

Report of your CBKA Council Representative 2015-2016 – Mike White

I have been able to attend three out of the four council meetings over the last year. As per the previous report I will concentrate on matters which affect Roseland, or in some cases, all groups.

Those who attended the CBKA AGM last year will be aware that Anne Ramsden took over from Julia Cooper as CBKA secretary. Anne tends to circulate the minutes of the previous council meeting only a few days before the next one and so my practice of copying them to our group secretary for circulation to group members has not seemed appropriate as they are three months out of date.

April 2015 meeting

Roseland pilot Scheme: The new system of membership administration devised by Graeme Bullock and using the BDI database appears to deal with the problems that caused Roseland to set up our own pilot scheme. It also centralises again CBKA funds allowing full financial reporting to the Charities Commission and the successful reclaiming of gift aid.

Membership: As of 25th March, CBKA membership stood at 329.

Group Rebates: The group rebate will need to reduce from £4 to £3 for the next year as a result of Graeme's analysis of running costs.

Group Funding: The CBKA reserves are in excess of that allowed by the Charities Commission. Groups may therefore apply individually for up to £1100 to finance suitable projects.

July 2015 meeting

Gift Aid: It would appear that gift aid has not been claimed for earlier years. Graeme is attempting to reconstruct membership records for 2012 in order to put in a claim.

Membership: As of 23rd June CBKA membership stood at 374. The difference from the March figure is accounted for by late renewals and new members.

Membership administration: The centralised system devised by Graeme Bullock using the BDI database was formally adopted. Two group officers (typically secretary and treasurer) will be able to access the BDI database and download the latest membership information for the group. The BDI database will be updated daily. New membership applications should be processed by BBKA within two weeks.

Royal Cornwall Show: The committee thanked those involved in the new look and very successful show and in particular Michael Somers and Julia Cooper for all their hard work. The show provided a net contribution to funds of £403.59.

Group Financial Reporting: The CBKA treasurer, Graeme Bullock, needs year end finalised accounts from groups in order to submit overall accounts to the CBKA AGM which is the first Saturday in March. This means groups such as Roseland which have their AGM late February give Graeme very little time to process them.

Graeme would be happy for groups to submit provisional accounts earlier and then any minor corrections after the group AGM but before the CBKA AGM. The alternative is to hold the group AGM a month earlier so that approved accounts can be submitted to Graeme in good time.

October 2015 meeting

Bee Inspectors: Seasonal bee inspectors for Cornwall have now been appointed. They are looking to get to know everyone and be invited to group meetings.

Date of Group AGMS: Graeme Bullock is to write to group treasurers asking them if the group AGM dates can be changed so that approved accounts can be submitted to CBKA in good time for the CBKA AGM.

RCS Liaison: Groups will be asked to provide a member to attend meetings with the group organising the Bees and Honey tent at RCS. That member would then liaise so that each group would be kept in the picture as to the overall strategy for the tent and exactly what each group was being asked to do.

January Meeting.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend this meeting due to illness. The main item concerning Roseland was the request for match funding for microscopes so that we can hold microscopy courses under the guidance of Bajka. I understand from Robin Willis, our other CBKA rep, that the funding was approved.

Mike White 28/01/2016