeepers' Association.

The Devon delegate explained that their association has a member who is an ex-civil servant (Treasury) who could do all the work necessary to pursue this goal.

TL spoke against the proposition stating that it was unrealistic and that the Treasury was unlikely to remove VAT.

A vote was called and the proposition was carried by 35 votes For, 22 Against and 5 Abstentions.

13. Honorary Membership

Honorary membership was conferred on Martin Smith and Brian Ripley.

Maxima Dedit awards were conferred on Chris Deaves, Jan Davis (asked associations to thank membership secretaries on her behalf for their help and support), Brian Dennis, June Hughes, Norman Hughes and Ruth Homer.

14.0 Long Service Awards

14.1 50 Years of Beekeeping Awards

Awards were conferred on Geoff Hopkinson BEM, Tony Curnow, Michael Field, Roy Copley, John Holden, Dr Thomas Anthony Holbeche, Leo McGuinness, Brian Palmer, Mary Denton, David Hoad, Edwin Clark, Adrian Waring, David Berkely, Roger Patterson and Neville Dearden.

14.2 60 years of Beekeeping Awards

Awards were conferred on Eric Marshall and Michael Badger MBE.

15.0 Presentation of Surrey Shield, George Knights Memorial and Service Awards

The Surrey Shield was awarded to Yorkshire BKA which the Yorkshire delegate Bob Hunter said was all down to the hard work of Wendy Maslin, Education Officer of Yorkshire.

The George Knights Memorial Award was given to Buckinghamshire BKA. Special mention was given to Lancashire.

16. BBKA The Future

Before David Aston closed the meeting MT on behalf of himself and Peter Matthews delegate for Hertfordshire took the opportunity to apologise to Shena Winning and to propose a vote of confidence in her and to ask her to reconsider her decision not to continue as Treasurer. The meeting responded with widespread applause.

David Aston then closed the meeting with some remarks about the future of the BBKA:

“The tenor of this afternoon suggests we have lots of challenges. There is no doubt that honey bees have a high profile and a number of organisations are using the plight of the honey bee to serve their own agendas. It is vital that the BBKA and its member associations are recognised as the champions of the honey bee. I hope you all agree with that.

“Beekeeping is a multi-faceted activity and continues to be an important activity and probably will become increasingly important as issues of food security, bio-fuels and other aspects to do with pollinators in the natural world and their response to all the pressures on them. Honey bees can be managed to a greater extent than you can with solitary bees and other so-called natural pollinators. These are outward looking aspects of the work of the BBKA.

“The BBKA is also focused on finding ways to support and increase the skill level of beekeeping and provide a structured framework of study and beekeeping skills acquisition. We do see this as a key activity of the association

“We look to help members through membership services but we need to be aware of what members’ requirements are. How will this be achieved? One of the things I would ask us all to do is to think outside the box. The proposition for a working party I welcome and I look forward to active participation by members.

“Planning the future direction of the BBKA Involves communication between member associations and between members in their own associations. How much consultation do you do with your members? There is a need for far more frequent communications - once a year at the ADM is insufficient. I would encourage you to use your executive link trustees more.

“Our plans for next year include another chairmen’s day that will be held on 26 April for chairs and delegated members of associations. We want to discuss with you what it is you want.

“Forum will be held on 4 October. (Post event note: this date was subsequently amended to 13/9/14) We need to plan for 5-10 years ahead not just one.

“In response to comments made by delegates we have arranged some special interest days bringing together interested parties and experts to share knowledge.

“Special interest days:

- Schools and young people 1 February
- Forage and landscape 15 February
- Varroa 8 March

“BBKA Spring Convention at Harper Adams University - I hope to see you all there

“Through communication and co-operation we will achieve our goals

“Finally a big thank you to our retiring President for his guidance and support over the last couple of years. Like other past presidents I know Martin wants to continue to contribute to the work of the BBKA and we look forward to that.”

MT closed the meeting by thanking all who had helped him in his work in the last two years. The Presidency was formally handed to David Aston.

Annex - Present at meeting

Assoc No	Association / Role	Delegate name
10	Avon	Neil Seymour
11	Berkshire	Caroline Bushell
12	Bournemouth & Dorset South	Michael Duffin
13	Buckinghamshire	Derek Atkinson
14	Cambridgeshire	Toby Carter
15	Cheshire	Sydney Hollinshead
16	Chesterfield	Robin Bagnall
17	Cornwall	Mark Hoult
18	Cornwall West	Anne McQuade
19	Cumbria	Stephen Barnes
20	Derbyshire	Mike Cross
21	Devon	Colin Sherwood
22	Dorset	Chris Slade
23	Dover & District	Len Mole
24	Durham	Andrew Robinson
25	Essex	Penny Learmonth
26	Gloucestershire	Neil Hadley
27	Gwent	M Knight
28	Hampshire	John Hoar
29	Harrogate & Ripon	Keith Simmonds
29	Harrogate & Ripon	Peter Gudgeon
30	Herefordshire	Mary Walter
31	Hertfordshire	Peter Mathews
32	Huntingdonshire	Nicholas Steiger
33	Isle of Man	Harry Owens
35	Kendal & South Westmorland	Peter Llewellyn
36	Kent	Clive Watson
37	West Norfolk & King's Lynn	Alan Marshall
38	Lancashire & North West	Ray Dowson
39	Lancaster	Fred Ayres
40	Lincolnshire	Mike Beecham
42	Ludlow & District	Trisha Marlow
43	Manchester & District	John Charlton
44	Middlesex	John House
45	Rutland	Roger Partis
46	Newcastle & District	Helen Simmons
47	Norfolk	Carolyne Liston
48	Northamptonshire	Brian Moore
49	Northumberland	Philip Latham
50	Nottinghamshire	Andrew Barber
51	Oxfordshire	Paul Honigmann
53	Shropshire	P Bound
54	Shropshire North	Nigel Hine
55	Somerset	Richard Bache

56	Staffordshire North	Paul Cooper
57	Staffordshire South	Lynne Lacey
58	Stratford-upon-Avon	Terry Hitchman
59	Suffolk	Laurie Wiseman
60	Surrey	Bob Maurer
61	Sussex	Elizabeth Twyford
62	Sussex West	Thomas Moore
63	Thanet	Roger Thompson
64	Twickenham & Thames Valley	Neil Hilbery
65	Warwickshire	Doug Nethercleft
66	Wiltshire	G Rendall
67	Worcestershire	John Gowar
69	Institute of Northern Ireland	Tom Canning
70	Yorkshire	Tony Jefferson
70	Yorkshire	Bob Hunter
71	Medway	John Chapman
72	Newbury	Michael White
73	Vale & Downland	Maurice Bichard
74	Sedbergh & District	MA Royce
75	Cleveland	Barrie Bloom
	Bees for Development Trust	Nicola Bradbear
	Bee Craft Ltd	Andrew Gibb
	Bee Diseases Insurance Ltd	Martin Smith
	Buzzworks	Robin Dartington
	National Honey Show	John Chapple
	Honorary Member	Martin Smith
	Honorary Member	Brian Ripley
	Honorary Member	Jill Chirside
	Honorary Member	Geoff Hopkinson BEM
	Honorary Member	Clive Joyce
	Honorary Member	Gerald Moxon MBE
	Honorary Member	Peter Spencer
	Honorary Member	Claire Waring
	Honorary Member	Martin Tovey
	Exam Board	Val Francis
	Exam Board	John Hendrie
	Exam Board Nominee	Thomas Canning
	Exam Board Nominee	Pamela Hunter
	Operations Manager/General	
	Secretary	Jane Moseley
	Office Manager	Jan Alcock
	Administrative Assistant	Letitia Hammon
	Administrative Assistant	Sarah Snelson
	Administrative Assistant	Julie Slegg
	Accounts Assistant	Anna Chapman
	Training Co-ordinator	David Blower
	Teller	Maurice West
	Teller	Eliz Bates

Teller	Mick Smith
Teller	Peter Spencer
AV and IT co-ordinator	Chris Deaves
Visitor	Brian Dennis
Visitor	Becky Champion
Visitor	Nigel Champion
Visitor	Sally Bucknall
Visitor	Charles Oliver-Bellasis
Visitor	S Carter
Visitor	W Fisher
Visitor	Ivor Davis
Visitor	Jan Davis
Visitor	C Smith
Visitor	M Denton
Visitor	E Dufkin
Nottinghamshire	M Jordan
Visitor	G Allan
Visitor	J Roger
Visitor	J Collins
Visitor	R Brookes
	Norman and June
Visitors	Hughes
Visitor	SJ Adkins

2014 RESOLUTIONS

4/2014 Surrey BKA

That the BBKA Executive Committee set up a working party to examine and reconsider the timing of key events in the BBKA's annual cycle as determined by the BBKA constitution, with a view to improving clarity and transparency in the running of BBKA and its interaction with its member associations; the Executive Committee to present their findings and recommendations to the membership not later than the 2015 Annual Delegate Meeting.

This report summarises the results of discussions held between members of the Executive, a Past President and representatives from a number of BBKA Member Associations as well as discussions held on the Chairman's Day.

The report also makes recommendations for Members to consider and a proposed timetable assuming the delegates are in favour of adopting the recommendations.

Concerns

During the discussions it became clear that the major concern expressed by the membership revolved around financial aspects of the BBKA's activities and the timeliness and transparency of budgeting and its financial status with respect to its performance against budget. This also included the way in which the accounts and proposed budget were presented.

The general theme of improving communications was relevant to all beekeeping associations as well as communication between the BBKA and Member Association and the membership at large.

There was clearly a need to refresh the understanding of the roles of Trustees and the ADM delegates at the ADM; the actual management of the charity's activities and the ways in which communication about the future path of the charity took place.

Recommendations

The BBKA Financial Year remains from the 1st of October to the 30th of September.

The ADM is held in mid-late June.

At the ADM *inter alia*

The Delegates 'receive' the approved Accounts for the previous year.

The Executive presents

- An update of the BBKA Strategy
- A Budget for the ensuing year (the budget vote would incorporate the vote on the Capitation fee necessary to deliver the proposed budget. There would be no change in the collection arrangements for the capitation). This would also enable at least a 6 month YTD comparison of the financial position of the BBKA with the approved budget.
- A financial projection for the following 2 years.

A Special Delegates Meeting is held mid-late June 2015

- In order to consider the YTD financial performance of BBKA and
- To consider the budget proposition for the year September 2015 to 1st October 2016 and a financial projection for the following year.
- To implement the timetable for an ADM in June 2016

Preparations for the ADM

The relative time periods for the various processes which are to be adhered to, in order to ensure efficient and effective preparations for the ADM, were considered satisfactory.

Implications for the Constitution

These recommendations if instituted as set out above would mean little change is required to the Constitution other than removal of the need of a separate vote for capitation fee changes as the budget to be approved will be predicated on the disclosure of the capitation fees used to establish the budget.

6/2014 Yorkshire BKA

That the BBKA introduces a Corporate or Institutional grade of membership suitable for schools and educational bodies who are keeping bees and using bees in the curriculum.

BBKA has institutional membership in place already and a special membership package has been presented to those in attendance at the Special Interest Day held in 2014. A full response is awaited from those who formed part of the working party to take this forward. Bees in the curriculum is in the final stages of upgrade at the time of writing.

9/2014 Devon BKA

That the BBKA launch active lobbying of Government to end or significantly reduce the practice of levying Value Added Tax (VAT) at the full rate of 20% on all beekeeping equipment. This will enable more people of limited means to take up the craft, which will increase the environmental benefits of beekeeping. Given the unprecedented levels of public concern about the decline of honey bee populations and the recent high-profile media coverage of beekeeping, there has never been a better time to challenge this imposition

Devon BKA are driving this proposition supported by the BBKAA meeting has taken place with Neil Parish MP for Tiverton & Honiton who was well versed on the content of the paper and suggested that this issue would only be applicable to Amateur Beekeepers i.e. up to 39 hives. Above 39 hives it was assumed that they would be members of The Bee Farmers Association and would be dealing with VAT as a business.

Suggested way forward by Mr Parish-

- BBKA need to make it into a campaign with all Associations contacting their MP's
- Mr P will arrange for a meeting with the Treasury Minister responsible for beekeeping equipment maximum - 3 or 4 people to attend

The meeting ended on a positive note with Mr Parish saying that he was fully supportive of this paper and would do all he could to help get it through the Treasury.

ANNUAL REPORTS

BBKA Executive Report Annual Delegate Meeting

Initial reports from the Associations suggest that overall this has been a good year for beekeeping. Honey yields are up and the fine and dry weather has been good for the honey bee. A downside is that the NBU Inspectors have reported higher rates of infestation of varroa. This is probably due to the relatively benign winter of 2013/14 and the long dry spell experienced in much of the country during the year.

The Annual Honey Survey shows that the average yield per colony is up from 24.7lb in 2013 to 32.9lb in 2014 with the highest yield in the East (37.7lb up from 28.7lb).

The BBKA Trustees have been busy during the year starting off with a new venture for 2014. Three Special Interest Days (SIDs) were held soon after the ADM 2014. In spite of the relatively short notice for these they were well attended and there was much discussion and many good ideas for future development came out of them. The following SIDs were held: Schools and Young People - 1 February 2014; Forage and the Landscape - 15 February 2014; Varroa - 8 March 2014

At the ADM 2014 the Executive Committee (EC) was tasked with a number of Propositions, the potentially most far reaching being Proposition 4/2014 (otherwise known as the Surrey Proposition). This stated:

“That the BBKA Executive Committee set up a working party to examine and reconsider the timing of key events in the BBKA’s annual cycle as determined by the BBKA constitution, with a view to improving clarity and transparency in the running of BBKA and its interaction with its member associations; the Executive Committee to present their findings and recommendations to the membership not later than the 2015 Annual Delegate Meeting.”

A significant amount of work has been carried out to identify how the schedule of meetings can be re-arranged to accomplish the intent of this proposition without the necessity of changing the Constitution. This included a meeting with representatives of a number of member Associations. We believe we have identified how this can be achieved and will present the findings at the ADM 2015.

Representatives of the BBKA have been to meetings of the Bee Health Advisory Forum, of which we are a member, and have been active in the development of the National Pollinator Strategy.

The Member Database was moved into the office at Stoneleigh after the capitation round in April with Ivor and Jan Davis providing support in the background. This was accomplished successfully. Jan and Ivor are now enjoying some new found time and we thank them for all the work they have put in over the years.

A lot has been accomplished to move the BBKA forward and to improve our communications with Member Associations and with the general membership. Much more remains to be done and your EC will be pressing forward to accomplish even more in 2015.

Doug Brown, BBKA Chairman.

BBKA NEWS

Firstly, warm thanks to our Editor Sharon Blake and her Deputy, Christine Knott for their hard work keeping BBKA News full of interesting articles. We lost our ad sales manager Julia O’Gorman in June but we have been pleased to welcome Sally Carter into the role. Advertising revenue is important for BBKA News, helping to reduce the cost to members of producing and distributing the publication by almost 50%. At a net cost of just over £4 per member for 12 monthly issues we believe BBKA News offers excellent value. Postage is a major element in the BBKA News budget and we are currently finalising a Down Stream Agency agreement which should save up to £1,000 per issue in postage.

We surveyed members in 2013; respondents expressed high levels of satisfaction with the publication; we have been weaving-in improvements over the year. However we will shortly be introducing some more substantial changes in design and layout to enhance readability and freshen-up the overall ‘feel’ of the publication. The British Bee Journal was used to carry the Insect Pollinators Initiative reports after the Spring Convention event and we propose further use of this title to carry more scientifically orientated articles in the future.

Tim Lovett, BBKA News Publisher

EDUCATION AND HUSBANDRY

An update on our activities since the last ADM.

We have had four major initiatives part-funded by DEFRA this year, all arising from the BBKA Strategy.

Training for those beekeepers leading study groups took place between November 2013 and February 2014. The target was 60 trainees; in fact nearly 90 people took part in the workshops.

The General Husbandry (GH) project has proved very popular, reflecting the demand for beekeeping training at this middle level. The target was 120 trainees but so far more than 300 people have undergone training towards this level. The number of people passing the GH Assessment has risen accordingly, and, although the pass rate generally has not risen, the pass rate among those having done the training is higher. Our aim is to make this level of training available to members in every area, and we have made substantial progress towards this. We expect about 200 further beekeepers to pass through this training in the next year.

A course preparing beekeepers for the Advanced Husbandry Assessment was trialed. Twenty people took part, and feedback was very positive - again, there is an obvious thirst for help with preparation for this demanding assessment. Our plan is to offer this course to around 40 people in 2015, thus bringing the preparation forward so that people are undergoing the training a year before the prospective assessment. This will give them time to undertake ameliorative action on the weaknesses that are exposed.

The training website, now called ARK, is now in operation. This is intended to be an interactive support for beekeepers who want to learn more about their craft and improve their skills. Starting with a diagnostic page, ARK will flag up appropriate training opportunities and put the member in touch with training providers.

This year we are planning a new nationwide initiative aimed at improving beekeeping skills. This will be publicised via the network of Education Co-ordinators. As with all training, we can provide an impetus from the centre, but the success of the scheme depends on the reception at Branch level. Effectiveness is vastly improved where a Branch has an Education Co-ordinator who liaises with David Blower, the BBKA Training Co-ordinator.

The first film funded largely by Rowse Honey should be marketed in time for Christmas. This is aimed largely at the non-beekeeping public - to educate them about where honey comes from. Two more films aimed at beekeepers and providing chapters with practical beekeeping tips will be on the way by the time of the ADM.

Work continues on the apiary site. A plan of work has been produced to trim trees and shrubs and make the site more usable. A maintenance plan is also in place. The shed has been moved and successfully rebuilt, and a second shed acquired for the gardening equipment. A wildflower meadow is planned for the first section of the site, and up to twenty hives are the target for the apiary proper. The apiary was used for several training and assessment sessions during the year.

Our understanding of the needs of Associations working with young people or school-groups was much enhanced by the Special Interest Day in January. Young people are showing more and more interest in beekeeping and this has to be a growth area in our work. We are working on guidelines for Associations working with young people. "Bees in the Curriculum" has been re-issued as a web-based resource for schools. The International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB) took place in Poland this year and saw a team from England achieve fourth place overall – a tremendous achievement for the three young people and those who prepared and accompanied them. The five young people who put themselves forward for the team were a credit to their Associations. We hope to build on this success next year, and we are being pressured to host the event at some time in the future. The IMYB should be used as a means of encouraging young people to develop their beekeeping.

