

KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 271st Council Meeting held at Detling Village Hall on Saturday, 13th September 2014 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: **Vice-Chairman:** David Wood (DW)(in the chair) **Treasurer:** James Cash (JOC); **General Secretary:** Jenny Spon-Smith (JSS); **Examinations Secretary:** Angela Merritt (AM)

Branch representatives (Directors of the Company)

Ashford: Anthony Keeler (AK); **Bromley:** Bob Jackman (BJ); **Mid Kent:** Brian Palmer (BP); **Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells:** Brian Wood (BW); Jim Wassell (JW); **Sidcup:** Bob Smith (BS); David Rea (DR); **Weald:** Nick Mengham (NM); **Westerham:** Nick Withers (NW); Robert Dudgeon (RD); **Yalding:** Steve Clarkson (SC)

1. Apologies and Proxies:

Apologies: Clive Watson (Chairman)(CW); John Hendrie (Membership Secretary)(JH); (Julie Coleman (Whitstable and Herne Bay); Chris Morris (Yalding); Susan Farmer (Orpington); Kit Erhardt (Orpington); Jim Wassell (Sevenoaks) Lesley Fancote (Gravesend)(LF); David Quigley (Mid Kent);

2. Minutes of the 270th Council meeting held on 7th June 2014

The minutes were approved and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

3. Matters arising:

Any matters arising from the minutes are dealt with under the headings below.

4. BBKA matters including propositions for the ADM 2015:

JSS had circulated three propositions, two in respect of finance and one from Peter Hutton in respect of release of details of the whereabouts of AFB/EFB outbreaks:

1/2015 – DR asked if this information had been requested from the BBKA in a less formal way. It was agreed to submit the proposition subject to the removal of the request for the names of recipients.

2/2015 – BJ made the point it was not only Kent who were concerned about the costs of the BBKA News. This proposition will be put forward as it stands.

3/2015 – this proposition was rejected as it was felt the map would identify the beekeeper and might discourage people from signing up to Beebase. BP made the point that good PR was very important.

Request by Surrey Bees to second their request to become an Association affiliated to the BBKA. This was rejected as it begged the question why another Association within Surrey was necessary and could also lead to confusion.

Emma Nye – request to second nomination as a Trustee. BJ and CW had made enquiries to find out more about this applicant but very little was forthcoming. It

was therefore decided that on the information provided, we would not support her nomination.

Ken Basterfield had circulated a request (those on the circulation list unknown) asking for a support for an SGM in connection with a dispute with the BBKA. JSS explained Kent will take no action save to say the matter needs resolving as speedily as possible.

5. Finance:

Cash -Flow

The balances on the various bank accounts were as follows:

CAF Cash current a/c @ 09/09/14	£250	see below (auto funding to Gold a/c)
CAF Gold deposit a/c @ 09/09/14	£2,224	see below (Interest rate = 0.15%)
CCLA COIF County Deposit @ 30/06/14	£8,605	(Interest rate = 0.45%)
Total cash @ 09/09/14	£11,079	

The above figures are before settling the NFU 2014/2015 Select Insurance Policy renewal premium, the second BDI and second BBKA Capitation payments due at the end of this month. In Total these outgoing are estimated to be close to £2,500. There are delays this year with receipt of our Gift-Aid claim monies due to a change to the HMRC system additional CAF Bank funds be needed on the Cash current account; funds will be moved across from CCLA to CAF Bank to cover the temporary shortfall.

Investments The valuations of the 'County's' (not including those held by the Branches) investments at 02/06/14 with the FTSE100 @ near 6819. (On 06/06/14 it was near 6800) were as follows:

F&C Stewardship International Fund	= £7,078	(Cost price £5,000)
BNY Mellon Charity Fund-Newton Growth & Income Fund for Charities	=£39,478	(Cost price £25,200)
M&G Charifund.(County AccUnits)	=£23,511	(Converted@£15,122)
Total value	£70,067	(@ 06/06/14 £68,367)

SPECIAL REMINDER

Computerisation by BDI and the dropping of our Members Subscriptions receipt forms in triplicate.

