

Report of your CBKA Council Representative 2016-2017 – Mike White

I have been able to attend all 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.

April 2016 meeting

CBKA AGM March 2017: It was noted that it was the turn of Bodmin group to help with the arrangements in 2017. It is proposed that the council and secretary would keep a closer eye on arrangements after a certain amount of confusion as to who did what last year.

Cheques: Members urged to pay subscriptions by BACS rather than cheques which cost 40p each to process.

RCS 2016: Arrangements for the show are proceeding with Robin Willis as the Roseland representative and liaison officer.

Membership: The Reg Pomeroy for most new members was awarded to Carrick Kerrier. (Come on Roseland!)

Heligan: The Lost Gardens of Heligan want to join CBKA as an organisation. The constitution will need to be changed next year to allow this, but in the meantime we would be happy to have a named person be a member on their behalf.

July 2016 meeting

Basic Assessment Fees: It was agreed that exam fees would continue to be returned to those who passed the exam.

RCS: The chairman noted that it was a very successful show. Honey entries were over a hundred making it a “blue riband” show.

A query was raised regarding materials bought for the show in excess of requirements thus reducing profit for CBKA. Graeme and Geoff to liaise and agree figures.

Finance: Graeme urged groups to take up the £1100 per group from CBKA reserves for suitable projects. To date Roseland has taken about half.

CBKA Website: Investigations are continuing to ask a professional company to manage the CBKA website. Design and creation is likely to cost approx. £450 plus annual host fee of £90.

Kit Hill: It was flagged up by Graeme that the Kit Hill group is struggling at the moment with only 38 members and some difficulty in recruiting officers.

October 2016 meeting

Roseland – RCS: The misunderstanding over excess materials purchased by Roseland for RCS has been settled and a suitable payment made by Roseland to CBKA.

Asian Hornet: The chairman noted that Hornets are here! The DNA is the same as the French ones and that they may regress if there is not a large enough gene pool.

CBKA Treasurer: Following Graeme's request to stand down, Les Buckley has been proposed by Graeme to fulfil the role from 1st January 2017. This appointment will require ratification at the 2017 AGM. Graeme will continue to support Les whilst he becomes familiar with the position.

Kit Hill: Kit Hill want to move forward without a chairman. They are a small group and may wish to participate with other groups in meetings, functions etc.

RCS 2017: WCBKA want to have a greater part in the show. To that end they have agreed to form a small secretariat to run the honey show.

The new storage facility has been installed at Wadebridge showground.

Roseland will require a new rep to the show meetings after Robin has stood down.

Website: The new website is progressing.

January 2017 Meeting.

Roseland Rep: Ian Tanner was introduced as the new Roseland rep to replace Robin Willis.

RCS 2017: Kate Bowyer of WCBKA is taking over as Honey Show secretary. Julia and colleagues to carry on as tent co-ordinators for this year. Replacement for Julia will be required next year.

Bee Disease and Husbandry Day: In view of the low attendance at last year's event and the heightened threat from the Asian Hornet, it was decided that we would cancel the event for this year and concentrate on a special event in February or March focussing on the Asian Hornet. As well as beekeepers, we hope to invite members of the public. The more pairs of eyes looking out for the pest, the better!

Membership: Graeme noted that as of 31st December only 79 members had renewed!

BBKA have proposed a £10 joining fee in addition to the annual subscription for new members. This would also apply to existing members whose membership would lapse after 3 months if their subscription has not been renewed. CBKA will vote against this at the forthcoming ADM. It is, however, symptomatic of an increasing concern at delayed renewals.