We have tried to update the list of speakers in the Yearbook, but have had little support, and indeed some resistance, from Associations. We will continue to try to provide a useful service here, but feedback from Associations about speakers is an essential element. This is an area where Associations can help each other: we at national level only act as co-ordinators.

We are working together with the Examinations Board and the National Honey Show to encourage more people to put themselves forward as Honey Show judges, and to enhance the training and support available for them. We hope there will be a workshop on this at the Spring Convention.

"Bee Health Month" was a modest success this year, and we are planning to repeat the exercise next year. The use of microscopy is a particular theme this time, and Small Hive Beetle will figure. Publicity and guidance for this has already been extensive. Once again, the aim is simple – to encourage each Branch/Division to hold at least one disease inspection demonstration during May with the simple message that each beekeeper should inspect the brood in their hives.

We are grateful for external funding for much of the above work. As well as the DEFRA funding already mentioned, the Training Co-ordinator is part-funded by the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers.

Peter Sutcliffe, Education & Husbandry Committee Chairman

General Secretary & Operations Director

2013/14 has been a very mixed year with a very full calendar, in the drive to take the organisation forward in a long and active season, none of which would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the administration team, based at Stoneleigh Park offices, and the volunteer network who support both them and the BBKA at large.

In February and March we held three *Special Interest Days* which focused on Schools and Young People, Landscape & Forage and finally Varroa. These initiatives were quite well attended and I thank those who took time to join the various debates.

Schools & Young People – An enthusiastic meeting with presentations from schools and associations on the initiatives currently being undertaken across the country. As a consequence of the meeting and the input from our young beekeepers, we have at their request launched a dedicated social media channel that they manage, with administrative assistance. Plus in 2015 we will endeavour to run some regional meetings to enable this to flourish; however, association support will be required.

Landscape and Forage - There was a lot of idea exchange and it is over the current winter period that we will try to have many of the suggestions implemented for Associations to benefit from for the season in 2015, in order to promote planting for honey bees. As a consequence of this meeting we have, through our partners, been able to provide more sites for hives for BBKA members, a welcome initiative. In 2014 we continued to partner with British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI), to inform and raise awareness of the benefits of planting for honeybees, to the horticultural sector. We encouraged our corporate members to undertake planting initiatives throughout 2014 and beyond.

We are, with invaluable Volunteer support, practicing what we preach through the positive planting of the relocated BBKA Apiary throughout this winter and the forthcoming Spring which we hope will be enjoyed by visitors, users and Stoneleigh Park employees as well as the bees.

Varroa – This meeting indicated that Varroa is still the primary problem that honey bees and beekeepers face but that improved education on IPM and disease identification was of paramount importance. As a consequence the Bee Health initiative and Friends of the Honey Bee are in support of these outcomes.

These interactive membership meetings were continued throughout the year with the *Chairman's Day* meeting. The focus of this was how the organisation could/should move forward in the future of which the Surrey Proposition was an element. It was agreed that this is a meeting that should be undertaken annually.

Our final consultative meeting was the annual **BBKA Forum**, in September. A very well attended, highly constructive meeting with good debate on a number of issues and concerns raised by both member Associations and the BBKA. The overwhelming offer of support from attendees at the meeting was welcomed and I take this opportunity to thank those for voicing their willingness to assist me in the challenges that I face, it is appreciated.

Beekeepers throughout the country experienced a long and busy swarm season, as did the administration team. On average the incoming call levels were 750 per week plus messages on

the answerphone of over 1,100 a week. Our experience was no different to yours with the majority being about bumblebees. I echo the comments of the OPMS report, that we have doubled the number of lines into the BBKA offices with dedicated numbers for members and volunteers. However this does not solve the problem.

The level of public interest in bees is reflected in the BBKA website traffic as detailed below, representing an increase of 146%:

Period	Unique Visitors	Swarm Page Direct
1 st April – 1 st August 2013	190,306	40,400
1 st April – 1 st August 2014	322,758	99,600

As I write this report we are focusing our efforts on educating local and regional councils, while seeking to improve communication and information within the Pest Control Associations. We are also investigating other opportunities in the development of a long-term solution to meeting the interest levels in bees whilst also providing support to our members.

In support of the membership we are implementing changes wherever possible to improve efficiency and to adapt to the technological changes that have overtaken the BBKA systems, with a view to easing the pressures on the volunteer officers throughout the country. In April 2014 the BBKA Membership register transferred from the voluntary management of Ivor and Jan Davis to the BBKA, since its transfer we have been able to identify and understand more clearly the capability of the system and, with consultation, the needs of our member associations and we have been considering the options for improvement. The current system, has served us well and is a reflection of the long serving efforts of its managers. Valerie Sylvester is the current primary operator of the register with the rest of the administration team being in support.

As part of our membership service provision all new members are sent a welcome pack which incorporates their membership card and Membership Handbook; the latter is subject to review for the forthcoming season. The Membership Handbook is available to long standing members via their Association, at 75p should they wish to provide to those who have not yet received a copy.

Additional Membership Benefits outside of beekeeping are negotiated annually and in 2014 those increased to offers from River Cottage, BeeGood, Jean Luc Colombo, Planetbee Wines - which complement those offered from HMCA (special rates on personal insurances) Your Rewards (money savings and offers). All of these enhance the beekeeping insurance that this year has resulted in reduced excess on Third Party property claims and a continuation of the All Risks insurance option.

As part of the ongoing administration we support the Examination Board in the processing of assessment applications and as required elsewhere. We also support the Education Co-ordinator in the course administration, bookings and ARK.

In 2013/14 we have supported the attendance of events and disseminated literature that promotes aspects of beekeeping, association membership, planting for pollinators etc. This has been made available to and used by both area and local associations at no charge beyond

that of postage and packing costs. Our website has been accessed 720,819 times between 1st November 2013 and 31st October 2014 because it is a good information resource, which we will continue to add to.

The Pollen Basket, the BBKA web shop is administered by myself and support staff. We endeavour to provide a range of appropriate gifts, products and educational materials with a beekeeping/ honey bee related nature, in line with the BBKA Enterprises Board directive. In the year 2013/14 we have sought to reduce the purchasing of stock and fulfillment charges. Additional services are now provided through the Pollen Basket and serviced by the administration team. We are supported by the volunteer web team and our service provider, Whiteroom. The Pollen Basket is in constant use for the selling of product, Education Courses, Spring Convention tickets, Adopt a Beehive, Individual Membership and Friends of the honey bee and is therefore in a constant state of management and revision.

Communication with our members is important at every level. From the feedback received at the various events/meetings we have undertaken to improve sharing the information via the Members Area of www.bbka.org.uk, which will continue.

In February the Worker Bee was started, an e newsletter, sent directly to those registered in the Members Area to receive direct communication. However, despite encouragement to communicate directly at the September 2013 Forum, many association secretaries complained that we had communicated in this manner. While the Trustees worked with me to resolve the issue when the next edition was circulated to Association Secretaries for dissemination the feedback from members via Social Media was that they had not received it. Unfortunately due to the volume of work this publication has only made an appearance irregularly in 2014. The intention is that the Worker Bee will be circulated to those registered within the Members Area and to Association Secretaries for circulation to the wider membership at least four times in 2015 with the hope that it will have a greater frequency. The Worker Bee has never been intended to replace BBKA News; it is a short e-newsletter with news directly from the General Secretary & Operations Director.

The BBKA Strategy is an ongoing element of my role that I have had offers of assistance from members to work with me on, which I have accepted. Due to the recent staff changes and the consequences of additional administrative duties surrounding the SDM and ADM this has unfortunately been stalled but will resume as soon as possible.

Income Generation

In my capacity of General Secretary & Operations Director I also have the responsibility of fundraising, although this is not my sole function, I am the only fundraiser at the BBKA. What must be made clear at this juncture is that I do not raise funds from FERA or the Wax Chandlers which has been undertaken by the Education and Husbandry team to fulfill their educational objectives.

As you are no doubt aware the BBKA is a registered charity and has been registered with the Charities Commission since 1962. Our charitable objects are to promote and further the craft of beekeeping and advance the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment.

In order to achieve the second of these objects, which enables us to enjoy the benefits of charitable status, we must deliver projects and elements that support this aspect of our purpose. Delivery of these requires us to have support and engagement with member associations and members at all levels.

Without identifiable projects against which to fundraise we are reliant upon the current schemes in place, which are outlined below and therefore it is hard to project exactly what the income will be. Unless investment is made in the promotion of schemes either through member support or advertising they will not succeed. The opportunity to raise funds against the public interest is the most viable proposition as that is where the broad appeal from fund sources lies and this is an area of project development that needs to be delivered by each area of the BBKA.

We have benefitted from various fundraising initiatives from our public supporters such as weddings to a Great Wall of China Walk; these activities have raised in excess of £2,000 over the last year and is something that we will continue to encourage in 2014/15. I have undertaken a series of public coffee morning talks over the last 12 months raising funds for the honey bee and research yielding over £2,500 for bees.

Adopt a Beehive was initiated in 2010 and launched to meet the needs of the BBKA and to deliver sponsor objectives. At the time of the launch the BBKA was not in a position to administer the scheme. Beekeeper, Nicky Smith of Twelve PR offered to do this on our behalf at a mix of volunteer time and reduced costs. The scheme has come under much member criticism due to the high costs in delivery. However, the benefits of Adopt a Beehive are easily overlooked.

- 50% of all Adopt a Beehive profits are shared equally between Education and Research
- Adopt a Beehive currently has 6,418 followers on Facebook, enabling us to inform the public about the importance of the honey bee and beekeepers
- Without the Adopt a Beehive we would not have had the support from companies such as Rowse, who has supported the BBKA for three years
- Other businesses are locked into providing donations to the BBKA as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility objectives such as 2B Scientific
- The annual Honey Survey
- Maintained an external public facing profile through the media in support of the Public Affairs activity

Since my joining the BBKA we have adjusted the scheme costs and operations as follows:

- Reduced the order fulfilment costs
- Altered the gift offering to reduce cost but maintain value
- Reduced the number of paid days from Twelve PR
- Reduced external service provision such as renewals
- Implement a full gift aid recovery programme

Year	Income	Costs
2013/14	64,385	49,439
2012/13	62,415	54342

The scheme is obliged through its contractual agreement with primary sponsor Burts Bees to run until at least 2017.

I take this opportunity to thank all past and present volunteer Adopt a Beehive Beekeepers who are/have been actively involved through the provision of beekeeper reports, media attendance and scheme promotion. In addition I thank Nicky and her team at Twelve PR, who contribute approximately three volunteer days per month to BBKA via Adopt a Beehive.

Corporate Membership has to date been the most obvious fundraising option and was already in place when I joined in December 2010. Each of our Corporate Members have their own motivations for becoming a member of the BBKA and therefore expectations have to be managed and deliverables undertaken on time and on budget. In many cases the benefits of our corporate members is to our members with the financial rewards being attributed to the BBKA. Partnerships/memberships to date include the following with primary activities listed. None of these memberships is a quick action and they often evolve over a period of time.

Member	Activity
Barratt Homes *	All new developments now being planted for honey bees Schools presentations and planting
BeeGood *	Membership discount and competition promotions – event support
Belectric *	All solar farms planted for honey bees and secure sites for hives for the benefit of associations and individuals
Hive Energy	Solar farm planting and sites for Hives
Gazeley	Purposely created Association Apiary for North Bucks planted for honey bees and secure sites for Hives nationally.
Jean Luc Colombo	Membership discount on wine
EMG	Farm plant research
Suttons Seeds *	Specially selected seeds promoting Adopt & FOHB with a donation per pack
National Grid**	Secure Sites for Hives

* Possible renewal 2014/15 **new for 2014/15

All corporate members require a level of key account management in order to fulfill the mutual needs of both parties, which is all undertaken by the General Secretary/Operations Director.

It should be noted that we are yet to receive dividends on the Suttons Seed sales from the season 2013/14 due to their financial year and their business practices. Revenue from these seed sales will be incoming in 2014/15.

Friends of the Honey Bee is a public supporter scheme to promote the importance of the honey bee and its needs in relation to their lifecycle and to raise funds for varroa research.

To date it has little/no commercial promotion to the public. However, support from Associations is growing and we will have more materials available for promotion of the

scheme available for the 2015 season. There may be some skepticism about whether or not the scheme is justifiable based on the income versus expenditure to date:

Year	Income £	Costs £
2013/14	3,625	8,590
2012/13	1,566	6,384

I understand that this may at its current cost level be deemed unviable. However, although the scheme has currently lost £9,783, it has proved to be an attractive vehicle for business. To date the costs of scheme set up and activity surrounding the sales process have been attributed in 2012/13 and 2013/14, the income for the scheme is to be realised in 2014/15 from the following companies:

Planetbee Wines (£20K), Planetbee Cider, BeMighty Fine, Rosie & Twine, Joules Clothing (re-signed for 2015), Jub Bulbs, TickTock Teas and others that are currently in negotiation. All of these partnerships provide ongoing income against product sales and present us with the opportunity to secure longer-term income and marketing partnerships.

Gift Aid - As a registered charity we are entitled to claim gift aid from members and it is our intention to continue to do so wherever possible. It has been an item of discussion by both the Finance Committee and EC since 2011 and has been put into effect in the year 2013/14 and was noted in the budget for 2013/14. Due to the nature of processing, I am at this time unable to accurately forecast what the return on these claims will be.

Legacies are part of the BBKA long term strategic income plans. The scheme requires management and input and is an avenue of fundraising that we will be undertaking. This year we have been the grateful recipients of £245,000, to date, this legacy is currently held in a dedicated reserve fund. A legacy for the BBKA will help honey bees to thrive, enabling us to keep the hives alive.

Mini WBC Collection Boxes – The objective of the WBC collection boxes is to raise funds for the BBKA with the profits being shared between the BBKA research and education funds equally. However, although we have disseminated 147 boxes and 13,050 pocket guides that hold a suggested donation of £1 each we have only had returns from 62 associations totaling £5675.63 revenue. A National Hive prize is to be awarded to the association that has raised the most funds returned to the BBKA at a non BBKA assisted event.

It should be noted that donations and support for bees is being sought by more charitable organisations than ever before and include those with much greater resources than the BBKA. As can be seen from the accounts, voluntary income in the form of grants and donations was down by £10K this year. I do not perceive the fundraising challenge ahead to be an easy one.

Looking forward, I am pleased to advise you that I now have a volunteer to support and assist me with this area of BBKA business. This year the budget projections have had my 100% input, unlike in previous years and I will do my utmost to achieve them. I take this opportunity to ask for Association support in the promotion of the supporter schemes in place through the dissemination of promotional literature but also from the wider membership for fundraisers to assist in the sale of the supporter schemes.

Jane Moseley, BBKA General Secretary & Operations Director

Governance

Governance Committee met twice this year and the items under discussion at both of the meetings were primarily the ADM. The first being a review of the 2014 meeting, items raised and actions required; as well as the running of the meeting with a view to improving the event for all participants and attendees. The second being to not only to review all incoming propositions and nominations, but to finalise the Standing Orders for both the ADM and SDM.

Governance will undertake to change the current Trustee Induction pack into a Trustees and Officers Handbook which will be distributed to both incoming and existing Trustees & officers at the first meeting in January 2015.

Doug Brown, Governance Committee Chairman

OPERATIONS & MEMBERSHIP SERVICES (OPMS)

The day to day running of the BBKA is vested in the hands of the General Secretary/Operations Director who is responsible specifically to the BBKA Chairman and ultimately to the Trustees. OPMS exists to support, oversee and provide continuity to the work of the General Secretary/Operations Director and the administration team as necessary for its areas of responsibility.

This year, OPMS was newly constituted with a large number of Trustees which I believe demonstrates the Trustees' view of the importance of this area of BBKA activities and we are moving forward and working to examine various issues making the best use of the time where it can be best expended.

Therefore, I do not have vast list of activities and achievements to report from the OPMS Committee but what I can report is that the whole of the Committee is determined to and is addressing all aspects of what the BBKA does and why for the areas for which it is responsible; I believe that the presence of so many Trustees on the Committee demonstrates the Trustees' view of the importance of this aspect of the BBKA's work on behalf of the BBKA membership.

I can report for the following areas:

Membership Services

- The 2014 BBKA Year Book was improved but revision work is still ongoing
- The Members' Database is now in-house at Stoneleigh and the BBKA is very grateful for the ongoing support and assistance from Jan and Ivor Davis.

BBKA Website

- That the BBKA website will continue to be developed to provide additional facilities for members but we do welcome any suggestions or offers for help from the members with the task of ensuring that the BBKA website is always "fresh" and useful to members
- That the work to develop a BBKA News website is continuing and it is hoped to be completed within this financial year
- Managing the BBKA Swarm List is not easy but this facility has proved to be very popular and exceedingly useful to members and the public but we still need more members to submit their names for inclusion on the list. I must reiterate that the BBKA Swarm List is another facility and does not seek to replace any existing local systems. However, we do need to ensure that this happens in a more timely manner and to that end we will be looking to having discussions with Associations in advance of the season as to how that can be jointly achieved.
- Bumblebees have been a particular problem for all beekeepers this year and whilst attempts have been made to get the Bumblebee Conservation Trust involved in joint activities, these have been unsuccessful.
- The BBKA website is now a fully responsive website capable of being used on mobile devices as well as on PCs and work has been undertaken to improve the BBKA online shop.

BBKA Facilities

- The BBKA telephone system has been upgraded to improve communications and make it more economic; actions have been taken to ensure that at peak times - particularly during the swarming season - Associations are able to contact the BBKA Office.
- The interior main room of the National Beekeeping Centre (NBC) has been upgraded to ensure that it is now fit for purpose.
- Storage facilities within the NBC are limited so local additional storage has been obtained to relieve the congestion previously caused within the NBC

BBKA Staff

- Hellos and Goodbyes - I am happy for Jan Alcock (BBKA Office Manager) but sorry to report that she has left our employment for pastures new. Thanks are due to her and the rest of the team for providing such an excellent service to members and we give her our best wishes for her future. In her place we welcome Nicky Morris as our new Office Manager.

