



Chairman: Ian Buchanan Treasurer: Geoff Hodgson
Group Secretary: Marcus Pilling
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**RBG AGM Minutes
Comrades Club
Thursday 25th February 2016**

ACTIONS

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

01/16 Present ; Rose Hardisty(RH), Dominic Pearce, Bajka Pratt(BP), Penny Hodgson(PH), Geoff Hodgson(GH), Robin Villis(RV), Mike White(MW), Linda Mulvin, Tim Howes(TH), Julian Durell(JD), Mathew Buchan(MB), Dennis Keam, Colin Packham, Mike Somers(MS), Gregory Leach(GL), Jim Stevens, Colin Rees(CR), Robin Davies(RD), Jim Lawrence, Jo Singeisen, Marcus Pilling(MP)

Apologies ; Ian Buchanan(IB); Sally Buchan ; Caven Hammock(CH), Liz Murphy, John Reeve, Di Wharton, Patrick Wharton, Stuart Gibbons, Jennie Leach(JL), Mike Wells

Welcome was given by Vice Chair Bajka Pratt

02/16 Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 26th February 2015 having been published on the website were considered a true record and were adopted .(proposed MP, seconded MB).

03/16 Officers Reports

RH advised that the Officers Reports had previously been posted on the RBG Website and that members had been requested to read these prior to the meeting

04/16 Chairman's report

Chairman's Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out. Ian Buchan had prepared a summary apologising for his absence which was read out. The summary advised that although from a beekeeping standpoint the year had been disappointing on the other hand the RBG had enjoyed a stimulating and entertaining year .

He thanked the Officers for their work and the Members for their support. He advised that he had enjoyed his three years as Group Chairman but it was time to hand over the role.

RH recorded a thank you to IB for his contribution as Chairman and also for his contribution to the group in other roles

05/16 Secretary's report

Secretary's Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out MP advised that membership was currently confirmed at 68 with 18 members from last year yet to respond . It was anticipated that membership will show a slight increase on last year should most members renew in the coming weeks .

MP advised members to renew sooner rather than later as this benefits both members and the Group MP to send out a further reminder to renew membership

MP



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which is an area association member of the British Beekeepers Association
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ACTION

06/16 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out
GH advised that the CBKA request for RBG accounts before the end of February could be provided and to facilitate this next years RBG AGM will be held in January . This will be reflected in next years programme.

RH

GH advised how 'Easy Fund Raising' would benefit the Group when shopping on line and urged all members to look into this facility to benefit group funds.

GH advised that the current Financial Spreadsheet did not include for the recently purchased RBG microscopes

RH requested that Members should advise the Officers should they consider any purchases that would benefit the group.

07/16 Publicity Report

Publicity Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out
No questions raised

08/16 Programme

Programme Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out.

RH advised that she would appreciate suggestions from Members for next years programme and suggested that a two year tenure in this post would benefit new ideas being brought to the role.

BP advised that should any members experience good speakers at conferences that they should let RH know

RH advised that there is an additional meeting this year in April

09/16 Events

Events Co-ordinator Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out.

MB confirmed that he would prefer to stand down from the post due to other commitments

In the absence of a successor GH & PH have offered to become more involved in the actual running of events with MB doing the behind the scenes elements.

RH reminded the meeting how important it is attending events to promote new membership.

MB stressed how much fun and enjoyment can be had attending the Events

MB advised that this year there will be 6 or possibly 7 Events to be programmed.

CR advised potential successors to the role of Events Co-ordinator that it does not mean that you have to attend every Event . It is a co-ordinating post .

MP commented that MB first engaged the post in his second year with the group and that members do not necessarily need great experience in Beekeeping to undertake the role

RV suggested correlation between events & where members live may help in the running of these Events

MP to pursue further canvassing for Events Co-ordinator successor

MP

10/16 Social Events Report

Social Events Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out.

PH advised that RD has kindly offered to host this years summer BBQ

PH advised that Christmas Venue was open for suggestions. TH commented that last years venue was very well received. There was discussion on the availability of space at the venue.



11/16 Group Purchasing Report

Group Purchasing Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out. GL request offers for a warehouse to receive group purchases. Although he has received one offer he is keen to have a location more central to the Roseland to benefit all members and this is to be requested again to members **GL/MP**

It was commented that some members were still to collect last years orders from warehouse and it was agreed that next year a cut off date will be set to avoid this being repeated and that goods not collected will be sold and added to group funds ,GL to clarify this when advising members on this years purchases **GL**

12/16 Group Apiary

Group Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out. CH was unable to attend but has advised that the first educational inspection date has been set for April 17th (weather dependent) and this tbc nearer the time . CR has offered to take lead at the inspection.

