

# CORNWALL BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

( COWETHAS GWYTHYSY GWENYN KERNOW )

Charity Number 298470

[www.cbka.co.uk](http://www.cbka.co.uk)

## Report of your CBKA Council Representatives 2017-2018 –

Mike White and Ian Tanner

### April 2017 meeting

#### CBKA AGM March 2017:

Concern was expressed at the low attendance (less than 40), especially as we had an excellent speaker.

Ideas were discussed as to how to improve the AGM and the attendance.

Possible ideas included an auction after the AGM, and holding the meeting in different locations, such as in the area of the local group doing the refreshments.

#### Financial

- 1) Graeme Bullock is emailing lapsed members to investigate reasons for not renewing.
- 2) Agreed to contribute to IMYB funding.
- 3) Launceston request for gazebo funding agreed.

#### Asian Hornet Day

Although numbers were lower that we would have liked, it was a good day with excellent speakers. Further measures for raising awareness were discussed such as lobbying MP's and attending invasive species forums.

#### Swarm List

CBKA swarm list not easy to use – propose changing it to BBKA post code look up method.

#### Publicity

Gwenyn Kernow still having problems with timely distribution. New editor required as Steve Farnes wants to stand down.

### July 2017 Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Anne Ramsden as Carole Allen was unable to attend for health reasons. The Council sent her their wishes for a speedy recovery.

#### Membership renewals

The treasurer emphasised that January 1 is the date for membership to start. This has significance because late payment makes it difficult to submit our capitation returns to BBKA.

#### Royal Cornwall Show

On behalf of Carole, Anne thanked everyone for their hard work for a successful show.

Sales were down, which reflected the drop in numbers not prices. The price of honey was the same as last year. Sue Hoults (through the committee) has suggested that profits from the Show should be ring-fenced to provide a budget for staging the event. A suggestion was made that we increase commission on honey sales to 15%. There was discussion as to whether we need a night-watchman given the costs involved and the presence of general security on site. The possibility of sponsorship was also considered.

### Treasurers report

The treasurer highlighted the fact that having dispersed funds to the groups in recent years, we had now reached a point where we were very close to the minimum reserve (£2000) which had been agreed. In light of this the practice of reimbursing groups on the basis of capitation should cease from 2018.

This discussion led on to a proposition that the CBKA needs a new strategic plan to provide a context for the consideration of budgets and reserves. Graeme Bullock undertook to create a draft of such a plan before the next meeting with a view to circulating it to the members after initial scrutiny.

### Trustees

Graeme reported back on trusteeship. Trustees have equal responsibility for the liabilities arising from CBKA actions; this includes the representatives from the groups as well as the appointed officers. Each member of the Council is requested to sign the form of declaration of eligibility for trustees. This is a Charity Commission requirement. As trustees we are covered by our BBKA insurance but could be liable if criminally negligent. These facts need to be more widely understood by anyone standing for election to the Council. In future a pack of information should be given to new trustees which includes a copy of the constitution.

## **October 2017 meeting**

### Matters arising

Following the revelations re Trustee responsibilities a communication was received from Carrick Kerrier reps to say that they will continue on the committee but as observers to take information back to the group but not as voting members.

Also noted: we have a handcart for RCS and we paid a contribution to IMYB.

Graeme explained the history of the CBKA funding. Graeme also explained why he thinks that it is important to set the reserve within the strategic plan. The treasurer also drew attention to the inequity in the distribution of previous surpluses. Despite significant differences in membership sizes (21 vs 81) each group received the same amount. For any future distribution he suggested a per capita distribution would be fairer.

### Membership

Total membership roughly stable but there is significant turnover (c15%) year on year.

Council will attempt to discover reasons for lapsed memberships.

### Trustee declaration

Once again there was a lengthy discussion of this item. Our status as a charity requires us to abide by the rules of the Charity Commission. They dictate that each elected member of Council is a Trustee of the charity and as such bears a legal responsibility for the affairs of the charity. As a safeguard each Trustee is required to sign a declaration to the effect that they are not disqualified from holding the post by criminal tendencies bankruptcy etc.

The Council agreed again that these facts should be more widely understood within the constituent Groups and that all candidates for elected positions should be made fully aware of these rules.

### Strategic Plan

GB's draft of a revised Strategic Plan was discussed. An amended version of this Plan will be distributed to all members via the Group secretaries with an invitation to contribute to its development with amendments or additions. It was hoped that this process could be completed in time for a revised plan to be tabled at the AGM 2018 for approval.

In the discussion the distinction was made between the broad objectives to be outlined in the plan and a more detailed set of actions which would be required to implement it. It was agreed that we also need to develop a better understanding of where we stand in respect of the objectives before embarking on efforts to achieve them.