Public Understanding

- Whilst many activities undertaken to support bees and beekeeping take place, we want to take that task further to identify, develop and benefit from:
 - Other income generation areas
 - Working partners in sympathetic areas to beekeeping
 - Continuance of Adopt a Beehive and other support schemes
 - The increased interest from organisations and individuals in environmental issues in general and beekeeping in particular
- Management of the swarm helpline within the office has proved very useful but work is still ongoing to improve it and reduce the mass of calls experienced in the office during the swarm season.
- Supporting show attendance – BBKA and Associations to better inform the public and swell the ranks of the beekeeping fraternity.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with all of the areas of work of OPMS so if you think you (or one of your members) has a skill to offer contact me:

david.teasdale@bbka.org.uk. They don't have to be a Trustee, a local official or even a beekeeper to be able to contribute and help all of us to take forward the craft that we all enjoy.

David Teasdale, OPMS Committee Chairman

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The key pro-active media initiatives for the BBKA are the Winter Survival Survey results which we put out in June/July and the Honey Survey which is released in October or November each year. This year's Winter Survival Survey was a 'good news' story and guess what, largely failed to get the traction we hoped for, though it gained a second life in August, when we used it to counter stories of major bee losses. The honey survey released in October 2013 again had a strong 'good news' element but was picked-up well by the media.

The public affairs group embodies the President, Chairman of the Executive, Press Officer, General Secretary and Public Affairs Director, plus others who advise on specific issues. There is a steady demand for comment, media 'appearances' and we have enjoyed a great deal of air-time on BBC local radio, Radio 2 and 5-live plus the all important 'Today' programme, on Radio 4. Issues covered over the year were wide-ranging from deaths through bee stings, bee rustling and the importance of bees. However the live issues of pesticides and neonicotinoids and the National Pollinator Strategy continue to occupy the team and will no doubt do so going forward. I thank all those who have contributed and fronted issue not forgetting Gill Maclean's hard work keeping us in the media's focus.

Tim Lovett, BBKA Public Affairs Director

SHOWS

The reasons for beekeepers being involved in shows and events is multiple ranging from better educating the public about bees and beekeeping to attracting people now and future to the craft or simply selling honey.

Whatever the reasons for attending and whatever the size of the show/event everything helps bees and beekeeping and keeps the subject in the forefront of the public's mind. These are the reasons why the Shows Committee exists and why similar committees exist within all Associations.

This year, the BBKA directly represented beekeeping at several major events namely:

- BBC Gardeners' World – NEC
- Stoneleigh Show
- Bath and West Show
- RHS Tatton Park Show
- Ecobuild
- Grand Designs NEC
- National Honey Show

A special mention must be made of Cheshire BKA who attended the RHS Tatton Park Show and received a major award for their magnificent work.

It is very difficult to quantify the value and benefit to Associations resulting from attending this type of event but if the "footfall" on the stand is any sort of measure, these were a tremendous success for beekeeping.

Two slight downsides in 2014 were:

- After several successful years of attending the RHS Hampton Court Show, in 2014, neither the BBKA nor any other organisation involved with bees/insects was invited to attend which is disappointing and does nothing to improve the public's understanding our craft.
- The Edible Gardening Show was taking place in London at the Alexandra Palace and whilst efforts were made to try and attend the event by working with local Associations, this year it was not to be but we have learnt from the experience and it will not prevent future attempts to cooperate and work with local Associations in order to attend shows/events.

To remind everyone that the BBKA Stoneleigh Shows Committee has gained vast experience in organising and managing attendances at shows and has created a resources bank and a wealth of expertise which can be used or called upon for similar events but the Committee would welcome any member who would like to get involved in its activities.

Attending shows or events is hard work but I still believe that meeting and talking to the public is an effective method of publicising honey bees, beekeeping, Associations and the BBKA and thanks must be given to all of the many volunteers who made the attendances at events

possible and freely gave of their time. Simply talking to the public can set the beekeeping seed into people's heads which might or might not germinate in years to come. Beekeeping (as with all other crafts, hobbies, professions etc.) needs a flow of new people to replace those that cease beekeeping for any reason and events/shows are a good way of spreading the word which is why I do believe that these events are still worthy of the continued support of the yourselves and the BBKA.

David Teasdale, Shows Committee Responsible Trustee

SPRING CONVENTION

The 2014 event was a great success again. The major innovation for 2014 was the use of the Eventbrite site for booking and sale of workshops, courses, accommodation and meals. If there were difficulties, they were mainly linked to purchasing entry tickets via the BBKA website, which we are obliged to use in order to check membership validity and send out wrist bands.

Accommodation and meals sold well with record numbers at the dinners and staying on campus. Many workshops and courses sold-out or were fully booked well in advance of the event, so the message is to book early as soon as the tickets are made available on the website in January.

The Insect Pollinators Initiative event was well attended as were all other lectures. The trade exhibition was further enhanced by siting Speakers Corner in the trade hall together with the scientific posters. The trade exhibition was open on Friday afternoon as well as all day Saturday, with revised timings to help delegates to fit in shopping with attendance at the busy programme of events. Overall, the financial out-turn was positive.

We return to Harper Adams on 17-19 April 2015 and there will be further improvements to the offering, including a reduced-priced ticket for those who simply wish to visit the trade exhibition. As usual, I thank all the Committee for their tireless dedication and hard work, which goes on year-round. Several members, including your chairman have indicated that they will retire shortly, so new blood is to be welcomed.

Tim Lovett, Spring Convention Committee Chairman

TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL

Pesticides and Neonicotinoids

The moratorium on three neonicotinoids still has a year to run during which time a full review is being carried out by EFSA, the Commission and Member States on the existing risk assessments and any new information which has become available since the previous assessments including a large scale field trial which it is planned to be completed in 2015.

At this point in time there is no indication or interim reports available on the progress of the reviews or news of any political comments on their future. The BBKA will not be making any comment until it has read the reviews and considered the recommendations or decisions which result from the work.

The BBKA continues to follow developments, scientific publications and attend relevant meetings.

The BBKA continues to stress the importance of the need to deal with potential harm to honey bees caused by all pesticides.

Varroa

The status of the use of oxalic acid in the UK is unsatisfactory and the BBKA has been involved in discussions to regularise the situation.

Small Hive Beetle

The BBKA has been liaising with the authorities regarding its recent discovery in Italy and the actions which will be taken to intercept the SHB in the UK. The role of beekeepers in helping in this work is also being discussed.

Asian Hornet

It appears that the Asian Hornet has not been found in the UK during 2014, however it is only a matter of time and beekeepers should maintain their state of preparedness when the flying season begins again in 2015.

Bee Health

The 2013/14 Winter Survival survey was carried out and we now have 7 years of comparable data which is becoming recognised as important in the data being evaluated to understand the health status of our honey bees.

The Information obtained from the Honey Survey will also be used as a surrogate measure of bee health.

Bee Health Advisory Forum

The BBKA is a member of this forum, which is charged with helping the implementation of the Healthy Bee Plan. Bee Base contains records of the meetings of the Bee Health Advisory Forum.

The BBKA has been following the changes being made at FERA, the NBU and the Bee Inspectorate as well as the future delivery of bee related support services and research, including the establishment of the new Plant and Animal Health Agency.

National Pollinator Strategy

The BBKA has actively been participating in the development of the National Pollinator Strategy, the consultation on the draft and as a member of the Pollinator Advisory Steering Group whose role is to support the Defra Pollinator Policy Programme Board. The strategy will have been launched in November 2014.

Insect Pollinator Initiative (IPI)

The BBKA hosted a successful IPI event at the Spring Convention at which representatives from each of the projects presented some key aspects of the findings of their projects. In October there was a Final reporting and dissemination event hosted by the Wellcome Foundation in London and attended by a BBKA representative. This has been reported in BBKA News.

We continue to handle technical and environmental questions raised by members or the public.

BBKA Research Fund

This is the subject of a separate report to be published on line

Dr David Aston, Technical & Environmental Committee Chairman

EXAMINATION BOARD REPORT

This year the Examinations and Assessments have had a variable intake with the Basic Assessments showing a substantial decrease for the first time in many years. There were just 685 successful candidates from 56 Areas compared to 941 from 57 Areas last year. However both General Husbandry and Advanced Husbandry have had the highest number of applicants to date. This year all modules were offered twice a year for the first time and 5 Master Beekeeper Certificates have been awarded. A detailed analysis of the results is given below.

At the Board Meeting in January, Gerry Collins was appointed as Chairman; John Hendrie was appointed as the Moderator with Margaret Thomas and Tom Salter as Assistant Moderators.

The Board held four meetings during the year and a Moderation weekend in December to agree the Module papers for 2014. Stands were manned by members of the Examinations Board at the National Honey Show in October 2013, at the Spring Convention in April 2014.

Members of the Board provided training for the Basic Assessment, the General Husbandry Certificate and the Advanced Husbandry Certificate at the Spring convention which was well received and also provided training on assessments and examinations at the National Honey Show.

Assessor training for the Basic Certificate (14 new assessors) took place in May, there are now 182 Basic Assessors. Training was also held General Husbandry Assessors which included 13 new assessors giving a total of 46 assessors.

Module 1,2,3,5,6,7 and 8 examinations were held on March 22, 2014 with 311 candidates sitting examinations at 48 centres across the country and, at the time of writing, all modules are to be held on November 8 with 227 candidates taking 252 examinations at 49 centres.

Members continue to appreciate two opportunities in the year to take modules and the numbers have remained stable. The Examination Board has responded to concerns about insufficient time in Module examinations by introducing a 5 minute period before the exam for the candidate to read the examination paper.

Revisions that reflect current issues and priorities were made to the following syllabi for 2014: Modules, General Husbandry Certificate and Advanced Husbandry Certificate. The Microscopy Syllabus has been updated for 2015.

Correspondence Courses have seen another busy year with application increasing by 11%. 161 actual students enrolled for 239 course entries. 15 of these were group applications with the group size ranging from 3 to 6 – most common being 5.

Our course seems to command respect as there are applications from around the world and we have students who are inmates and officers at a HM prison, and recently received an enquiry from a prison in Wales. We have students in the USA and France to mention just some.

Enrolments October 13 to September 14

Module	Number enrolled (2014)	Number enrolled (2013)
Basic	47	46
1	43	43
2	35	24
3	26	22
5	30	25
6	19	22
7	18	13
8	10	10
Microscopy	11	9
Total	239	214

EXAMINATION RESULTS 2014

The individual Examination Results have appeared in the BBKA News and will continue to be published as they become available.

The Robert Hammond Award for the best Intermediate Candidate was awarded to Kirsty Gordon, London

The Wax Chandler Award for the best Master Beekeeper was awarded to - James Vivian-Griffiths, Monmouth, Monmouthshire

November 2013 Module Results

Module	Total Modules	Pass	Credit	Distinction	Fail	Overall Pass Rate
1	75	28	18	9	20	73%
2	47	13	16	5	13	72%
3	30	11	11	5	3	90%
5	43	10	16	12	5	88%
7	48	18	17	2	11	77%
	243	80	78	33	52	79%

There were 222 candidates of which 60 were new candidates taking 1 module. The pass rate of these candidates was 73%.

March 2014 Module Results

Module	Total Modules	Pass	Credit	Distinction	Fail	Overall Pass result
1	113	47	27	4	35	69%
2	58	23	16	8	11	81%
3	47	11	11	11	14	70%
5	40	11	11	5	13	68%
6	36	19	4	1	12	67%
7	30	11	11	2	6	80%
8	23	12	9		2	91%
	347	134	89	31	93	73%

2014(2013)	Applied	Assessed	Passed	Pass rate
Basic Certificate	748(1004)	695(941)	685(920)	99%(98%)
General Husbandry	85(46)	58(25)	40(19)	69%(76%)
Advanced Husbandry	25(20)	24(20)	9(11)	38%(55%)
Microscopy (to date)	20(44)	(29)	(19)	(66%)
Junior Certificate to date	5(14)	5(9)	5(9)	100% (100%)

Basic – 26% fewer assessments carried out than 2013.

Other Certificates Awarded 2014

Intermediate Theory Certificates 40 (42)

Advanced Theory Certificates 25 (16)

Master Beekeepers 5 (10)

Basic Certificate Results by Area 2014

Name	Basics	Members	%
SURREY	52	961	5
LANCASHIRE & NORTH WEST	46	603	8
YORKSHIRE	43	1660	3
HAMPSHIRE	40	1151	3
DEVON	35	1040	3
SOMERSET	25	827	3
WARWICKSHIRE	24	667	4
KENT	24	811	3
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	23	628	4
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	22	577	4
MIDDLESEX	18	590	3
WILTSHIRE	17	434	4
ESSEX	17	863	2
SUSSEX	15	519	3
CHESHIRE	15	572	3
LINCOLNSHIRE	15	471	3
AVON	14	419	3
LONDON	13	143	9
SUFFOLK	13	647	2
NORTHUMBERLAND	12	270	4
BERKSHIRE	10	385	3
STAFFORDSHIRE SOUTH	9	162	6
DURHAM	9	155	6
NORFOLK WEST AND KINGS LYNN	9	166	5
MANCHESTER & DISTRICT	9	225	4
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	9	389	2
HARROGATE & RIPON	9	385	2
TWICKENHAM & THAMES VALLEY	8	144	6
HERTFORDSHIRE	8	379	2
DORSET	8	390	2
WORCESTERSHIRE	8	470	2
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	8	609	1
DOVER & DISTRICT	7	93	8
GWENT	7	143	5
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	7	265	3
JERSEY	6	60	10
STRATFORD ON AVON	6	91	7
SHROPSHIRE NORTH	6	104	6
CORNWALL WEST	5	108	5
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	5	228	2
DERBYSHIRE	5	246	2
SUSSEX WEST	5	431	1
KENDAL & SOUTH WESTMORLAND	4	48	8

PETERBOROUGH & DISTRICT	4	121	3
VALE AND DOWNLAND	4	129	3
CHESTERFIELD	4	178	2
CLEVELAND	3	112	3
NEWBURY	3	123	2
CORNWALL	3	349	1
OXFORDSHIRE	3	276	1
LANCASTER	2	81	2
BOURNEMOUTH & DISTRICT	2	115	2
MEDWAY	2	87	2
WYE VALLEY	1	78	1
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	1	90	1
NORFOLK	1	271	0

The following Areas had no entries for the Basic Assessment in 2014:

SEDBERGH, INST OF NORTHERN IRELAND, NEWCASTLE & DISTRICT, ISLE OF MAN, ISLE OF WIGHT, LUDLOW & DISTRICT, SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE NORTH, HEREFORDSHIRE, RUTLAND, THANET, CUMBRIA

Val Francis, BBKA Examination Board Secretary

BBKA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 2013/14 – COMMENTARY

The page numbers are those referred to in the Statutory Accounts for the BBKA for the Year ended 30th September 2014.

Page 55 - This year shows a surplus of income over expenditure of £201K, compared to a budgeted surplus of £2K. Once the effect of the substantial legacy received, £245K, is removed – as this is a restricted fund – there was a deficit of income over expenditure of £29k this £31K swing is the result of income being down, and it has not kept exact pace with the reduction in expenditure. Budgeted income was £903k and expenditure was £901k – actual income for the year was £746k and actual expenditure was £775k.

Page 56 – This shows the position of the BBKA and of note are the facts that:-

- The value of the Sarasin investment has increased over the year by nearly £10k - but this is subject to the vagaries of the Stock Market
- Debtors are down due to the better collection of monies owed to the BBKA – thanks to the efforts of the staff
- Cash has increased substantially - as the £245k legacy has not yet been separately invested – the EC are investigating projects for the use of this money in conjunction with interested parties
- Total Funds are up by £211k – due to the legacy

The notes to the Accounts from pages 12 to 18 provide greater detail on the figures summarised in pages 10 and 11.

Pages 58 & 59 – This analyses the income and expenditure in more detail and of note are the facts that:-

- The legacy of £245k is shown
- Membership subs were up on the previous year though £10k lower than budgeted
- Spring Convention income was lower than the previous year, and lower than budgeted, but so was expenditure – it still made a surplus of over £10k
- Exam Board income was lower than the previous year, and lower than budgeted, but expenditure was higher – it cost the membership over £15k slightly less than the budgeted figure of £17k
- BBKA News produced roughly the same revenue as last year, and cost £9k less to produce – making an overall cost to the membership of just over £99k – slightly less than the budgeted figure of £105k
- Corporate sponsorship substantially increased in the year from £13k the previous year to £34k – and the effect of Friends of the Honey Bee on that sum cannot be underestimated – it is a product, a brand that allows Corporate Sponsorship to be obtained. The target figure for the year was £39k

- Adopt a Beehive produced more income than last year and cost less – making a valuable £15k surplus, despite being under budget for income.
- Friends of the Honey Bee has been slow – the direct income is small and the costs of it outweigh the income making it show a cost of just under £5k. But as mentioned above a substantial part of the Corporate sponsorship income is reliant on having Friends of the Honey Bee

Page 59 – Governance

- The governance costs have increased – in part due to the increased mileage allowance made to reflect the proper motoring costs. The same rate has been used across the BBKA.

Page 60 Assets

- A substantial investment - some £23k has been made in assets in the year – the refurbishment of the Main hall and parts of the National Beekeeping Centre and in new computers. The effect of that has been to increase the expenditure of the BBKA through the increased amount of the depreciation on arising from that investment

Page 63 Contingent Liability

- In order to continue to have the trading arm of the BBKA that BBKA Enterprises represents, the BBKA has a potential liability of £12k. However the trading position of Enterprises has been substantially improved and as the recent accounts show it has made a small profit and a donation of £4k from its activities back to BBKA

NB:

1. A set of Accounts for BBKA Enterprises Ltd, which have been examined by the BBKA's auditors, are also included in the pack. The ADM is not required to approve them. A verbal report on Enterprises' activities will be made at the ADM.
2. The Management Accounts used by the EC during the year are included in the ADM pack but are not commented on.

Andrew Royce – Chair of Finance

The British Beekeepers Association
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Martin Tovey	President (until 11/01/14)
David Aston	President (from 11/01/14)
Doug Brown	Chairman (from 11/01/14)
Michael Sheasby	Chairman of Finance (until 11/01/14)
Roger Patterson	
Julian Routh	
David Teasdale	
Ken Basterfield	
Margaret Murdin	
Peter Sutcliffe	
Ian Homer	
Tim Lovett	
Andrew Royce	Chairman of Finance (from 18/01/14)
Ruth Homer	(from 11/01/14)
Gareth Morgan	(from 11/01/14)

OFFICERS* AND NON VOTING ATTENDEES AT EC MEETINGS

Jane Moseley	Operations Director/General Secretary
Val Francis	Exam Board Secretary
Sharon Blake	BBKA News Editor
Shena Winning	Treasurer (until 11/01/14)
Christopher Lake	Treasurer (from 21/06/14)

(*non-voting attendees at Executive Committee meetings)

PATRON#

The Master, The Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers

HOLDING TRUSTEES#

Ivor Davis, Glyn Davis, Tim Lovett (10/01/2014)

(# not members of the Executive Committee in this capacity)

CHARITY NUMBER

212025

REGISTERED OFFICE

National Beekeeping Centre
National Agricultural Centre
Stoneleigh Park
Kenilworth
CV8 2LG
Tel: 02476 696679
Email: bbka@britishbeekeepers.com

BANKERS

CAF Bank Limited

INVESTMENT ADVISORS

Sarasin Investment Funds Limited

AUDITORS

Murphy Salisbury
15 Warwick Road
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 6YW

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2014. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 57 and comply with the Charity's Trust Deed and applicable law.