The Branch Treasurer's 'briefing/computer training session' 'to see how it all works' is arranged for **Saturday 4th October 2014** and attendance by all Branch Treasurers or their nominated Council representative **and/or** Membership Secretary is most important please. This briefing will be run by BDI, our Membership Secretary and Treasurer in order that the issuing of members subscription payment receipts can be done electronically from the start of the KBKA 2014/2015 year.

Kent County Show 2014 First Draft Accounts.

At present the draft accounts show a surplus of £85.00 but JOC has not had all the figures to finalise the accounts but the figures as similar to those last year.

Assistant Treasurer

The Executive Committee believe that an Assistant Treasurer post should be created to aid JOC's handover to a successor. The timescale is not yet any further advanced but JOC is hopeful that someone will come forward as a volunteer. JSS will circulate branch secretaries and put a note in the next Newsletter.

Insurance

JOC is awaiting the renewal papers from NFU for 2014/2015. Relevant Branches have been asked for what they owe County for last year and cheques from two of the four Branches remain outstanding.

Corporation Tax

JOC submitted the necessary forms with the 2012/2013 accounts in June 2014 and is pleased to report that HMRC have advised that a nil payment applies on the KBKA account.

KBKA Membership Subscriptions 2014/2015 (Reminder)

This was confirmed for registered members as £45 (see below) at the Council meeting on 06/06/14.

	2013/2014	2014/2015
BeeCraft	20.25	20.25
BDI	2.00	2.00
BBKA Capitation	17.00	18.00
For Branch	5.75	6.00
Sub Total	<u>£45.00</u>	<u>£46.25</u>
Deduct County 'subbing'	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1 25</u>
Total	£44	<u>£45.00</u>
	14/15 Total to be collected	<u>£45.00</u>

6. Membership

No report. JSS had still to hear from three branches with names of representatives attending the BDI training on 4th October.

7. Health and safety:

CW is still undertaking improvements works to the Margaret Calder Pavilion so that it can be used by the Showground.

8. Reports:

Show committee - BS thanked everyone for their help. A survey for changes of shift pattern came out at 50:50 but will be implemented next year.

Education – the proposed Lenham lecture in November has now been cancelled. It is anticipated this will now take place in the Spring.

Examinations:

AM reported that KBKA had 27 candidates for the Basic Assessment this year. One was deferred and one failed. She thanked those trainers within the branches who prepared their members so well.

The certificates for the March modules were sent out to Branch secretaries in July. The closing date for the November modules is 24th September. So far, one candidate is taking module 8. 4 candidates applied to take General Beekeeping Husbandry, 1 for the Advanced Husbandry and 1 for the Microscopy assessment. The results are not yet available.

AM will process any other entrants for the November modules and send out certificates but that will bring to an end her time as Kent Examinations Secretary.

County notices – nothing to report

Beecraft – no change to the price

BDI – see paragraph 5 above.

National Honey Show – show schedules were circulated at the beginning of September. BJ said arrangements were well in hand.

Webmaster – no report. DW said the BBKA website was very helpful.

9. Association Delegate Nomination 2015:

CW had indicated a willingness to attend and it was agreed he should be our delegate.

10. Bee health and disease:

There had been no new outbreaks of EFB in the South East.

11. Any other business:

On 4th October Sidcup and Orpington have arranged a talk by Mark Grecko on studying hives without the need to open. DR will circulate details

12. Proposed dates of meetings next year:

- Saturday, 14th March 2015
- Saturday, 6th June 2015
- Saturday, 26th September 2015
- Saturday, 28th November 2015

The next Council meeting will take place on Saturday, 29th November 2014 at 10.00 a.m. in the Margaret Calder Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 11.20 p.m..