## Education

Numbers taking modules / assessments was down on last year. There was some discussion of the need to increase awareness of courses / events in order to increase uptake.

The scheme to reimburse some of the examination fees to successful candidates still exists although very few people take advantage of this.

Further efforts are being made to get information packs to Schools and in general to reach this younger audience.

## AOB

The difficulties this year have highlighted that we need a vice chair.

We also need a publicity officer to advertise what we are doing and gain support from the community.

Letter to go out to groups to ask for these roles to be filled at the AGM.

## **January 2018 meeting**

### CBKA Council Officers standing down at the CBKA AGM

Chairperson, Secretary, Equipment Officer. Nominations are required for these positions

Nominations are also required for the George Mitchell Cup (services to beekeeping) and the Reg Pomeroy cup (biggest increase in membership by a group during the year).

### IMYB funding surplus

CBKA agreed to support the Vale and Downland proposition that the funding surplus (some £9-10,000) be ring fenced for IMYB purposes in the future. It would also press for the proposition to be reinstated (it had been put on to a reserve list due to a procedural irregularity, believed to be a missing signature).

### Clause 19.5

In the BBKA constitution, this clause covers the procedure for dealing with alleged misconduct of a Trustee and the suspension of the Trustee. Unfortunately the current dispute between the BBKA executive and Ian Homer regarding the IMYB and related matters has shown there are flaws in the present clause.

Michael Somers was part of the governance committee that drew up the present BBKA constitution and he has consequently redrafted the clause in a manner reflecting industry practice for the settling of disputes.

This contains three sections: Facilitation, progressing if necessary to Mediation and finally, if agreement still cannot be reached, Arbitration where an external impartial chairman, skilled in negotiation is brought in to decide the matter. At this stage any decision is binding on the parties.

All trustees will be asked to sign that they agree to this dispute procedure as a condition of becoming a trustee.

The new wording of clause 19.5 will be introduced at the forthcoming Annual Delegates meeting.

It is also hoped that at the meeting, that if the original letter from the Executive and the rebuttal letter from Ian Homer are withdrawn, then perhaps both parties can shake hands walk away.

The feeling in our council meeting was that perhaps now we can get back to beekeeping!!

### Financial

Up to 21 Dec 17 CBKA showed a loss of £434.40.

The net cash position is £6761 but this includes the remainder of the funds allocated to the groups, but not yet taken. If this is subtracted along with some other allocated items, it leaves a net balance of £2807.07. The reserves policy stands at £2000.

Kit Hill and Launceston have not yet taken any of the £1100 allocated to the groups. The remainder of the Roseland allocation stands at £163.69.

### Membership

For all classes of membership the CBKA total for 2017 was 412. Up to 21 Dec only 102 members had renewed for 2018. The best group was Roseland with 47% renewal, the worst was Liskeard with just over 6% having renewed.

### Asian Hornet action plan

MW has proposed to Council that we investigate the setting up of a protocol whereby local associations can give support to a beekeeper finding Asian Hornets visiting his apiary. This is intended to cover the period from first sighting to photographs, provision of sample to NBU and subsequent location and destruction of the nest by the NBU. Devon Beekeepers are already looking into this and there will be a meeting of interested parties on 20<sup>th</sup> January to further progress this work. Council has agreed we should support this work.

### Bee Health Day (formerly Bee Disease and Husbandry Day)

It is proposed to hold a Bee Health Day this year in conjunction with WCBKA. We are going to make a small charge of £5 to cover the hire of hall and free tea, coffee and biscuits. Further details to follow.

### Website

1) Out of date content - Anne Ramsden to ask if Graeme Bullock can help in keeping the website current.

2) Swarm list is not working properly – members of the public are being shown the same half dozen names rather than the full list. Web master to be asked to replace existing arrangement with link to BBKA list which has postcode look up.

### AGM

The AGM is 10<sup>th</sup> March. Venue to be determined.

Mike White / Ian Tanner 07/01/2018

**Attached : Financial Report 2017 and Membership 21st December 2017**

**Not Attached : Draft Strategic Plan - still waiting for revised version.**

## Cornwall Beekeepers Association (CBKA)

### Financial Report for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

#### Introduction

This is the final report for the 2017 financial year, however, there will be slight financial differences to the main annual closure as at the 31 December for the AGM. These differences will not be significant.

The donations/grants (voted by the council) for the sums of £345 and £250 have been paid to the IMYB and the Asian Hornet project (Exeter University) respectively. Recently the £100 (previously agreed for the BDI Varroa project) was transferred to the relevant account.