Please advise CH if you hope to attend to give CH and Heligan a guide on numbers **ALL**

13/16 Mentoring

Mentoring Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out. No questions raised

14/16 Website

MB advised that he had not heard of any issues or problems from members accessing the website MB echoed GH request for members to adopt 'Easy Fund Raising' when shopping online. This can generate funds to the group at no cost to individual.

MS advised that soon there will be a page on the website relating to the Royal Cornwall Show including printable downloads **MB/MS**

15/16 Election of Officers

With Ian Buchanan standing down, Rose Hardisty was proposed for Chair by Matthew Buchan and seconded by Marcus Pilling and was unanimously voted in .

MB has indicated that he wishes to stand down once he has a replacement but is prepared to remain as Events Co-ordinator for the time being.

The remainder of the Officers were all prepared to remain in post and with no other candidates proposed were all voted in unanimously en bloc .

Elected

Chair Rose Hardisty

Re-Elected

Vice Chair – Bajka Pratt

Secretary - Marcus Pilling

Events Co-Ordinator – Matthew Buchan

Swarm Co-ordinator - Jenny Leach

Quartermaster – Gregory Leach

Mentor Co-ordinator – Tim Howes

Education Co-ordinator – Bajka Pratt

Treasurer – Geoff Hodgson

Social Secretary – Penny Hodgson

Group Apiary Co-ordinator – Caven Hammock

Programme Organiser – Rose Hardisty

Publicity Officer – Colin Rees

Web Master – Mathew Buchan



16/16 CBKA Update

ACTION

Representative CBKA Reports had previously been published on the RBG Website and were not read out.

RH thanked RV and MW for carrying out this important role which keeps the group in touch with CBKA operations.

RV is to commence his second year in the role and MW was elected for the second post in the absence of any volunteers to take on the role. It is believed that this is permitted within the constitution .

CBKA Rep 1 – Robin Willis (2017)

CBKA Rep 2 – Mike White (2018)

MP to advise CBKA of representatives names

MP

17/16 AOB

- A- RBG Subscriptions were covered under the secretary's report
- B- Swarm Co-ordination report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out . JL was not at the meeting but CR advised that he and JL were in contact through the season on swarm control issues and that CBKA / RBG swarm controls had worked well. It was noted that RBG swarm calls were down by half on previous year. Charging for swarm collection was discussed and the meeting was reminded by MS & CR that it was not legal to charge for swarm collection although in principle the collector could receive a donation.
- C- Bee Safari Report had previously been published on the RBG Website and was not read out. RH advised on the principles of securing inspectors for the safari. Some discussion was had on the merits of FERA inspectors but there was concern that the bee Safaris should not just be a disease inspection but should also be an educational experience and that maybe if RBG were to pay inspectors the safaris would have more emphasis on the educational experience. GH suggested that given RH experience of arranging previous safaris the group should leave the securing of the inspectors in her hands .
- D- BP advised that microscopes have been purchased and delivered .BP advised all the units had been marked for security. BP reminded meeting this valuable group resource requires custodians to store the 6 sets of microscopes and preferably volunteers would be close to where she lives for ease of collecting them for events and microscopy courses. Volunteers to store the sets of microscopes were advised as CH(x2), JD, GH, CR and MS for the 6 sets BP advised that it was intended to hold a microscopy session at the Comrades Club later in the season and she will advise date **BP**
- E- BP advised any members wishing to undertake the Basic Assessment that she will be carrying out revision classes after Easter and that members should contact her **ALL**
- F- RV advised that currently there has only been 4 volunteers to date to assist at the RCS.It was assumed that we will need a minimum of 12 volunteers to run the beekeeping at the event. It was suggested that volunteers are likely to be more forthcoming the nearer we get to the event .RV also advised that the pledges for the honey stand currently stood at 4 responses to date. Members to advise RV of their offers of assistance **ALL**

RV queried whether the Group had in place a support service to members who , for whatever reasons , needed assistance on hive inspections . It was felt that there was already a willingness within the group for members to help fellow beekeepers in situations such as this .

The meeting was declared closed at 8.35pm



Meeting Minutes prepared by Marcus Pilling

Minutes adopted on.....

Signed by..... (Chair)



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