



Chairman: Ian Buchanan Treasurer: Geoff Hodgson
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MINUTES

Officers Meeting
Comrades Club , Probus
Thursday 1st October 2015

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present ; Geoff Hodgson (GH) , Bajka Pratt (BP) , Rose Hardisty (RH) , Tim Howes (TH) , Penny Hodgson (PH) , Mike White (MW) , Colin Rees (CR) , Robin Villis (RV) , Caven Hammock (CH) , Ian Buchanan (IB) , Marcus Pilling (MP)

Apologies Matthew Buchan (MB) and Gregory Leach (GL)

1. CBKA & Membership

ACTION

- MP reported that current RBG membership currently stands at 82 with a further 14 people on the email distribution list .
- RH commented that it was good to see 40+ members at the 1st Winter meeting and this was echoed by all especially as there were a number of new faces present
- MP advised that the CBKA membership process was working efficiently with Graeme Bullock , CBKA Secretary , regularly updating the BDI data base which identifies new RBG members . This data base being accessible by MP & GH .
- IB queried the position of RBG within the CBKA with respect to the Roseland Pilot Scheme and it was agreed that with Graeme Bullock's input and the CBKA new found efficiency that RBG membership applications should now be directed through the CBKA
- MW raised the question on CBKA reserves policy and is to enquire about this MW
- MW advised on the need for a RBG representative for the Royal Cornwall Show and proposed RV . This was unanimously carried . RV to forward the group views to RCS RV

2. GROUP APIARY

- CH reported that there had been a few problems within the group apiary with lost queens, drone layers etc and the consensus was that this was consistent with a number of apiaries
- CH advised that the Group Apiary currently has 2 colonies and one nucleus
- CH advised that a theme of inspections by experienced beekeepers including Rose & Dom , CR , MW , IB had been good for new bees that attended
- No surplus honey was produced by the apiary this year
- CR advised that he promotes the Group Apiary to newbees in the Bee Introduction course
- CR advised on the importance of feeding nucs coming into winter and that maintaining a warm temperature and feeding fondant via a nuc is very important.
- CH to advise on an inspection regime for next year and to advise MP to forward to the group CH

3. FINANCE

GH advised the following



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- current RBG funds stand at £2042.66 in bank and cash
- CBKA have forwarded £579.95 to RBG in back dated gift aid with £300+ to come
- CBKA to forward to RBG membership rebate of £3 per member x 78 members
- GH advised GL had sold 4 pallets of ambrosia and fondant making a profit of £48 on ambrosia , £200 on fondant , £114 on jars making an o/a profit of £ 400
- GH advised that MB has personally arranged 'easy fundraising' on the internet which is a 'reward cash back on the internet' MB has thus personally added £24 to RBG funds and urges other to consider this option
- GH advised that rather than paying hire for a room at the Comrades Club it is a better option to pay for 10 number memberships @ £70 which is not only a cost saving but brings the RBG inline to use the Club Facility.

FUNDING

-RH advised that there may be a need for further funding to cover the winter programme as final costs are not confirmed as yet . IB commended RH on the quality of the Winter programme and this was echoed by all .Henry Kendall , speaker at the first Winter meeting would not take a fee , Ian & Ruth Hamer will incur travelling costs of circa £100 , Roland Malony will require travel expenses , Bees for Development have requested a donation to charity , Ian McCarthy is a RBG Member , Richard Ball will require £30 travel and the Bumble Bee Trust will not accept anything . GH proposed that the £200 provisional sum for the winter programme is raised to £300 to give RH room for manoeuvre . This was carried unanimously.

GH&PH kindly offered to provide B&B to Ian & Ruth Hamer and dogs when they visit

-RH queried whether to promote the RBG Winter Programme to other groups via Gwen Kernow and this was unanimously carried .

-RH requested funding for next year's Bee Safaris and GH proposed £200 for these and this was unanimously carried.

-CH advised that the Roseland Group Apiary was not anticipating any major purchases and it was unanimously carried to earmark £200 for apiary funds

-GH on behalf of MB / Events Coordinator would need in the region of £300 budget for the coming year and this was unanimously carried

4.EVENTS

-GH gave report in MB absence

-MB will be retiring from the Events Post to concentrate on moving house and family. MB would still assist in part but will not be in a position to organise events . His efforts on behalf of RBG Events was acknowledged .

-MP to put out a group email to request a volunteer for the Events Coordinator Post

-GH advised 5 events were attended this year , Perranwell Station , Caerhays , Stickerx2, Tregony & Grampound Carnival .

-Next year there is no Carhays event but likely to be one in St.Ewe.

-Purchase of a new Observation Hive to be considered and also a virtual hive which may be useful at events when an observation hive is not available

MP

5.MENTORING

-TH advised that the mentoring facility was working well and that those newbees wanting a mentor were being addressed .

6.REQUEST FOR FUNDING

-MP clarified the CBKA intention to release £1100 to individual groups to promote bees and bee keeping .

-An open discussion was held and a number of things considered . Proposals to use some of this contribution towards an observation hive , the bee safari . Also a possible bee promotion



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at Heligan although this was discounted as Heligan are already adopting their own bee promotion with the assistance of Roger Dewhurst .

-GH advised that promotion at events using free childrens handouts may be a good use of funds and to be considered later.

-BP suggested that the purchase of Disecting Microscopes would help encourage Microscopy activities within the group and this was seen as a very sensible use of the proposed fund and that RBG should put in a request for 4 microscopes and associated slides and sundries . Anticipated cost of £500

-MP to further this with BP and Mike Somers to put forward a bid to CBKA BP-MS-MP

-It was agreed that spending CBKA funds for spending sake was definitely not the way forward and that although the Microscopes are likely to be for only half of the available fund this was sufficient for the time being .

It was agreed that further funding request could be made in the future but generally the group finances as such are currently able to fund the group requirements at this moment in time .

7.SOCIAL PROGRAMME

-PH advised that the Christmas Meal is to be held at the Kings Head , Ruan Lanihorn

-Menu was tabled and all agreed that this looked excellent

-The Restaurant is set in two rooms with 24 covers in each .

-Once numbers are known PH to look at seating plans

-The Christmas Meal details are ready to go to press and will be issued shortly

8.GROUP PURCHASES

-Report covered under finance

-GH advised that a venue is needed for bulk deliveries next year and this will be directed to group members requesting if they could offer assistance

GL/MP

9.AOB

-RV as newly appointed RBG representative for RCS asked the officers which section of the bee tent activities would suit the group best and it was agreed that the preferred Section would be the 'Kiddies Corner'. RV to promote this view to the RCS committee

RV

-There was discussion on MW role as a RBG Representative to the CBKA and whether he could reapply for the post .It was thought not and that the post needs to be advertised to the group for a volunteer in advance for next spring

MP

-IB advised that he has now been Chairman for 3 Years and that in the Spring will be looking for someone to take up the post . His contribution to the group during this period has been appreciated

IB/MP

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the Officers and the meeting Closed at 9.15pm



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