The British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) was originally founded in 1874 and was subsequently registered as an unincorporated charity, originally constituted in July 1960, and registered with the Charity Commission on 30 November 1962. Its current constitution was adopted on 11th January 2014.

Objects

The charity's objects are to:

- promote and further the craft of beekeeping; and
- advance the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment.

Organisation Structure

The charity's governing document is its Constitution. Its membership comprises Area Associations, Specialist Member Associations, Institutional Members, Corporate Members and Individuals. An Annual Delegates' Meeting (ADM) reviews its activities, provides policy direction through propositions and elects its trustees, including its President.

The charity's trustees are elected at its ADM to serve for periods of up to 3 years (the President for 2 years). One third of the trustees retire, in rotation, at each ADM.

An Executive Committee (EC), consisting of its 13 elected trustees, manages the charity. The trustees appoint from amongst their number the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of Finance and also appoint the Officers of the charity, who may not necessarily be trustees.

Officers of the charity who are not already trustees, and anyone else invited to attend EC meetings during the year, are neither trustees nor voting EC members. The names of current trustees and officers of the charity, and all those who have served in those capacities during the year being reported, are shown on page 62.

The Constitution requires no fewer than three Holding (i.e. custodian) Trustees to be appointed by the EC where land or investments is vested in such individuals.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by the Area Association Delegates, in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Charity. The trustees are appointed for periods not exceeding eight consecutive years.

Trustee Induction and Training

It is the Charity's policy that new trustees should undergo an orientation process to brief them on their legal obligations under charity law, the charity's governing documents, the committee decision-making process, the strategic and operating plans and recent financial performance of the charity.

Executive Committee Responsibilities

The Executive Committee recognises its responsibility for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept and for preparing financial statements each year. The appended accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis in compliance with the relevant regulations for charities and have been independently audited, with the auditor's report included as part of these accounts.

The Executive Committee met at regular intervals throughout the year to review policy implementation, financial performance and risk management, and the work delegated to its Responsible Trustees for Finance; Technical & Environmental; Education & Husbandry, Public Affairs, Spring Convention, Shows, Governance and Operations & Membership Services.

Risk Management

The Charity has a risk policy in place and maintains a risk register. It is the Charity's policy to conduct an annual review of the risks that the Charity may face, to establish systems and procedures to mitigate the risks identified and to implement procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise.

Objectives for the Year

The main objectives for the year were:

- To create additional income streams from sources other than members
- To assist its member associations in the education and training of the substantially increased numbers of people wishing to start beekeeping
- To raise the levels of competence of established beekeepers
- Raise awareness of the importance of diversity of forage

Strategies

In order to achieve our objectives, we have:

- Undertaken an extensive strategic and operational review, identified, consolidated and documented the activities of the BBKA and implementing systems to improve accountability, prioritisation and cost-effectiveness. Appropriate emphasis has been placed on income generation, membership services and public understanding, as well as the vital areas of education and training
- The continuation of Education Co-ordinator who is working with our member associations in raising the standards and range of education and training activities
- Continued the review of our administrative support and related office facilities and made improvements to the office environment and equipment.
- Successfully maintained the annual Spring Convention at Harper Adams University campus

Significant Activities

- Monthly publication of BBKA News, media press releases, Members Handbook, Year Book, public information resources and social media presence
- Provision of the BBKA Website (www.bbka.org.uk) for members and the general public
- Education and training of beekeepers at all levels
- Continuing the provision of subsidised training materials and aids, including a new series of Training courses
- Development of training DVDs
- Third party liability and product insurance cover for members engaged in beekeeping
- A formal programme of examinations for beekeepers at all levels
- Representation of the interests of the honey bee and beekeeper in policy making in association with the Healthy Bee Management Board
- Inclusion and consultation in the National Pollinator Strategy
- The Spring Convention, providing lectures, demonstrations, trade show with a one day scientific focus on the Insect Pollinator Initiative
- The publication of information resources for members and the general public
- Exhibiting at national, regional, local and trade events to reinforce communication with the general public and business
- Hosting Special Interest Day Meetings to encourage idea exchange within the beekeeper community
- An increase in unique visitor traffic of 50.66%, serving the needs of the public and members through www.bbka.org.uk
- Improved links with the Horticultural sector

Review of Activities

Membership of BBKA has dipped slightly during the year to a total of 24,288 registered and individual direct members (2013: 24,355). Registered members are members of our 67 Area Associations. Corporate, Specialist and Institutional membership remained stable

The activities of the BBKA in pursuit of its objectives are quite wide and varied. Those in support of the practical and technical aspects of beekeeping are:

- Guidance for beekeepers through articles in BBKA News, leaflets, website (www.bbka.org.uk), members handbook and other publications;
- provision of an overarching training and examination system to maintain standards of beekeeping knowledge and practice;
- Introduced a subsidised training programme for General Husbandry, Advanced Husbandry general beekeeping skills and a website training resource
- Support to Area Associations for their local training initiatives. Development of the 'Course in a Case' series of training aids which started in 2010 and is nearing completion
- Seminars and lectures, particularly at the annual Spring Convention.
- Funding of research projects into bee health and related matters.
- Sponsored the attendance of Young Beekeepers at the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers

- Promoting to and educating the public generally, and government in particular, about the importance of honey bees, the practice and current challenges of beekeeping. In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee-charging.
- Demonstrations and publicity at shows and events nationally and locally;
- Provision of relevant educational and other media for use in schools, with a revision in the schools materials being undertaken and other venues to promote and develop interest in beekeeping;
- Meetings with, and lobbying of, the UK government and UK/European parliamentary representatives concerning disease research, pesticides and other issues of concern;
- Provision of a helpline and website guidance to respond to public and individual concerns about swarms and nests and to recover swarms of honey bees where possible.
- Social media streams launched to engage with the public at all levels including forage through Friends of the Honey Bee, youth engagement Young Beekeepers and the general interest in bees via the British Beekeepers Association

Meetings take place with the UK Government via Ministerial discussions, the NBU, DEFRA and FERA. Lobbying of the European Parliament and the EC takes place through CONBA to COPA-COCEGA.

BBKA is an active member of the Healthy Bee Project Board which represents the main beekeeping interests of England, Scotland and Wales and includes, Fera, NBU, Bee Farmers, Welsh Government, Welsh and Scottish Beekeepers.

During 2013/14, the BBKA organised another successful Spring Convention at Harper Adams University. The BBKA also exhibited at a number of RHS flower shows including The Edible Garden Show, Gardeners' World Live (where BBKA was awarded Best RHS Feature in Show), and RHS Tatton Park (where BBKA was awarded Gold). BBKA also supported at the Royal Bath & West Show, and presented at Large Scale Solar, Fleuroselect, EcoBuild, Chenies Manor House Bee Series and Solar Energy UK. In addition, member associations arranged programmes of lectures, conventions, honey shows, weekend courses/workshops and put on displays at country shows. These varied across the country and were supported by the BBKA.

The BBKA and the craft of beekeeping generally, benefits immeasurably from the unstinting contributions of our many active members and volunteers in terms of their time and expertise. Without the invaluable assistance of trustees, officers and other volunteers in running the charity and promoting its objectives, we would be much the poorer.

Future Plans

The composition of the Executive Committee has remained relatively stable, this has enabled the Lead Trustees and Officers to regain momentum in developing new initiatives and programmes in the key areas of:

- Education and training of beekeepers
- Promotion of the craft of beekeeping
- Improved public understanding of the importance of bees & their needs
- Technical and environmental developments, including research
- Membership development and service delivery
- Income generation through the launch of a legacy scheme, promotion of the supporter scheme Friends of the Honey Bee and raising the profile of Adopt a Beehive
- Launch National Honey Week to celebrate the values of honey and the craft of beekeeping

Together, with the supporting functions of prudent financial management and effective processes of good governance.

Financial Review

The decrease in membership has not impacted on our income due to the increase in membership capitation. This decline in membership has resulted in a minimal decrease in the costs of servicing members, providing benefits, investment in training co-ordination and aids, providing beekeeping advice and services to the wider general public

Donations and sponsorship included an aggregate total of (£65,818 from Barratt Homes, BeeGood, Belectric, Burts Bees, EMG, Hatch Mansfield, Hive Energy, Gazeley, Suttons Seeds, and The Wax Chandlers. In addition to a substantial legacy of £245,000 (to date) through the generosity of the late Mr J Hopkinson, which is currently ring-fenced in a restricted fund. .

The restricted Research Fund received further donations of £5,295 and disbursed £20,022 on research projects. As at the year end, this fund has been completely utilised. A separate unrestricted Research Fund stands at just over £67,500 of which £48,300 is yet to be committed

There are no plans, nor expectations, of the need for any significant capital expenditure in the short term.

As a means of developing an income stream independent of legacies and capitation, BBKA has been actively developing a supporter scheme to help attract non-beekeeping members of the public who express an interest in the honeybee, research and beekeeping

education. With the continued support of Burts Bees and the active assistance of Twelve PR, an Adopt a Beehive scheme, launched in March 2010, continues to be viewed as a success. The trustees are currently dedicating 50% of the net income to research funding.

Statement of Financial Activities

The results for the year are contained in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 62. The net profit for the year, before the realised and unrealised gain on investments was £201,353 (2013: -£45,691), comprising total incoming resources of £996,639 (2013: £731,858) and total resources expended of £795,286 (2013: £777,549).

The deficit for the year on Unrestricted Funds was £28,920 (2013: £31,321 loss). This was due to the following: an increase in Governance costs - staffing and building maintenance the latter impacting on depreciation values and a decrease of voluntary unrestricted grants and donations of £10,000.

The net profit for the year on Restricted Funds was £230,273 (2013: -£14,460), comprising total incoming resources of £250,295 and total resources expended of £20,022. Note 15 to the accounts contain an analysis of the incoming and outgoing resources relating to Restricted Funds, which predominantly relate to legacy received from the late Mr J Hopkinson and expenditure on external bee health research projects.

The unrealised gain on investments was £9907 (2013: £847). The gain primarily due to improved performance from Sarasins investments and general restoration of faith in the stock market.

Balance Sheet

Total funds increased from £426,288 to £637,548 reflecting the net operating deficit and the substantial legacy received as outlined above.

Cash at Bank, on Deposit and in Hand increased from £225,832 to £501,039.

Creditors due within one year increased from £248,459 to £282,981, mainly due to the increased capitation fees received in advance from the registered membership

Investment Powers and Policies

The Charity's Trust Deed authorises the trustees under their general powers to deposit or invest funds and to employ professional fund-managers as they see fit.

The investment made in the previous year in the Sarasin funds had benefitted from the increase in value of the Stock market and at the end of the financial year had risen from £150,700 at the start of the year to £160,607. Of course the investment is subject to the movement in the Stock market and the value of the investment could go up or down. In the light of the performance of the investment in the year no action was felt necessary

See note 4 to the Accounts for details of the income received. Temporary surplus cash resources are held in deposit accounts selected by the Treasurer.

All these funds, are reviewed regularly by the Finance Committee and Trustees to ensure satisfactory quality and performance.

Public Benefit Statement

The objects of the BBKA are the promotion and furtherance of the craft of beekeeping and the advancement of the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment. The importance the BBKA attaches to educating the public is evident from the following regular activities:

- its website (www.bbka.org.uk) containing topical, useful, educational information
- its telephone enquiry service that is open to the public 5 working days a week and much used
- its press releases to the media that inform media content about bees in the environment and related issues
- its informative exhibits at both national shows and, through its network of associations' local shows
- talks given by it and its local associations to school children, women's groups, University of the Third Age groups and other organisations
- information leaflets covering a wide range of subjects about bees in the environment that are of interest to the general public
- the BBKA furthers education and research into the study of honeybees through making grants to appropriate institutions and individuals

- provision of a helpline and website guidance to respond to ;public and individual concerns about swarms and nests and to recover swarms of honey bees where possible
- ensure the interests of honeybees and beekeepers are protected in terms of policy making by public and private bodies

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the BBKA’s aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the Charity’s financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- (b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- (d) prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity’s Trust Deed as updated from time to time and the requirements of the Charities SORP 2005. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Reserves Policy

The Executive Committee’s policy objective is to maintain unrestricted reserves that are at least equal to the total annual membership income of the charity and also sufficient to cover provisions for the eventual cost of replacing the National Beekeeping Centre building in 2098 and funding of strategic initiatives to fulfil the charity’s key objectives.

Unrestricted reserves (excluding tangible fixed assets) at the year-end were just over £219.013. After deducting £76,750 currently designated for Stoneleigh building renewal, the balance represents 37% of total membership income at the current year level

The Trustees are pursuing strategies to rebuild unrestricted reserves including increases in membership income

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Trustees on 2 November 2014 and signed on their behalf by:

TRUSTEE (CHAIRMAN)
DOUG BROWN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds 2014</u>	<u>Total Funds 2013</u>
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated fund					
Grant and donations	3	15,968	250,295	266,263	25,400
Investment Income	4	691	-	691	1,927
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Membership and subscriptions	5	383,697	-	383,697	373,077
Other charitable activities	6	345,988	-	345,988	331,454
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		746,344	250,295	996,639	731,858
OUTGOING RESOURCES					
Costs of generating funds	9	15,996	-	15,996	15,368
Charitable activities	7	674,428	20,022	694,450	686,989
Governance costs	8	84,840	-	84,840	75,192
TOTAL OUTGOING RESOURCES		775,264	20,022	795,286	777,549
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME					
		(28,920)	230,273	201,353	(45,691)
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds before other gains (losses)		(28,920)	230,273	201,353	(45,691)
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments		9,907	-	9,907	-
Realised gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	847
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(19,013)	230,273	211,260	(44,844)
FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		411,561	14,727	426,288	471,132
FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD 30 SEPTEMBER 2014	15	392,548	245,000	637,548	426,288

There were no recognised gains or losses for 2014 or 2013, other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

All amounts derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

	Note	2014		2013	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	173,535		165,027	
Investments	11	<u>160,637</u>	334,172	<u>150,730</u>	315,757
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		11,186		10,211	
Debtors	13	74,132		122,947	
Cash at Bank, on Deposit and in Hand	12	<u>501,039</u>		<u>225,832</u>	
		<u>586,357</u>		<u>358,990</u>	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year					
	14	<u>(282,981)</u>		<u>(248,459)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>303,376</u>		<u>110,531</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			637,548		426,288
NET ASSETS					
			<u>637,548</u>		<u>426,288</u>
Represented By:	15				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			392,548		411,561
RESTRICTED FUNDS			<u>245,000</u>		<u>14,727</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>637,548</u>		<u>426,288</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 2 November 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
DOUG BROWN – TRUSTEE (CHAIRMAN)

.....
ANDREW ROYCE – TRUSTEE (CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE)

The notes on pages 12 to 18 form part of these accounts.

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) **BASIS OF PREPARATION OF ACCOUNTS**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and The Charities Act 2011. In preparing the financial statements the Charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

No cash flow statement is included within this financial statement. The charity is below the threshold at which this becomes a requirement under Financial Reporting standard 1.

b) **INCOMING RESOURCES**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

c) **OUTGOING RESOURCES**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under heading that aggregate all costs related to each category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a single activity heading – generating funds, charitable activities or governance – it has been apportioned between them on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Research costs are included as incurred.

d) **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated at rates calculated to write off their cost, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold property	- over the period of the lease
Furniture and fittings	- 4 years straight line basis
Computer equipment	- 4 years straight line basis
Show Equipment	- 3 years straight-line basis
Trophies	- not depreciated

e) **INVESTMENTS**

Listed investments are included in the accounts at their market value at the Balance Sheet date. Realised gains/(losses) are accounted for within income received or when declared and reinvested. Unrealised gains/(losses) arising from changes in market value are recognised within the gains/(losses) section of the Statement of Financial Activities.

f) **OPERATING LEASES**

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

g) **STOCK**

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

h) **FUND ACCOUNTING**

The Charity's funds comprise:

Unrestricted Funds - these are funds that can be used in accordance with the Charity's objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted Funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the

Charity and includes funds raised for specific purposes.

i) **TAXATION**

The British Beekeepers Association is registered with the Charity Commission and under the provisions of Section 505, Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, is exempt from liability to taxation.