#### Summary of Receipts & Payments for the period

	£.pp	£.pp
<b>Receipts</b>		
Membership Subscriptions	11640.05	
Donations	854.45	
Suit Hire	55.00	
AGM Catering	150.50	
RCS	3075.26	
HMRC Gift Aid	1943.72	
Interest	31.13	
Pin Badges	93.10	
Callington Show	767.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>18610.21</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Council Meeting Hall Hire	48	
AGM Hall Hire	102	
AGM Catering	169.44	
AGM Speaker	150	
WEB Site One Off Design Cost	540	
Bank Charges	84	
Council MMA	20	
Groups Membership Refund	431	
Groups Equipment Funding	1510	
BKQ	860	
Refund of BKQ/Subscription	115	
Education Support (Asian Hornet Day)	150.24	
Royal Cornwall Show	2868.18	
Grants	695	

Award/Exam/Engraving	36.00	
BBKA	7374.00	
BDI	1257.05	
Equipment Purchases	140.94	
Group Gift Aid	1553.72	
Pin Badge/Recipe Book	131.25	
Callington Show	699.36	
Honorarium	100.00	
Postage	9.43	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>19044.61</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS</b>		<b>-434.4</b>

### Summary of Cash Movements

#### Cash Funds Last Year End

CAF Bank Cash Account	200.84
CAF Bank Gold Account	3922.07
Virgin Deposit Account	5834.16
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>9957.07</b>
Less 2016 payments presented after 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016	0
Less 2017 membership received before 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016	-2761.45
<b>Net Cash Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016</b>	<b>7195.62</b>

Add net receipts/payments for period to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 **-434.4**

**Net Cash Funds at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 6761.22**

#### Represented By

CAF Bank Cash Account	1301.92
CAF Bank Gold Account	3038.55
Virgin Deposit Account	5863.7
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10204.17</b>

Add 2017 receipts not cleared at 21 December 2017 0

Less 2018 membership received before 31 Dec 2017 -3442.95

**Net Cash Funds at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 6761.22**

### Analysis of Net Cash Funds & Financial Commitments

<b>Group project funds allocated-remaining:</b>		
Kit Hill	1100	
Launceston	1100	

Carrick/Kerrier	374.75	
Liskeard	416.51	
Roseland	163.69	
<b>Total group project funds not yet drawn</b>		<b>3154.95</b>
2018 BDI Varroa Research contributions		100
Estimated Council Costs		0
RCS 2015, 2016 & 2017 carried forward balances		699.2
<b>Total Allocations &amp; Commitments</b>		<b>3954.15</b>

The net cash funds figure of **£6761.22** minus the projected liability figure of **£3954.15** which will meet the allocations and commitments identified above leaving a balance of **£2807.07** within the general account at the end of this 2017 financial year. The council should be aware that the reserve policy figure of £2000.00 remains extant.

### Len Andrew Bequest

The balance of the bequest as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 was £21,294.64. Interest of £53.09 and £53.28 was received in May and November 2017 respectively. A group request for a sum of £300 has been received and duly paid from the account. Thus leaving a credit figure of £21,101.01 as at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

**That concludes the financial report.**

### Treasurer Points:

Based upon latest figures and previous projections it is estimated that the annual Council running costs for 2018 may be as follows:

Item	Annual Estimate
Council Hall Hire	60
AGM Hall Hire/Catering	150
Website	100
AGM Speaker/Catering	150
Honorarium	100
Stationery/Postage	80
Honorary Members	147
ADM Delegate Expenses	200
Awards/Basic Fees	60
Bank Charges	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1147</b>

**Cornwall Beekeepers Association  
Membership Update as at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

**Introduction**

BBKA and BDI have closed their membership for 2017, the main effort now is renewing memberships for the new period 2018 (1 Jan – 31 Dec)

**Membership Summary**

Membership numbers for the period 2017 are listed below with lapsed members in the penultimate right hand column and new 2018 members to date in **bold** in the far right column.

	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>BBKA Total</b>	<b>CBKA Association</b>	<b>Lapsed 2017</b>	<b>2018 Members</b>
Bodmin	47	5	3	1	55	3	9	<b>16</b>
Kit Hill	26	3	2		31	1	8	<b>9</b>
C a r r i c k / Kerrier	67	11	2	2	78	6	10	<b>7</b>
Launceston	61	12	2		73	5	15	<b>26</b>
Liskeard	58	4	1	1	63	2	10	<b>4</b>
Roseland	73	8	2	1	81	1	11	<b>38</b>
Wadebridge	18	2			21	1	7	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>102</b>

New members for 2017 were as follows:

Bodmin	5
Kit Hill	3
Carrick/Kerrier	15
Launceston	18
Liskeard	9
Roseland	11
Wadebridge	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>

**Les Buckley**  
Membership Secretary