2. NET INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2014 £	2013 £
The operating results are stated after charging:				
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	14,735	-	14,735	9,561
Auditors Remuneration	3,270	-	3,420	3,270
Operating Lease Rentals – Land and Buildings	5,388	-	5,388	5,388
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
3. GRANTS & DONATIONS				
Research fund	-	5,295	5,295	5,964
Legacy	-	245,000	245,000	-
Other	15,968	-	15,968	19,436
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,968	250,295	266,263	25,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
4. INVESTMENT INCOME				
Dividends receivable	-	-	-	288
Interest receivable	691	-	691	1,639
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	691	-	691	1,927
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
5. MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS				
Capitation fees from member associations	359,430	-	359,430	339,016
Individual membership subscriptions	20,715	-	20,715	17,787
Gift Aid tax recovery	3,552	-	3,552	2,724
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	383,697	-	383,697	359,527
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
6. OTHER CHARITABLE INCOME				
Spring Convention	91,375	-	91,375	105,112
Examinations Board	39,939	-	39,939	42,625
Advertising – BBKA News and other publications	95,284	-	95,284	95,354
Corporate & sponsorship	34,850	-	34,850	13,550
Adopt a beehive	64,385	-	64,385	62,415
Friends of the honey bee	3,625	-	3,625	1,566
Overhead costs recovered	1,200	-	1,200	2,890
Project sponsorship	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Other	330	-	330	6,491
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	345,988	-	345,988	345,003
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2014 £	2013 £
7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS				
Spring Convention	80,927	-	80,927	92,513
Shows	16,632	-	16,632	21,450
BBKA News	194,343	-	194,343	203,253
Yearbooks/New Member Packs/Register	24,384	-	24,384	29,739
Examinations Board	55,150	-	55,150	46,317
Members' Insurance	30,594	-	30,594	29,775
Publicity & promotion	21,444	-	21,444	17,454
Research projects	1,278	20,022	21,300	20,424
Magners project expenses	1,532	-	1,532	336
WIB project expenses	5,922	-	5,922	1,068
Winter and Honey Surveys	5,468	-	5,468	3,718
BBKA Apiary	1,092	-	1,092	1,842
Insurance – buildings/office	7,701	-	7,701	6,871
Education Project	24,288	-	24,288	24,423
Adopt a beehive	49,449	-	49,449	54,342
Friends of the honey bee	8,590	-	8,590	6,384
Fundraising cost	1,574	-	1,574	578
Education and husbandry	3,693	-	3,693	2,272
Education and husbandry Development	373	-	373	29
Just giving expenses	36	-	36	216
Swarm line	-	-	-	-
Pollination dating	-	-	-	240
Legacy costs	3,244	-	3,244	-
Bad debts	-	-	-	757
General running costs in support of the above (note 9)	136,714	-	136,714	122,988
	674,428	20,022	694,450	686,989
8. GOVERNANCE COSTS				
Executive & committee activities	40,756	-	40,756	28,650
Insurance	6,105	-	6,105	6,209
Audit & statutory accounts	3,420	-	3,420	3,360
Annual delegates meeting & forum	2,566	-	2,566	6,237
General running costs in support of the above (note 9)	31,993	-	31,993	30,736
	84,840	-	84,840	75,192
9. SUPPORT COSTS				
Staff costs (see note 18)	128,818	-	128,818	125,678
Less staff costs allocated to education	(21,265)	-	(21,265)	(21,713)
Depreciation	14,735	-	14,735	9,561
Rent, facilities and other costs	60,119	-	60,119	54,639
Finance	2,296	-	2,296	927
	184,703	-	184,703	169,092
Disclosed as:				
Costs of Generating Funds	15,996	-	15,996	15,368
Charitable Activities	136,714	-	136,714	122,988
Governance Costs	31,993	-	31,993	30,736
	184,703	-	184,703	169,092

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Leasehold Property £	Furniture & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Trophies £	Show Equipment £	Totals £
Cost						
At 1 October 2013	172,127	34,969	20,498	19	7,888	235,501
Additions	-	16,744	5,546	-	952	23,242
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2014	172,127	51,713	26,044	19	8,840	258,743
Depreciation						
At 1 October 2013	20,651	26,668	16,605	-	6,550	70,474
Charge for the year	1,721	8,673	2,685	-	1,656	14,735
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2014	22,372	35,341	19,290	-	8,206	85,209
Net Book Value						
At 30 September 2014	149,755	16,372	6,754	19	634	173,534
At 30 September 2013	151,476	8,301	3,893	19	1,338	165,027

The fixed assets are used primarily in the management and administration of the charity rather than for direct charitable activities.

11. INVESTMENTS	Valuations		Income	
	2014 £	2013 £	2014 £	2013 £
M&G Charifund units	-	-	-	288
2.5% Consols	30	30	-	-
Sarasin Alpha CIF for Income and Reserves (Acc Units)	160,607	150,700	-	-
	160,637	150,730	-	288

12. CASH & BANK BALANCES	2014 £	2013 £
CAF Cash and Gold accounts	493,603	219,014
COIF – deposit account	6,439	6,413
Paypal – clearing	997	405
CAF deposit account	-	-
	501,039	225,832

13. DEBTORS	2014	2013
Sundry debtors	46,824	89,092
BBKA Enterprises Ltd	6,591	8,975
Prepayments	20,717	24,880
	74,132	122,947

14. CREDITORS	2014	2013
Capitation fees received in advance	199,654	181,059
Sundry creditors	39,543	18,435
Accruals	22,251	20,875
Deferred income	21,533	28,090
	282,981	248,459

15. FUNDS	B/Fwd at	Movement in resources			C/Fwd at
	1 Oct 2013	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	30 Sep 2014
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and dedicated funds					
General	276,472	744,627	(773,986)	(5,500)	241,613
Stoneleigh renewals	71,250	-	-	5,500	76,750
Research Fund	61,339	7,468	(1,278)	-	67,529
Education Fund	2,500	4,156	-	-	6,656
Restricted					
Research	14,727	5,295	(20,022)	-	-
Legacy	-	245,000	-	-	245,000
	<u>426,288</u>	<u>1,006,546</u>	<u>(795,286)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>637,548</u>

Purposes of designated unrestricted funds:

Part of the unrestricted funds of the charity have been set aside to meet the anticipated costs of renewing existing facilities at Stoneleigh at the end of its lease in 2098.

During the year, the Trustees have allocated to the Research fund 50% of the net income from Adopt a Beehive.

Purposes of restricted funds:

The Research fund consists of donations to be used for BBKA-sponsored research into matters affecting bees and bee health.

The legacy fund is currently held as a restricted fund until completion of the legacy and its application determined

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	173,535	-	173,535
Investments	160,637	-	160,637
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>58,376</u>	<u>245,000</u>	<u>303,376</u>
Net assets	<u>392,548</u>	<u>245,000</u>	<u>637,548</u>

17. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 30 September 2014 the charity had annual commitments, subject to annual rent reviews, as follows:-

Property lease expiring in 2098	2014	2013
	£	£
Annual ground rent at current datum of £5,388 for 84 years (2013: 85 years)	<u>5,388</u>	<u>5,388</u>

18. **EMPLOYEE COSTS**

	2014	2013
	£	£
Salaries	121,553	115,891
Employer's National Insurance	7,265	9,787
	<u>128,818</u>	<u>125,678</u>

No employee earned £60,000 pa or more. BBKA makes no pension contributions on behalf of staff. The average employee headcount for the year was 6 (2013: 6).

The average full time equivalent number of employees for the year was 5 (2013: 5).

19. **TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES (including related party transactions)**

No remuneration was paid or payable to Trustees in the year.

Reimbursement of expenses to trustees and officers of the charity, paid or accrued during the financial year, was as follows:-

Executive Committee - Trustees		2014	2013
		£	£
Martin Tovey	President (until 11/01/14)	1,239	3,450
David Aston	President (from 11/01/14)	4,804	2,910
Michael Sheasby	Chairman of (until 11/01/14) Finance	950	2,249
Ken Basterfield		2,393	2,744
Doug Brown	Chairman (from 11/ 01/14)	3,514	1,973
Dawn Girling		-	375
Ian Homer		3,396	2,513
Tim Lovett		3,653	1,549
Margaret Murdin		3,415	2,641
Roger Patterson		1,647	914
Julian Routh		341	1,138
Andrew Royce	Chairman of finance (from 18/01/14)	2,115	882
Peter Sutcliffe		4,876	2,526
David Teasdale		2,692	2,839
Ruth Homer	(from 11/01/14)	915	-
Gareth Morgan	(from 11/01/14)	813	-
Officers (not Trustees)			
Sharon Blake	BBKA News Editor	2,127	147
Val Francis	Exam Board Secretary	2,752	2,020
Jane Moseley	Operations Director/General Secretary	8,126	7,836
Christopher Lake	Treasurer (from 21/06/14)	488	-
Shena Winning	Treasurer (until 11/01/14)	1,304	98
		<u>51,560</u>	<u>38,804</u>

Expenses claims covered reimbursement of travelling, accommodation, meals, postage and telephone costs. Claimants may be members of more than one committee and/or share transport.

20. **HONORARIA**

During the year the Executive Committee authorised the award of honoraria to 8 people (2013: 11) supporting the operation of the charity including BBKA News, Press Relations, Examination Board and Member Registration as follows:-

Honoraria pa	No. of recipients
£0 to £600	4
£601 to £2,000	2
£2,001 to £7,000	2
£7,001 to £10,000	-
£10,000 to £12,000	-

21. **CONTINGENT LIABILITY**

The British Beekeepers Association continues to support BBKA Enterprises Limited in the event that BBKA Enterprises Limited is not able to meet any of its liabilities. At 30 September 2014 BBKA Enterprises Limited had net liabilities of £11,956.

**BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
MANAGEMENT REPORTS
30TH SEPTEMBER 2014
PROFIT AND LOSS
SUMMARY**

	12 Months to 30th Sep 14	Budget for Year	12 Months to 30th Sep 13
INCOME			
Membership Subscriptions	384,247	394,050	360,077
Membership			
Services	243,615	303,560	261,523
Fundraising	116,591	204,388	99,526
Other Income	11,798	1,612	5,665
TOTAL INCOME	756,251	903,610	726,791
EXPENDITURE			
Member Services	440,015	526,103	447,525
Indirect Costs of Services	270,824	283,150	246,253
Fundraising	64,425	91,818	63,396
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	775,263	901,071	757,174
INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	-19,013	2,539	-30,383

ALLOCATED TO THE FOLLOWING RESERVES (see page7):

<i>GENERAL</i>	-34,859
<i>RESEARCH - UNRESTRICTED</i>	-1,278
<i>RESEARCH - UNRESTRICTED (see note 1)</i>	7,468
<i>STONELEIGH RENEWAL FUND</i>	5,500
<i>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</i>	4,156
	-19,013

NOTE 1

50% of Adopt a Beehive profits go to the unrestricted research fund

**BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
MANAGEMENT REPORTS
30TH SEPTEMBER 2014
INCOME**

	12 Months to 30th Sep 14	Budget for Year	12 Months to 30th Sep 13
Membership Subscriptions			
1 Registered	359,430	364,500	339,016
2 Individual	20,715	26,000	17,787
3 Gift Aid on Membership	3,552	3,000	2,724
3a Specialist Members	550	550	550
	384,247	394,050	360,077
Membership Services			
BBKA News			
4 Advertising	92,742	103,500	88,310
5 Exam Income	39,939	42,960	42,625
6 Welcome Pack Advertising	30	34,600	2,885
7 Education & Training	19,156	15,000	18,229
8 Shows Income	0	0	4,000
9 Yearbook Advertising	44	0	141
10 Slide Library	60	0	168
11 Educational Leaflets	270	0	53
14 Spring Convention	91,375	107,500	105,112
	243,615	303,560	261,523
Fundraising			
12 Corporate Subs	34,300	39,450	13,000
13 Adopt a Beehive	64,385	85,878	62,415
15 Donations	11,812	9,000	18,356
18 Friends of the honey bee	3,625	60,000	1,566
19 Website Advertising	2,468	10,060	4,189
	116,591	204,388	99,526
Other Income			
17 Bank & investment Income	10,598	6,612	2,775
20 HQ Admin costs charged to ENT	1,200	0	2,890
22 Contingency against income shortfall	0	-5,000	0
	11,798	1,612	5,665
TOTAL INCOME	756,251	903,610	726,791

BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

EXPENDITURE

	12 Months to 30th Sep 14	Budget for Year	12 Months to 30th Sep 13
Member Services			
22 Education & Training	29,632	38,501	26,465
23 BBKA News	194,343	208,569	203,253
24 Insurance - members	30,594	32,000	29,775
25 Social Media	0	2,000	0
26 Website	3,900	15,100	5,612
27 ADM & Forum	8,487	8,500	6,237
28 T&E, Surveys	5,468	8,400	3,718
29 Membership Cards, Welcome Packs, Register	18,857	43,888	19,881
30 BBKA Year Book	5,527	9,260	9,857
31 P&P Educational Leaflets	7,129	7,050	3,639
32 Exam Board	55,150	57,035	46,317
32b Slide Library	0	300	258
41 Spring Convention	80,927	95,500	92,513
	440,015	526,103	447,525
Indirect Costs of services			
33 HQ Salaries & Office Operating Expenses	162,798	179,250	148,353
34 HQ Building Expenses	29,605	33,300	27,946
35 Governance	50,282	40,000	38,219
36 Public Affairs Activities	10,414	8,950	8,203
37 National Shows	16,632	19,410	21,450
38 Apiary at Stoneleigh	1,092	2,000	1,842
39 Pollination Dating	0	240	240
	270,824	283,150	246,253
Fundraising			
40 Fundraising Costs	1,610	7,050	7,986
42 Adopt a Beehive	49,449	50,068	54,342
43 Friends of the honey bee	8,590	30,200	0
44 Costs of Corporate memberships	1,532	4,500	1,068
45 Legacy Costs	3,244	0	0
	64,425	91,818	63,396
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	775,263	901,071	757,174

**BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
MANAGEMENT REPORTS
30TH SEPTEMBER 2014
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE COMPARISONS BY COST CENTRE**

	Income 30 Sep 14	Expenditure 30 Sep 14	Net Balance 30 Sep 14	Budget for year Income	Budget for Year Expenditure	Budget for Year Net Balance	Income 30 Sep 13	Expenditure 30 Sep 13	Net Balance 30 Sep 13
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS									
BBKA News	92,742	194,343	-101,601	103,500	208,569	-105,069	88,310	203,253	-114,943
Education and Training	19,156	29,632	-10,476	15,000	38,501	-23,501	16,729	26,723	-9,994
Exam Board	39,939	55,150	-15,212	42,960	57,035	-14,075	42,625	46,317	-3,692
Membership Cards, Welcome Packs	30	18,857	-18,827	34,600	43,888	-9,288	2,885	19,881	-16,996
Website	2,468	3,900	-1,432	10,060	15,100	-5,040	4,189	5,612	-1,423
Yearbook	44	5,527	-5,483	0	9,260	-9,260	141	9,857	-9,716
Slide Library	60	0	60	0	300	-300	168	258	-90
FUNDRAISING AND OTHER INCOME									
Adopt a Beehive	64,385	49,449	14,936	85,878	50,068	35,810	62,415	54,342	8,073
Spring Convention	91,375	80,927	10,448	107,500	95,500	12,000	105,112	92,513	12,599
Corporate & Specialist Members	34,300	1,532	32,768	40,000	4,500	35,500	23,550	1,068	22,482
Friends of the Honeybee	3,625	8,590	-4,965	60,000	30,200	29,800	1,566	6,384	-4,818
Shows	0	16,632	-16,632	0	19,410	-19,410	4,000	21,450	-17,450
Educational Leaflets	270	7,129	-6,859	0	7,050	-7,050	53	3,686	-3,633

BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

BALANCE SHEET

	12 Months to 30th Sep 14	12 Months to 30th Sep 13
Fixed Assets, net of depreciation	173,535	165,027
Investments	160,637	150,730
	<u>334,172</u>	<u>315,758</u>
Cash at Bank - COIF and CAF bank deposits	501,039	225,832
Debtors & Sundry Debtors	46,824	89,092
Spring Convention	0	0
Owing from BBKA Enterprises - net	6,591	8,975
Stock - Adopt a Beehive, FOHB & Leaflets	11,186	10,211
Prepaid Expenses	<u>20,717</u>	<u>24,880</u>
Current Assets	586,356	358,990
Accounts payable	39,543	18,435
Accruals	22,251	20,874
Spring Convention	0	0
Prepaid Capitation	199,654	181,059
Deferred Income - Wax Chandlers, Burts Bees,	21,533	28,090
Current liabilities	282,980	248,458
Net Current Assets	303,376	110,531
Net Assets - see analysis below	<u>637,548</u>	<u>426,289</u>
Reserves brought forward at 1 October 2013	426,288	471,132
Surplus/Deficit for 12 months to 30th Sep 2014	-19,013	-30,382
Net direct movement of restricted funds	230,273	-14,460
Total Reserves	<u>637,548</u>	<u>426,288</u>

BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

CASH FLOW

	CAF BANK	COIF	SARASIN	PAYPAL	UK GOV STOCK	TOTAL
	<i>Current/Gold Deposit Account</i>	<i>Charities Deposit Fund</i>	<i>Alpha CIF for Income and Reserves</i>	<i>Clearing account</i>	<i>2.5% Consoles</i>	
Brought Forward from 30th September 2013	219,014	6,413	150,730	405	30	376,592
31st October 2013	209,339	6,413	152,402	1,501	30	369,684
30th November 2013	183,410	6,413	151,601	1,902	30	343,355
31st December 2013	159,809	6,419	152,502	2,660	30	321,420
31st January 2014	217,381	6,419	152,902	1,234	30	377,966
28th February 2014	209,307	6,419	154,703	936	30	371,395
31st March 2014	236,750	6,425	154,703	835	30	398,743
30th April 2014	261,959	6,425	155,904	828	30	425,146
31st May 2014	479,262	6,425	158,405	850	30	644,972
30th June 2014	424,665	6,432	158,005	383	30	589,515
31st July 2014	399,826	6,432	158,806	1,152	30	566,246
31st August 2014	384,133	6,432	161,308	555	30	552,458
30th September 2014	493,603	6,439	160,507	997	30	661,576

NOTE:

Sarasin's initial investment was £150,000 in July 2013

Capitation invoices are sent out at the beginning of April and the beginning of September

£125,000 Legacy received Feb/March 2014 -restricted

£120,000 Legacy received in Aug/Sept 2014 -restricted

BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

RESERVES

	Balance 30th Sep 14	Income 30th Sep 14	Expenditure 30th Sep 14	Balance 30th Sep 13
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
Research Fund (See note 1)	0	5,295	20,022	14,727
Restricted Legacies (James Hopkins)	245,000	245,000	0	0
	<hr/>			<hr/>
	245,000			14,727
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
General Fund	241,615	-34,859	0	276,474
Research Fund (See note 1)	67,529	7,468	1,278	61,339
Stoneleigh Renewal Fund(note2)	76,750	5,500	0	71,250
Education & Training Fund	6,656	4,156	0	2,500
	<hr/>			<hr/>
	392,550			411,563
	<hr/>			<hr/>
TOTAL RESERVES	<u><u>637,550</u></u>			<u><u>426,288</u></u>

Note 1

Research projects & commitments

	Total Commitments	Spent by 30th Sep 13	Spent by 30th Sep 14	Balance to be spent
Pesticides actioned by Keele University	17600	13200	4400	0
Pollen actioned by Keele University	17600	13200	4400	0
Deformed Wing Virus actioned by The University of Salford	18000	0	12000	6000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	66400	0	0	13200
				19200

Research reserves balance at 30th September 2014(both restricted and unrestricted) 67,529

Uncommitted Research reserves at 30th September 2014

48,329

Note 2

Stoneleigh Renewal fund

This is an internal fund movement between the general fund and the Stoneleigh Renewal Fund.

		THE FOLLOWING COST ARE PAID FOR OUT OF SUBSCRIPTION		Net Income / Expenditure	
ADMIN	184436				
BUILDING	<u>36009</u>				
	TOTAL	220445			
YEAR BOOK	8000	ALL ADMIN	291350		
MEMBER SERVICES	16585	PUBLIC AFFAIRS	9300		
INSURANCE	33000	GOVERNANCE	48300		
WEBSITE	5080	FORUM	<u>9660</u>		
EDUCATIONAL LEAFLETS	8000				
POLLINATION	<u>240</u>				
	TOTAL	70905	TOTAL	358610	
COST OF RUNNING BBKA	(A+B)	291350			
			INCOME FROM WEBSITE ADVERTISING	7000	£1,920
			YEARBOOK	20	£7,980
			HANDBOOK	<u>60</u>	£60
			TOTAL INCOME FROM ADMIN	7080	£6,000
BBKA NEWS	202563				
E & H	108250	INCOME			
ADOPT A BEEHIVE	54300	ADOPT A BEEHIVE	62000	£7,700	
EXAMS BUDGET	53160	E & H	86900	£21,350	
PUBLIC AFFAIRS	9300	BBKA NEWS ADVERTISING	105000	£97,563	
SHOWS	19410	EXAM INCOME	41654	£11,506	
GOVERNANCE	48300	FRIENDS OF THE HONEYBEE	20000	£8,000	
FORUM	9660	SPRING CONVENTION	<u>90100</u>	£6,220	
T E	7900		405654	£108,499	
FRIENDS OF THE HONEYBEE	12000				
SPRING CONVENTION	83880	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	415289	£56,679	
CORPORATE	4500	GIFT AID ON MEMBERSHIP	3500		
FUNDRAISING	<u>3000</u>	CORPORATE INCOME	45000	£40,500	
	616223	DONATIONS	3000	£3,000	
		FUNDRAISING	<u>28050</u>		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2015	907573		494839		
		THIS WILL MAKE TOTAL INCOME AS	907573		

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/20	BBKA Executive Committee	None required
<p>Proposition</p> <p>That, in view of the budget and projections presented, annual capitation rates per member to be increased with effect from October 1st2015 (payable in April and September 2016) as follows:</p> <p>Registered members from £18.00 to £19.00</p> <p>Other categories of member, pro rata:</p> <p>Overseas Individual Members will be informed that because of the very large increase in the cost of postage they will no longer receive a posted copy of BBKA News but will receive it by email.</p>		

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849 (England and Wales)

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

Murphy Salisbury
Chartered Accountants
15 Warwick Road
Stratford upon Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6YW

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**

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BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

DIRECTORS: R Cullum-Kenyon
T Lovett
D Brown
D Aston
Mrs S Winning
P Sutcliffe

SECRETARY: Mrs S Winning

REGISTERED OFFICE: The National Beekeeping Centre
National Agriculture Centre
Stoneleigh Park
Kenilworth
Warwickshire
CV8 2LG

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS: Murphy Salisbury
Chartered Accountants
15 Warwick Road
Stratford upon Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6YW

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 September 2014.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 October 2013 to the date of this report.

R Cullum-Kenyon
T Lovett
D Brown
D Aston

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows:

M Sheasby - resigned 1 November 2013
Mrs S Winning - appointed 1 November 2013
P Sutcliffe - appointed 6 September 2014

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

.....
D Brown - Director

2 November 2014

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 £	£	2013 £	£
TURNOVER	2		16,190		19,047
Cost of sales			<u>11,222</u>		<u>13,250</u>
GROSS SURPLUS			4,968		5,797
Distribution costs		31,224		16,735	
Administrative expenses		<u>10,505</u>		<u>14,106</u>	
			<u>41,729</u>		<u>30,841</u>
			(36,761)		(25,044)
Other operating income - Fera			35,310		16,735
Other operating income			<u>1,777</u>		<u>-</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	3		326		(8,309)
Stock written off	4		<u>-</u>		<u>4,222</u>
			326		(12,531)
Interest receivable and similar income			<u>10</u>		<u>28</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION			336		(12,503)
Tax on surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities	5		<u>2</u>		<u>-</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR			334		(12,503)
(Deficit)/retained surplus brought forward			<u>(12,290)</u>		<u>213</u>
DEFICIT CARRIED FORWARD			<u>(11,956)</u>		<u>(12,290)</u>

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

BALANCE SHEET
30 SEPTEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 £	£	2013 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6		3,590		6,088
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		10,760		12,404	
Debtors	7	691		1,159	
Cash at bank		<u>6,584</u>		<u>14,773</u>	
		18,035		28,336	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>33,581</u>		<u>46,714</u>	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			(15,546)		(18,378)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>(11,956)</u>		<u>(12,290)</u>
RESERVES					
Income and expenditure account			(11,956)		(12,290)
			<u>(11,956)</u>		<u>(12,290)</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 September 2014.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2014 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 2 November 2014 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
D Brown - Director

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Turnover

Turnover represents net invoiced sales of goods, excluding value added tax.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line basis
Computer equipment and software	- 25% straight line basis

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Deferred tax

Full provision is made in respect of timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the company's taxable profits and its results as stated in the accounts. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets are only recognised where their recoverability in the short term is regarded as more likely than not. Deferred tax is not provided on revalued assets unless a binding agreement to sell has been entered into before the year end.

Going concern

During the year, the company made a profit of £336 and at the year-end had net liabilities of £11,956. The company has the support of The British Beekeepers Association.

2. TURNOVER

The turnover and surplus (2013 - deficit) before taxation are attributable to the one principal activity of the company.

Turnover was derived from the Company's principal activity of sales of apiary-related merchandise and other equipment rental.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)

The operating surplus (2013 - operating deficit) is stated after charging:

	2014	2013
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>2,498</u>	<u>5,232</u>
Directors' remuneration and other benefits etc.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

4. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

The exceptional item in the prior year relates to stock written off during the year

5. **TAXATION**

Analysis of the tax charge

The tax charge on the surplus on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:

	2014 £	2013 £
Current tax:		
UK Corporation tax	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>
Tax on surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>

6. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment and software £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 October 2013 and 30 September 2014	<u>23,121</u>	<u>9,674</u>	<u>32,795</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 October 2013	20,312	6,395	26,707
Charge for year	<u>1,405</u>	<u>1,093</u>	<u>2,498</u>
At 30 September 2014	<u>21,717</u>	<u>7,488</u>	<u>29,205</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 30 September 2014	<u>1,404</u>	<u>2,186</u>	<u>3,590</u>
At 30 September 2013	<u>2,809</u>	<u>3,279</u>	<u>6,088</u>

7. **DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2014 £	2013 £
Trade debtors	691	645
VAT	<u>-</u>	<u>514</u>
	<u>691</u>	<u>1,159</u>

8. **CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2014 £	2013 £
Trade creditors	911	5,020
Taxation	2	-
VAT	417	-
BBKA	6,591	8,975
Accruals	5,420	4,923
Fera income received in advance	<u>20,240</u>	<u>27,796</u>
	<u>33,581</u>	<u>46,714</u>

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

9. DIRECTORS' ADVANCES, CREDITS AND GUARANTEES

During the year the company paid expenses of £401 (2013: £1,293) to Mr Roger Cullum-Kenyon, a director of the company.

10. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is under the control of the trustees of The British Beekeepers Association.

11. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital. The liability of its members is limited to £1 each.

12. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At the year ended 30 September 2014 and the previous financial year, the company had no long term financial commitments.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of BBKA Enterprises Limited for the year ended 30 September 2014 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes from the company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practicing member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at icaew.com/members/handbook.

This report is made solely to the Board of Directors of BBKA Enterprises Limited, as a body, in accordance with our terms of engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of BBKA Enterprises Limited and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of BBKA Enterprises Limited, as a body, in this report in accordance with AAF 2/10 as detailed at icaew.com/compilation. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and its Board of Directors, as a body, for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that BBKA Enterprises Limited has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of BBKA Enterprises Limited. You consider that BBKA Enterprises Limited is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of BBKA Enterprises Limited. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

Murphy Salisbury
Chartered Accountants
15 Warwick Road
Stratford upon Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6YW

2 November 2014

BBKA ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 04077849)

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
Sales		16,190	19,047	
Cost of sales				
Purchases		<u>11,222</u>	13,250	<u> </u>
GROSS SURPLUS		4,968	5,797	
Other income				
Fera education project income	35,310		16,735	
Commission received	1,777		-	
Interest received	<u>10</u>		<u>28</u>	
		<u>37,097</u>		<u>16,763</u>
		42,065	22,560	
Expenditure				
Fera education project expense	31,224		16,735	
Printing, stationery and postage	-		516	
Advertising	1,798		1,009	
Travelling	758		526	
Donation to BBKA	4,086		-	
Sundry expenses	-		900	
Management fees	(435)		(437)	
Recharge of overheads	1,200		2,890	
Strategic and commercial				
Marketing plan	-		3,000	
Accountancy	600		470	
Depreciation	<u>2,498</u>		<u>5,232</u>	
		<u>41,729</u>		<u>30,841</u>
		336	(8,281)	
Exceptional items				
Stock written off		<u>-</u>	4,222	<u> </u>
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		<u>336</u>	(12,503)	<u> </u>

10. ELECTIONS

There are four Trustee vacancies for the Executive Committee.

Candidate	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
Ian Homer	Devon	Dorset

PERSONAL STATEMENT

“Ian Homer graduated in Electrical Engineering in 1971 and has worked for the BBC and in the UK electricity supply industry. He has also worked as a freelance consultant and project manager, managing information systems projects for electricity utilities throughout Europe.

In 1999 he joined the National Bee Unit as a Bee Inspector, initially working seasonally in Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and Co. Durham, then in Devon and, from April 2003 until June 2009, as the Regional Bee Inspector for Southern England. In July 2009, Ian took on a new job-share role as Extension and Learning Officer for the NBU. In this role, Ian and his co-worker sought to develop and promote best practices and deliver training material to compliment these practices. He retired from this post in August 2011. Whilst with the National Bee Unit he provided around 300 talks to local association meetings on a variety of subjects but often on one or other aspect of bee husbandry or bee behaviour.

Having first learnt his beekeeping skills from his wife Ruth (who first kept bees at age 9), they have gone on to keep bees together for 35 years, in both Dorset and Northumberland - two very different environments. Together, they have kept an average of around 12 colonies during this period. Ian has held posts as Secretary, Treasurer and Education Officer at local and county association level. He has edited and produced association newsletters and is currently County Examination Secretary. He has helped beekeepers learn their skills for nearly two decades and holds a Certificate in Adult and Further Education Teaching. Ian achieved the Basic Certificate in 1996 and has subsequently, through self-learning, successfully taken and passed all of the modular assessments to hold the Intermediate and Advanced Theory Certificates. He also, in 2011, and again through self-learning, passed the General Husbandry Assessment.

Ian has spoken to many association meetings and at numerous conventions around the country and was the speaker on the Scottish Autumn Lecture Tour in 2011. His strong interest in the practical aspects of beekeeping has led to him being asked to demonstrate practical handling skills at a number of association apiary meetings and to lead workshops at the Spring Convention. He is also a regular contributor to the BBKA News and has acted as technical editor on beekeeping publications.

Currently secretary to the BBKA Education and Husbandry Committee, Ian also serves on the BBKA Governance, Operations and Member Services, and Technical and Environment Committees where he aims to represent the opinions and aspirations of the beekeeping members of our constituent associations.

Ian’s major interests are encouraging beekeepers to practice good bee husbandry and attempting to present beekeeping issues in a practical and straightforward way. He feels strongly that if beekeepers can develop a greater understanding of their bees, they will derive more pleasure from keeping them.”

Candidate	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
Margaret Murdin	Lancashire & North West	North Staffs

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Having kept bees for a number of years I now have 20 colonies over 3 apiaries. I am currently Vice Chair of the Ormskirk and Croston branch of Lancashire. For the past few years I have taught courses leading to the modules for Lancashire and General Husbandry both locally and nationally. I am continuing my own beekeeper education by working towards the National Diploma in Beekeeping.

I am a Master Beekeeper.

I have given talks at the Spring Convention and to various Associations and Branches around the country.

I have been a Trustee of the BBKA for the last three years and sit on the Education and Husbandry and Finance Committees. I am a member of the Exam Board, a tutor for the Correspondence Course and a trained assessor for all BBKA Exams and assessments.

During a past life I was the Principal of a large Further and Higher Education College, a college inspector and the Chief Examiner for teacher Education at a University.

I have sat on several Government Committees advising Ministers on Adult, Further and Special Education.

I have a natural interest in beekeeper education particularly in ensuring that it is accessible, affordable, relevant and fun! Courses need to be enjoyable, informative and delivered locally whenever possible. I am aware that many beekeepers feel that examinations are irrelevant and daunting or both But continuing to learn and improve our skills are important even if the exams are ignored. I am also particularly interested in enabling young people to partake of beekeeping either as part of a school group or individually.

The college where I was Principal had 1600 staff over an extended campus both in the UK and abroad. With a £30million annual budget I feel that I have developed excellent financial and business skills and can work quickly, under pressure and in a timely manner.

I have excellent communications skills and spent considerable time working in teams on media relations and marketing. This is an area that I would like to pursue within the BBKA.

I am an active member of my branch and am interested in becoming more involved with the future development of the BBKA. I am interested in development of new beekeepers and particularly in retaining their interest in beekeeping. I am aware of how well the BBKA have raised the profile of beekeeping with the general public and I am keen to help further this work.

I have been a trustee of a national charity for disabled students and a local educational charity so am aware of the responsibilities of Trustees.

I hold a B.Sc. in Biochemistry and a Masters qualification in Education.

My other interests are scuba diving, growing my own vegetables on my allotment and doting on my grandchildren.

Candidate	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
Howard Pool	Sedburgh	Cambridgeshire

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a qualified accountant (FCMA) and Treasurer (MCT)

For the first 8 years of my working life I was responsible for a variety of financial roles within major international companies. Subsequently, and until retirement in 2006, I have been responsible for the running and change management of a number of international companies – both in the UK and overseas.

Since retirement I have had time to act as a trustee and treasurer for the charities Break (children), Chiltern Woodland Project (environment), and Eating Disorders Support (health) as well as trustee for Friends of Friendless Churches (heritage). Through these activities I have gained a certain experience with the Charities Commission and their accounting requirements. I am also governor of two local schools – and Chair of their finance committees.

Married with 4 grown children, it was my granddaughter who re-sparked interest in beekeeping. I joined the introduction to beekeeping course run by the High Wycombe branch of the BBKA in 2013, and have kept my own bees since March 2014.

If the Association needs support in the financial field, I feel I may offer the maturity, qualifications, and experience to be of some assistance in this area.

Candidate	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
David Teasdale	Yorkshire	Cheshire

PERSONAL STATEMENT

After commencing employment in banking accountancy, I made a career change into computing and eventually moved from Yorkshire to Staffordshire several years ago. I began beekeeping with North Staffordshire Beekeepers 28 years ago.

I joined the Committee of NSBKA because I wanted to be involved in the developmental activities of the Association and have undertaken the posts of Association Secretary, BBKA Delegate and Newsletter Editor for several years. My main objective has been to help develop and improve the Associations’ activities and its services to members.

I was elected as a BBKA Trustee in 2011 but prior to 2011, I was an active member of the Stoneleigh Shows Committee (SSC) and involved in the BBKA representation at the Royal Show, Gardeners World Live and The Edible Gardening Show. The main focus of this was to represent the face of beekeeping, beekeeping Associations and the BBKA to the general public to inform and attract people to the craft and therefore membership of Associations.

When the replacement BBKA website was conceived, I was asked to Chair the Group and we successfully launched the site in May 2011. That development and support task has continued to ensure that the site fully meets the needs of the BBKA and all members of the beekeeping fraternity.

I became a Director of BDI (Bee Diseases Insurance) in 2010 and whilst my main task is to act as a board member of the company, I consider that my equally important task is to ensure that BDI provides the best cost effective services to beekeepers and beekeeping.

I have now completed my first term as an elected BBKA Trustee during which I have been the Secretary of the BBKA Finance Committee and a member of Operations and Membership Services Committee (OPMS) and am currently The Lead Trustee for SSC and Chair of OPMS in addition to my active work with the BBKA Website.

The BBKA is an Association of Associations and I strongly believe that without the member Associations the BBKA would be nothing. The BBKA exists to represent the needs of beekeeping and beekeepers which is what it must continue to do and that is what I have tried to achieve during my term of office.

Over the last three years, I have seen many in the way the BBKA operates on behalf of beekeepers/Associations and I want that progress to continue. I believe there is still work needed to improve communications and interactions between the member Associations and the BBKA in order to jointly ensure that beekeeping continues to grow and flourish and I want to help in that task.

Whilst much has been achieved, I would welcome the opportunity and your support to further continue this work on your behalf as a BBKA Trustee, and I hope that Associations will wish to support my continuing in this role.

For the Exam Board

Candidate	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
John Whittaker	Yorkshire	Cleveland

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I was brought up in the Isle of Man. My formative years were spent working on my grandfather's farm at weekends and holidays. In a more formal way I was educated at Douglas High School for Boys and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University, where I read Mechanical sciences being awarded a 2.1 in 1969. At college I was that rare species, a northern comprehensive farm boy. In my working life I taught mathematics for seven years and then designed and developed IT systems in the construction industry. I have now been retired for four years.

I married Ela in 1975. We spent three years travelling and then settled down in Yorkshire where we raised our two children, who have grown up to make their parents proud. We are now obsessed grandparents of four grandchildren.

I took up beekeeping in 1992, and it has become a significant part of my life. Currently I have about 25 colonies, distributed across four apiaries. I have served for fourteen years as secretary of my local beekeeping association and ten years as treasurer of Yorkshire beekeepers. In 2013 I became a Master Beekeeper. I have been a basic assessor for several years and am now an assessor for the general husbandry assessment. Recently I have become a part of the team that produce and mark the BBKA module theory papers.

If anyone is interested in my views on beekeeping they have been set out at length in a number of articles that have been printed in BBKA News and in my book "on the keeping of bees". In brief I believe that the main weapon we have in ensuring healthy and productive honey bees in this country is education. Though my role on the Yorkshire committee was as treasurer, my primary motivation for being on the committee was to encourage the development of a beekeeping education programme in Yorkshire. And I am proud of the way that the team, of which I was just a part has transformed the status of beekeeping training in Yorkshire and this has been recognised by the reward of the Surrey Sheild to Yorkshire in 2013. In addition our local beekeeping association has run training courses for beginners for the last ten years and I do the winter evening part of the course. I have been known to give talks on beekeeping to neighbouring associations, WI groups etc. with more enthusiasm than god given talent.

11. Propositions

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/01	BBKA Executive Committee	None required

Proposition

That, in view of the budget and projections presented, annual capitation rates per member to be increased with effect from October 1st 2015 (payable in April and September 2016) as follows:

Registered member from £18.00 to £19.00

Partner member from £12.00 to £12.54

Country member from £9.00 to £9.50

Junior Member from £9.00 to £9.50

Individual Members who are resident overseas should note that, because of the very large increase in the cost of overseas postage, they will no longer receive a posted copy of BBKA News but will receive it by email.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/02	Cornwall with Northumberland	

Proposition

That the BBKA Trustees install a whistle blowing policy based on external best practice at the earliest opportunity. (Composite proposition)

Supporting Notes

(Cornwall) The recent correspondence regarding Ken Basterfield’s request for a SDM we believe has highlighted the need for the BBKA to have a whistle blowing policy. Our estimate is that this would require one week to complete the work.

(Northumberland) In Northumberland BKA we have been very concerned about the events that have led to the calling of the Special Delegates Meeting. Several of us are experienced charity trustees and management consultants and have known similar situations. We feel that had such a policy been in place and followed strictly, then there might well have been no need to call an SDM.

It is most important to say that this motion is not intended in any way to criticize the BBKA but, rather, both to help it in finding ways that avoid situations such as the present one and, also, to ensure that it conforms to law and best practice.

Costs

EC response

There were two propositions (Cornwall and Northumberland) calling for the establishment of a “Whistle Blowers’ Policy”. Both AAMs readily agreed to the EC’s suggestion of making them into a composite, and because CBKA had supplied a text, the wording of 2015/01 closely follows that text. The EC would just say two things:

1. “Whistle Blowing” (a term coined in the 1970s by Ralph Nader to avoid the use of the terms ‘informant’ and ‘snitch’) is a procedure designed to protect an employee or subordinate from any adverse consequences of raising allegations of misconduct by a superior or someone who has power over them. (NB. This is *internal* whistle blowing as opposed to external)
2. The BBKA Executive Committee wish to implement a policy on Whistle Blowing and would welcome the confirmation of member associations.

If the Delegates wish to formalise a “Whistle Blowing Policy” it can be done easily enough (at fairly modest cost), but it is not appropriate to put it into the Constitution. The Constitution sets out the structure and objectives for the good governance of the BBKA; it is up to the trustees and membership to devise and implement policies to achieve this.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/03	West Sussex	awaited

Proposition

That the BBKA requests the Examinations Board to review the marking structure and feedback to candidates for the BBKA Basic Assessment, in particular to consider giving candidates graded results (i.e. pass, credit or distinction, as with BBKA Modules) or to give them their achieved mark.

Supporting Notes

To pass the BBKA Basic Assessment requires 50% of marks in each of three sections. Candidates are given no indication as to whether they have scraped through or achieved an exceptionally high mark; with no distinction made between poor and high marks they receive no information as to their level of competence. It is possible to pass with major gaps in knowledge. Assessors write comments on each candidate but these are not passed to candidates unless they fail. A graded result with the Assessor's comments would help candidates to understand better their level of knowledge. Welsh BKA candidates are told their mark and find this helpful.

Costs

There would be some additional administration, which would be minimal if Assessors' marks sheets and comments were returned electronically. The information is already recorded and candidates notified of pass or fail and issued with certificates that would cost the same as currently. Some adjustment would be required to procedures.

EC response

The Examinations Board has considered this question and will continue to do so.

The issues are:

- 1) is it desirable at this level to distinguish further than pass or fail,
- 2) marks vary because assessors vary and because of the subjective nature of this "enabling" assessment,
- 3) providing feedback would require over 700 comments to be typed in. To be meaningful they would need to be quite lengthy.
- 4) electronic returns are not yet feasible as not all assessors use technology,
- 5) results are returned to the local Examinations Secretary and this would require them to pass on the comments in the same way
- 6) if individual comments were posted directly to candidates this would cost in the region of £1000 per annum in postage and would significantly increase the cost of the assessment.

The Examinations Board is not bound by decisions of the ADM for obvious reasons.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/04	BBKA Executive Committee	None required

Proposition

When the findings of the EFSA review of neonicotinoids and the proposed recommendations for the future of neonicotinoids in the UK are known (likely to be late 2015 / possibly even early 2016) the Executive undertakes to hold a meeting(s) open to all BBKA members to consider the results of the review, other documentation and discuss BBKA policy towards neonicotinoids in the light of the findings and proposed course(s) of action regarding the future of neonicotinoids in the UK.

Supporting Notes

During the moratorium on certain uses of three neonicotinoids the EFSA, Industry, the European Commission and Member States are tasked with reviewing existing information and risk assessments and undertaking further work to refine and quantify the risk of these substances to honey bees. A key piece of work concerns the impacts of neonicotinoids on honey bees: a large scale field experiment. This work is due to be delivered in 2015. The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology <http://www.ceh.ac.uk> will provide policy makers and regulators with high quality scientific evidence on the effects of neonicotinoids on honey bees and help inform their decisions. Further details on the work can be found on <http://www.ceh.ac.uk/science/impacts-neonicotinoids-honey-bees-largescale-field-experiment.html>

The current moratorium expires in 2015 and whether it will be extended is unknown at this point in time. It is hoped that by then the data generation and associated risk assessments and reviews will have been completed and the findings published. In addition we would hope that any proposed changes to the regulatory status of these neonicotinoids would also be known. The potential impacts of these developments would then be best discussed at a BBKA meeting and the implications for BBKA's policy considered.

The subject of neonicotinoids cannot be taken in isolation as it impacts on the use of all pesticides and crop protection chemicals. The widespread use of herbicides is a case in point.

The BBKA is concerned about the use of all pesticides and their potential to harm honey bees whether directly as in a pesticide poisoning situation or in the case of the effects of herbicides in the reduction of forage to honey bees and other pollinators.

Costs

C £7,000 in order to hold regional meetings

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/05	Yorkshire	Essex

Proposition

The BBKA has adopted a neutral position on the controversial topic of neonicotinoids which may differ from many members' expressed views. We therefore request that all BBKA members be polled concerning whether the BBKA should support a ban on neonicotinoid use. If the poll results show that the majority view differs from that of the BBKA executive, BBKA should adjust its public position to reflect the majority view.

Supporting Notes

1. The case for neonicotinoids is unproven. Professor Goulson, quoting multiple studies, (J.Applied Ecology, 2013) found that neonicotinoid-related yield increases are not demonstrated, resistance is developing, and neonicotinoids enter soil with a potential 6000 day half-life. (See also Neonicotinoid Meta-Study, J.EnvSciPollut.Res, 11/6/14; Parliamentary Environmental Audit Committee (EAC), National Pollinator Strategy, July 2014*)
2. Neonicotinoids intensify negative factors in the honey bee environment e.g. Nosema (Pettis et al,2012; Alaux et al, 2010); Viruses: DiPrisco et al,Nat Academy Of Sciences,USA, 2013
3. BBKA supports Integrated Pest management (press release 5/4/13). Neonicotinoids are applied prophylactically regardless of pest levels, negating IPM and contradicting BBKA's stated position.
4. BBKA is the only major nature-related UK organisation not to support banning neonicotinoids
5. EAC stated: "*The 2013 decision to ban three neonicotinoid pesticides.... was the right approach given the requirements of the precautionary principle*", disagreeing with government stress on economic considerations. (see *above)
6. BBKA previously endorsed pyrethroids, subsequently shown as bee-toxic.

COSTS

Cost to BBKA: none

We have based our funding on the use of Survey Monkey which has the capacity for £299 of unlimited questions and unlimited responses and this cost is covered by a sponsor. Methodology Funding will be supplied by a BBKA member, who declares no interest or involvement of any form in the agrichemical/chemical I industry.

Funding will cover extra staff costs and web site work (on line voting facility with capacity of receiving all BBKA members' votes) which we anticipate will take no more than 30 hours.

The BBKA will invite members to answer the poll via an article in the BBKA news. The article will round up the arguments in an even-handed way. The arguments will not be supplied by one individual.

The poll can be taken via the Survey Monkey web site for example. One member one vote. Each member must register with their BBKA membership number. Two questions should be asked to which there will be an opportunity to answer one only. Examples:

As a member of the BBKA do you agree with the organisation's current stance on neonicotinoids?

As a member of the BBKA do you think the BBKA should change its stance and support the ban on neonicotinoids?

The poll should be accessible for 21 days. There should be the facility for those without internet access to register their vote by post. We propose this be done via the area secretaries and collated at BBKA HQ.

EC response.

The proposition asserts the BBKA has adopted a 'neutral' position regarding neonicotinoids. This is a misrepresentation of the BBKA position. The supporting notes do not include many other aspects of neonicotinoid use which members should be encouraged to consider and how this would be addressed in the questionnaire is unclear. The Executive is unable to accept this proposition as it stands.

The Executive offers a proposition (2015/04) which it hopes will incorporate the opportunity for members to express their views.

The EC are concerned that the suggested method of obtaining the views of the membership may be neither adequate nor accurate. When carrying out polling of this nature, if a truly representative sample is to be made then specific members will need to be asked for their opinions (a prerequisite to ensure a representative sample) and data protection can become an issue. Should this motion be passed, the EC consider that the polling should be truly representative and should be carried out by a reputable polling organisation; the motion should therefore be modified to guarantee this independence and address the data protection issues.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/06	Wiltshire	Stratford upon Avon

Proposition

That the BBKA should adopt the “Precautionary Principle” when policy on the use of neonicotinoid pesticides is being considered.

Supporting Notes

The “Precautionary Principle” is a widely accepted means for policy makers to determine the safest course when an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm to the public or to the environment. In the absence of scientific consensus that the action or policy is not harmful, the burden of proof that it is not harmful falls on those taking the action. It is also essential that this common sense principle is followed when the future of the current EU moratorium on the use of neonicotinoid pesticides is reviewed, and when the UK Government makes its decisions on the matter.

Costs

The proposition merely seeks to define an aspect of BBKA policy (iaw Clause 5.1.1 of the BBKA Constitution) and does not incur any immediate cost, although the BBKA Executive Committee may decide to commit finance later in pursuit of policy.

EC response

The HSE website contains information and guidance on the application of the precautionary principle in the UK. It refers to the Interdepartmental Liaison Group on Risk Assessments (ILRA) who deal with this matter. It should be noted there is no universally accepted definition of the precautionary principle but advice is given on which policy guidance should be followed. Guidance relevant to the UK understanding of the precautionary principle is important because it informs the regulatory process by which products such as those containing neonicotinoids can be placed on the UK market.

Because the proposed proposition does not include a definition of the precautionary principle which it wishes the BBKA to follow the Executive is unable to agree to this proposition.

The Executive however offers a proposition (2015/04) which will incorporate the opportunity to discuss how the precautionary principle is applied and the BBKA interprets its application of the precautionary principle.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/07	Wiltshire	Stratford upon Avon

Proposition

That, until there is convincing independent scientific evidence that Neonicotinoid pesticides are not harmful to honey bees, the BBKA will support the continuation of the EU moratorium on their use.

Supporting Notes

It is essential that the Precautionary Principle is followed when the future of the present EU moratorium on the use of neonicotinoids is reviewed, especially if the relaxation or termination of the current EU moratorium on their use is under consideration. If the moratorium is not renewed next year, and if that results in the use of neonicotinoid pesticides being resumed, it would probably be extremely difficult to re-impose an effective moratorium later – even if independent research has by then revealed that the worst fears for the effects of neonicotinoids are justified.

Costs

The proposition merely seeks to define an aspect of BBKA policy (iaw Clause 5.1.1 of the BBKA Constitution) and does not incur any immediate cost, although the BBKA Executive Committee may decide to commit finance later in pursuit of policy.

EC response

The proposition is unclear in the context in which the statement ‘not harmful to honey bees’ is made. Does it refer to in absolute terms or in the normal conditions of use and the potential for exposure to honey bees? In the light of this uncertainty the Executive is unable to support this proposition.

However the Executive offers a proposition (2015/04) which will incorporate the opportunity to discuss the findings of the reviews and the current investigative work being undertaken during the moratorium when they are published.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/08	Yorkshire	Awaited

Proposition

That the BBKA conduct a representative (it is suggested 2%) and random poll of BBKA members to determine as to how acceptable a system of compulsory registration of beekeepers and apiaries on the existing NBU BeeBase would be to BBKA members. The results should be published in the BBKA News and reported back to the 2016 ADM.

Supporting Notes

When outbreaks of brood disease occur the bee inspectors are working with one arm tied behind their back, as they are not always aware of the location of hives in an area affected. BBKA needs to consider the merits of compulsory registration of beekeepers on BeeBase and whether it would be acceptable to the membership. Other countries already have such a scheme. Responsible and conscientious beekeepers have nothing to fear from registration and much to gain. Indeed most will have already registered on BeeBase.

Costs

It is thought that, providing the poll is at a moderate level (i.e. 2 to 4% of BBKA members), a budget of £1,000 should be adequate.

EC response

Whilst this motion is only suggesting that members are polled at this stage, it is unclear whether it is polling opinions on compulsory registration (i.e. through legislation) or on BBKA membership being conditional on registration – both views have been expressed in supporting documentation. This would need clarification before any poll is undertaken.

The question of compulsory registration has been addressed previously and, whilst it initially appears an attractive proposition, it will depend heavily on beekeepers maintaining currency of their apiary details, on the responsible government agency continuing to allow free access to maintain the data and on a suitable mechanism being developed to deactivate data when beekeepers cease to keep bees. Whilst there may not be a significant monetary cost to any of these elements it will require a commitment of time and effort from **all** beekeepers to maintain their data (including that of those beekeepers who do not have internet access).

The EC is not in general in favour of conditions being placed on membership of members associations. If the proposition is seeking that registration should be a condition of BBKA membership then the question of enforcement arises. Are we to have sanctions for non-compliance?

Answers to these questions will need to be found so that, if this proposition is passed, the next steps are already actively under consideration. It should also be noted that, resulting from the recent reorganisation of Animal and Plant Health departments within government, legislation in this area is expected within the next few years and this may have an impact upon this matter.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/09	Yorkshire	Awaited

Proposition

That the Examinations Board be instructed to review and revise its education and examination policies and programmes to enhance the value of the qualifications and training to the wider community, allowing the members to benefit through demonstrable knowledge skills and competencies that could be useful in the wider employment and community environments.

Supporting Notes

The demographics of the BBKA has changed significantly over the last 10 years; membership of the BBKA has doubled in this period, indicating that there are over 8000 new beekeepers. The needs and expectations of these beekeepers are different to the traditional beekeeper. Employability and workplace skills take a higher priority. It is suggested that these skills should be highlighted and that consideration be given to mapping the BBKA qualifications to the National Qualifications Framework.

It is suggested that the BBKA conduct research into the needs of new beekeepers through focus groups at, for example, the Spring Convention and that it talks to employers about their requirements and how the BBKA might help deliver them.

It is further suggested that the BBKA retain the services of a professional Educationalist to carry out this research.

Costs

Cost within the BBKA: Nil over the existing education committee costs.
 Cost of retaining an educationalist: £1,000

EC response

The Executive Committee, recognising the changing demographic of its members, are sympathetic to the aims of this motion; indeed the Education and Husbandry Committee have made several attempts to “map” the BBKA examinations and assessments to “National” qualifications. It is clear from this work that this is not an easy task and could, since it requires a detailed analysis of the syllabus for each examination or assessment, take several years and a significant expenditure to achieve it. Based on experience to date, the EC believe that the costs will be many times those proposed.

It is also clear that, should we achieve this objective, the cost to members undertaking assessments and examinations could increase significantly – for example, the current price to the candidate of a City & Guilds certificate is in the order of £35 in addition to the study and examination costs.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/10	Yorkshire	Awaited

Proposition

It is proposed that the technical committee of BBKA investigate whether there are usable regulations, along with the associated enforcement bodies, already in existence which prevent sugar waste being stored so that it is accessible by honey bees and other nectar feeding insects. The outcome should be published in the BBKA News. If no such regulations exist the BBKA should use their good offices with the government, possibly through the Bee Health Plan, to argue that appropriate regulations should be formulated by the government. Regulations already exist for honey waste and storage.

Supporting Notes

Sugar waste improperly stored can pollute the honey stores in hives over a significant area and create a risk of disease transfer. A sugar waste processor near Selby kept sugar waste in leaking skips. An investigation on site found thousands of bees, wasps etc. feeding on the waste. Hundreds of pounds of honey in local hives were contaminated and were inedible. Beekeepers further afield were probably affected to a lesser degree but were not aware. The incident was reported to the local authority and to FERA. Neither felt they had the power to take action. Advice was sort from BBKA but none was forthcoming. This was obviously a serious issue for the beekeepers concerned, both as a financial cost and a threat to the health of their bees. This incident is not an isolated one.

Costs

Estimated cost to consult environmental lawyers as to whether legislation already exists - £3000. No cost for adding to the agenda of Bee Health Forum.

EC response

This is a problem which has occurred in a number of locations around the country over the last twenty or so years and is well known to both the BBKA and the National Bee Unit. In some situations the problem has been caused by empty honey barrels, contaminated with EFB or AFB spores creating an even greater problem for local beekeepers and direct intervention has achieved some improvements in terms of waste management. In this case the concern is primarily contamination of honey in the hive.

It is doubtful as to whether appropriate legislation or regulation exists to enable better management of sugar waste; Yorkshire BKA's discussions with Local Authorities and Fera suggest that there is not. It is most unlikely that government will put in place such legislation given its reluctance to legislate or increase regulatory loads. The EC recognises that this is a major problem for the beekeepers affected but is of the opinion that such legislation would only be achieved through extensive and costly lobbying and that the outcome would be most uncertain. Estimated costs are not adequate to undertake this task.

The EC thus opposes this proposition but, nevertheless, will undertake to raise the matter with the BHAF and with the FSA to gain some leverage. YBKA should continue and redouble their efforts to achieve local remedies in the meantime.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/11	Kent	Buckinghamshire

Proposition

That a clear account be given as to the costs and expenses incurred in producing the BBKA monthly newsletter.

Supporting Notes

The BBKA produces a monthly newsletter which is a significant undertaking and involves input from a number of sources. In the accounts to 30th September 2013, the only reference to BBKA News income/expenses is on page 13 under "6. Other Charitable Income Advertising - BBKA News and other £95,354". Nowhere in the accounts are there figures which show the cost to the BBKA of producing the newsletter; the accounts lack transparency in this regard and should be rectified by a clearly annotated account of the costs incurred in the production of this newsletter, to include postage, printing, honoraria and the like.

Costs

None presented

EC response

In the past the accounts have shown the net figure for the cost of producing and distributing BBKA News. As per the 2014-15 budget the key cost elements including VAT where payable are:

Editorial and Advertising Sales: £31K,

Print: £69K,

Postage: £80K,

Distribution: £22K,

Total Cost: £202K

Advertising Revenue : £110K

Net cost £92K: circa £4.24 per member.

The postage costs have been reduced for 2014-15 through the establishment of a downstream agreement with UK Mail which reduces the VAT-able element and saves up to £1K per issue.

However, Royal Mail will increase their charges by an unknown amount during the year. The net cost is clearly dependent on achieving the advertising sales target.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/12	North Staffs	Awaited

Proposition

The BBKA should offer full and country members the option of receiving BBKA news by email instead of post, and should reduce the capitation fee for those members to reflect the reduced cost, which at a minimum would be by the savings in postage.

Supporting Notes

The change of BBKA news from a simple monochrome newsletter to a full colour monthly magazine has required a large increase in capitation fees.

The 2014-15 budgeted cost is £4.15 per capita for 12 issues delivered by Royal Mail.

Whilst many enjoy reading the paper version, there are others who would be happy with the pdf version, or who do not want to read it at all.

By offering to reduce the capitation by the savings in postage, the BBKA will not suffer financially.

As a pdf version is already prepared for the website, there would be no extra cost here.

It may be argued that advertisers would react negatively to a reduced print run, but they may equally prefer readers to view the online version, which has direct hyperlinks to the advertiser's website.

Costs

None presented

EC response

Through cost containment in production, benefitting from the increase in circulation due to membership growth from 8,500 in 2006 to over 24,000 currently, with attendant economies of scale, the cost of BBKA news has risen from circa £2+ (6 copies p.a.) per member to £4+ (12 copies p.a.) per member. Issue size has grown and as a monthly the publication has increased its appeal as an advertising vehicle, such that around 50% of the cost of production and distribution is recouped through advertising revenue. The costs of BBKA News should be compared with those of BeeCraft, the other monthly magazine at £27, before discounts for bulk subscriptions.

Readership for on-line publications tends to be lower than hard copy versions and many other special interest publications are offering e-magazines in addition to the hard copies, often as a convenience e.g. back numbers can be 'searchable'. Reductions in hard copy numbers can produce savings on postage, though bulk discounts may be affected. Print costs per issue go up with shorter runs but production and many of the distribution costs remain fixed, not reducing with falling print numbers. Advertising revenues would almost certainly fall with reduced circulation. Thus in summary, costs per member might in fact rise if there was a significant take-up of an electronic version. At £4+ per member for 12 issues BBKA News represents exceptional value for money and is a key universal benefit to members provided by capitation. PDF versions of BBKA News are available on the web-site and that service will be enhanced going forward, for those who wish to use it. It should be noted that e-communications with members are currently limited by the fact that we only hold e-mail addresses for a third of members.

The costs of producing BBKA News are under constant review and steps taken such as the downstream agreement recently set-up to ameliorate postage charges, to effect further value for money for members.

The EC thus opposes this proposition.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/13	North Staffs	Awaited

Proposition

That the BBKA Constitution Rule 14.2 is amended in respect to Registered Member Voting from "each Delegate to record one vote for every Registered Member and Partner Member" to" each Delegate to record one vote for every Registered Member, Partner Member and Country Member".

Supporting Notes

Country members, even though they do not keep honey bees are as much a part of the AA/BBKA membership as are the other two classes of members who are included. This is probably an oversight following the introduction of this type of membership and should be rectified.

Costs

The cost to the BBKA is NIL

EC response

The notes for this proposition state that the omission of Country Members from a membership vote at an ADM was an oversight. This is not the case; the intention of the Constitution Drafting Committee was that policy direction for the BBKA should be in the hands of active beekeepers. This point was not made by the EC during the adoption process for the Constitution and neither was it picked up by the membership. If the Delegates are now minded to effect the change, the EC is neutral except to point out that it will make very little difference affecting only membership votes (following a Delegates' vote) at a Delegates' Meeting.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/14	Kent	Buckinghamshire

Proposition

That the tasks performed by recipients of honoraria shall be listed and the sums received by those individuals and their support to the BBKA clearly identified.

Supporting Notes

In the accounts for the year to 30th September 2013 item 30, it was stated there were 11 recipients of honoraria. No details were given as to the tasks performed on behalf of the BBKA to merit such a payment. The largest payment amounted to between £10,000 and £12,000. If one assumes each recipient received the maximum, this equates to £54,400 which is a significant sum. These outgoings should be clearly identified.

Costs

None presented

EC response

The EC feel that it is inappropriate for individuals to be identified by the very small sums which they are paid for particular tasks. One recipient who receives just £600 per annum willingly contributes in excess of 400 hours each year to the BBKA cause. It is possible that some may be less willing to make that contribution if they have to be publically named and identified in the accounts.

It should also be noted that, because of employment and tax legislation, most recipients will, in future, be paid fees rather than honoraria.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/15	Shropshire	Awaited

Proposition

That the BBKA Constitution be amended as follows:

Paragraph 16.2.8 currently reads:

"Meetings of the EC shall be recorded with agreed actions and decisions made".

This paragraph should be amended to read:

"Meetings of the EC and subcommittees shall be properly recorded to show a true record of proceedings with (as a minimum) those present noted, notes on topics discussed, agreed actions and decisions made, and those records made permanently available to members via a suitably secure area of the BBKA website".

Supporting Notes

Recent events clearly demonstrate a significant thirst among Associations and Delegates for more transparency in the management of the BBKA. This proposition would be a significant move in this direction. Since visibility is proposed to be members only, confidentiality issues should only happen very rarely, if at all. With improved transparency, the members would feel more engaged with the BBKA and the EC would have ongoing opportunities to gain valuable feedback from the membership whenever they need that. Delegates could have much more useful discussions with their associations, and make more informed decisions at the ADM. There would be more or less approval and support for the EC from delegates, but the BBKA as a whole would be an easier organisation to be a volunteer in, and a better organisation overall.

Costs

This proposal is zero cost - the distribution method will equally serve the members of the EC and subcommittees.

EC response

The EC is surprised that this proposition should suggest that its proceedings are not "... Properly recorded to show a true record of proceedings with (as a minimum) those present noted, notes on topics discussed, agreed actions and decisions made". Full minutes are produced for every meeting and these are agreed, signed and stored on file for future reference.

The EC wishes to review the whole question of meeting minutes and records and dissemination of the discussions and decisions to members. A referral to the EC, under Standing Orders clause 14c, would be welcomed to enable all aspects of this matter to be explored. It is important that the widespread dissemination of this information should not be allowed to inhibit open and frank discussion in meetings.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/16	West Sussex	Awaited

Proposition

Following the discovery of Small Hive Beetle, *Aethina tumida*, (SHB) in Italy in September 2014 this ADM instructs BBKA to urgently seek a ban on the importation of bees and unprocessed bee products into the UK.

Supporting Notes

SHB was discovered in Italy in September 2014. In a short time it was confirmed in over 30 apiaries, showing how easily it can be spread undetected. Italy exports bees and queens to a large number of countries, including the UK, so the threat can be from anywhere. Attempts to control the spread of SHB have failed in all countries it has reached so far, so we can assume the same will happen in the UK. It is likely to spread in advance of detection.

Although SHB may be spread on fruit the one certain way is on bees. In the USA the spread was through packages and migratory beekeeping, the introduction into Canada in unprocessed beeswax.

Bees are generally imported for commercial gain. Losses can be quickly made up from existing stock and queens reared using simple techniques, so restricting imports will not unduly affect British beekeeping.

Costs

Costs are difficult to evaluate although it should only be the cost of lobbying and the lines of communication are already established.

EC response

It is assumed the proposition refers to *Apis mellifera* and not bumblebee species.

The international trade of honey bees and products of the honey bee is governed by rules and regulations which are intended to prevent the international movements of pests and diseases from one country to another.

These notes were written at the end of October 2014 and the BBKA has already had bilateral discussions with representatives from Defra, the NBU and the Plant and Animal Health Agency as well as raising the issue at the Bee Health Advisory Forum expressing our concerns about the potential for SHB to enter the UK on honey bees or honey bee products. Officials are considering our concerns.

Scientists and risk assessors are currently stress testing the ability of the sentinel apiaries to provide early detection of the presence of SHB in UK honey bee colonies.

An updated risk assessment has been carried out on plant and fruit. The following report was received in October 2014.

Fruit Imports and Small Hive Beetle

Fruit imports (e.g. avocado, grapes, bananas and grapefruit) and soils or composts associated with the plant trade could present risk pathways through which the beetle could be introduced. At the request of the Chief Plant Health Officer, expert Pest Risk Analysts 2015/16 continued have re-considered the potential for SHB to be introduced into the UK

with produce and other plant products currently imported from Italy. Although SHB has been associated with rotten fruit no evidence could be found as to whether the beetle is a primary pest able to attack healthy fruit, or if it is a secondary pest that requires existing damage before it can feed on fruit. While introduction of SHB via fruit has been assessed as a possible pathway, the most likely (i.e. highest risk) route of entry to the UK is still considered to be via movement of honey bees: queens and packaged (worker) bees for the purposes of trade. The Chief Plant Health Officer has provided the following statement regarding the potential for small hive beetle (Aethina tumida) to be associated with produce and other plant products from Italy: The European Commission evaluates plant health risks according to Directive 2000/29/EC. If existing measures to prevent the introduction of a plant pest into the Union are not considered sufficient, the Union will impose stricter measures or a complete ban to improve protection of the Union against the introduction of that organism. Recent examples of this include stricter measures imposed on South Africa for export of citrus to prevent introduction of citrus blackspot and a temporary ban on mangoes from India to prevent introduction of non-European fruit flies. Such measures are usually focused on produce being imported from outside the EU, rather than fruit being traded within the EU Single Market, where routine border checks are not undertaken. Although SHB can be associated with ripe and rotting fruit, this is not sufficient evidence to use plant health legislation to take measures against this insect. However, plant health and seeds inspectors (APHA) and horticultural marketing inspectors have been alerted to the risk of entry on fruit and have been asked to look out for the SHB. We have also liaised with the Fresh Produce Consortium to raise awareness amongst the industry and encourage importers and others to be vigilant. During the course of their plant health inspection duties, the APHA inspectors have intercepted other nitidulid species (the family of beetles to which SHB belongs) on a variety of plant products from Asia, Africa, North and South America, over several years - there has never been any finding of SHB, even from areas where this species is established.

The importation of honey bee queens and bees raises the whole question of the ability of the UK beekeeping industry (both hobbyists and commercial) to provide sufficient queens and colonies to meet demands not only in terms of numbers but also to meet the requirements for early queens and nuclei.

The update received from the authorities also included the following information. *Bee health inspectors across the UK are maintaining heightened inspections in areas where there is a high risk that new (exotic) pests and diseases could enter the UK. In England, Wales and Scotland selected groups of beekeepers have been specifically monitoring their colonies for exotic pest species. These beekeepers provide a valuable additional front-line defence against exotic pest incursion. For example, in England and Wales there are fifteen 'sentinel apiary' (SA) holders in each of eight beekeeping regions (i.e. 120 in total across 2015/16 continued*

England and Wales), which are in both 'at risk' and random areas to maximise the likelihood of detection. Hives within the SAs are regularly examined by the beekeepers, according to specific monitoring protocols. Twice in each season samples of hive debris are submitted to the NBU where they are tested for the presence of SHB. The establishment of SAs marks an increase in the level of surveillance for exotic pests, improving the chances for early interception and successful. Scientists from the NBU, Fera and the Universities of

Warwick and Swansea are working on a collaborative Defra-funded project to “stress test” the existing SA network. The results from this project (due early 2015), will allow the density and configuration of participating apiaries to be refined (if necessary) to optimise chances of early detection of a range of invasive species of honey bee pests, including SHB. The NBU will produce a more complete article on this project for a forthcoming issue of BBKA news.

The importation of bees is also being discussed within CONBA in an attempt to find a way forward.

BBKA policy is to promote the benefits of raising queens and colonies in the UK and to discourage the importation of queens and colonies into the UK.

It is unlikely that seeking a ban would be successful because of the international trade considerations however the issue of UK raised material will be raised again at the BHAF. This forum feeds into assisting Government policy on bee health.

At this point in time the Executive does not consider it appropriate to seek or it be possible to achieve a ban on the importation of honey bees and unprocessed honey bee products and does not support the proposition.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/17	Avon	Awaited

Proposition

We propose the BBKA lead the selection and implementation of a centralised member record system to ensure data consistency and to aggregate sufficient data to make the exercise cost effective.

The potential for standardised records and improved rigor to ensure members' data is secure, that they are correctly BDI covered, and that Gift Aid claims are compliant is clear and although potentially time and money expensive to implement we would see a drop in the burden of record keeping as we remove several levels of data gathering, verification, recording, re-recording in different formats for different outputs, and reconciling.

The proposed approach is in two parts. First is an exercise to identify the optimal solution, and second its implementation.

We propose first the low cost polling of all BBKA affiliates to:

- To agree a common data set required from BBKA affiliates; and
- ascertain if any Association has already implemented a member database system which meets our requirements and can act as referee for its qualities and so provide a proven solution on which to build; or
- ascertain if the recently advised BDI system developments could be considered to offer a BBKA system solution given the BDI's range of customers is broader; or
- decide if a bespoke system is required.

The implementation process can be agree on the basis of the findings of the first part.

Supporting Notes

Near 70 local associations maintain member records for local branch administration, for the BBKA, for BDI, and for Gift Aid returns for approximately 20,000 members. These records are essential to enable branches to conduct their local work, and for the accurate and timely flow of subscriptions, insurance premia, and Gift Aid tax refunds.

Each association can comprise several branches as well as an Executive will result in a large number of copies of members' data held in paper files, on spreadsheets, perhaps on more sophisticated software, and on many laptops and desk computers as well as in email inboxes and Sent boxes of Trustees and Officers. We can be certain that across BBKA there are individuals' changes which "fall between the cracks" despite our best endeavours.

The Data Protection Act of 1988 places obligations on Trustees and Officers to ensure data integrity and security. The Gift Aid process obligates Trustees and Officers to make accurate returns.

There are IT suppliers offering database solutions to charities and some BBKA affiliates may already be using these. The BDI has already started down the route of offering a structured means of storing member data which could extend beyond BDI cover.

2015/17 continued

A centralised approach offers the opportunity to include secure payment technology for members who want to use debit cards. We could consider Direct Debits for members in for the long haul. Trustees and Officers would become both users and operators of the system while members would be free to work directly to such a system to record their own data and undertake financial transactions, or to do this through the local Trustees and Officers.

Costs

We estimate that the first phase of the proposal would incur costs of up to £5,000 and 100 hours of BBKA officer and volunteer time to produce and circulate a questionnaire to all BBKA branches to find the solution of best fit.

We note that the implementation costs of a BBKA wide member database, should that be the preferred option, may be material and would be subject to a proposal to be placed before the BBKA at a subsequent ADM to obtain acceptance of the proposal and allocate a budget.

EC response

The BBKA already has a centralised member record system developed some years ago and maintained for many years by Ivor and Jan Davis. Ivor still provides some technical support for this system. A small group is already considering developing a new membership record system offering online facilities for updating membership records to Membership Secretaries. This is not a simple matter as the BBKA has a number of quasi membership classes which also need better recording, Adopt a Beehive and Friends of the Honey Bee are just two of these.

Most of the activities mentioned in this proposition are already underway or proposed. We have already had discussions with BDI and their system is one we will be considering. Whichever system is adopted will need to be secure, have a guaranteed continuity and be flexible enough for future development. Even if the BDI system was adopted and extended the costs involved are not inconsiderable.

It is necessary to remember that the last time such a move was proposed at an ADM there was a very high level of opposition. Most Associations already operate their own database systems, often using MS Access or Excel which are tailored to their needs. Introducing a centralised system may require considerable change locally.

It is recommended that this is referred to the EC and those sponsoring this proposition offer their services to the Working Party considering a new system. In particular a volunteer Project Manager will be needed.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/18	Lancaster	Awaited

Proposition

That Oldham and District Beekeepers' Association be admitted as an Area Association.

Supporting Notes

Oldham and District Beekeepers' Association has, for some time, been a branch of Manchester and District Beekeepers' Association. Manchester is in the process of becoming a charitable company, limited by guarantee at which point it will no longer be practical for Oldham to be a branch. Oldham has formed itself into a new association and its members wish to retain their membership of BBKA by becoming an Area Association.

Costs

There will be no material costs or time involved in the execution of this proposition.

EC response

There are some potential financial difficulties for the association with their current constitution under which they would propose to operate however, through discussion with the association, they have agreed to align their membership categories with those currently used by the BBKA and most member associations. This will resolve those difficulties.

Given these changes, the EC looks forward to welcoming Oldham & District as a member association.

Number	Nominating Association	Seconding Association
2015/19	Northumberland	Awaited

Proposition

The Northumberland Beekeepers Association welcomes the efforts being made by the BBKA trustees to modernise the way the business of the BBKA is undertaken. This will take time to bed in. When that has happened NBKA would like the trustees to consider introducing a method of selecting trustees that ensures that all the regions of England and Northern Ireland always have representation on the board of trustees.

Supporting Notes

None presented

Costs

None presented.

Draft EC response

The BBKA Constitution, as it is presently written, includes the following “*members shall be elected on grounds of personal merit and shall be deemed not to represent any specific body or organisation of beekeepers including the member’s Area Association, but shall act solely in the interest of the BBKA*” (clause 18.3.4.). The EC is also mindful that the Charities Commission caution against representation of particular interest groups by Trustees.

The EC is committed to total openness and democracy in the work of the Association; it is concerned that, should this proposition be adopted in its present form, it could present insurmountable difficulties in implementation.

The EC would welcome this proposal being referred under S.O. clause 14c in order to provide the opportunity to discuss with Northumberland and other like-minded associations how best the spirit of the proposition could be adopted without placing undue constraints on it.

Member associations are reminded that each association has a nominated link trustee