



Chairman: Geoff Hodgson      Treasurer: Geoff Hodgson  
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## MINUTES

Officers Meeting  
Comrades Club , Probus  
Thursday 10th October 2019

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present ; Bajka Pratt (BP) , Simon Kellam (SK) , Ian Tanner (IT) , Geoff Hodgson (GH) , Tim Howes (TH), Jayne Spenceley(JS) , Matthew Buchan(MB) , Mike White(MW) , Marcus Pilling (MP)

Apologies ; Carol Morrison(CM) , Julian Durell(JD) , Michelle Hammock(MH) , Nichola Anderson (NA)

### **1.CBKA Membership**

### **ACTION**

- MP reported that RBG 2019 membership stands at an all time high of 89 .
- MW advised that total CBKA Membership numbers for all Groups stood at a buoyant 463
- Membership renewals now online and members should be getting reminders from Vanessa Tyler(CBKA Secretary) rather than from RBG Secretary as last year

**(ALL)**

### **2.GROUP APIARY**

- SK gave an account of the Group Apiary Season . 5 hives overwintered , 4 inspections carried out during the season and were well attended with good positive feedback from those who attended. A small surplus of honey was produced and readily sold through the Heligan Shop. During the inspections a couple of swarms were witnessed with one member going away with a starter swarm for their new Apiary.
- SK advised that he is giving a talk to the Roseland Academy and that this will involve a visit to the Group Apiary . The Meeting Unanimously approved the purchase of beekeeping veils for the Academy to aid the Academy visit and support the Group Ethos of educating younger people to the importance of bees and beekeeping .
- The tree hive at the Apiary is now occupied with a colony of bees
- There is good support from Heligan Gardens for the Group Apiary but currently a little less direct Direct Interaction with Heligan Staff due to Staff Changes

### **3.FINANCE**

- GH advised the following ;
- Group Bank cash assets currently stand at £ 2360 excluding Heligan Honey Sales (£260) Considering last years balance at equivalent time was £2125 Group Balance was healthy And enabled the Meeting to endorse the purchase of Bee Veils for the Academy Visit
- In summary the following Budgets were approved ;
- Events £300 , Programme / Speakers £300 , Apiary £300, Safari £100 and Veil Purchase £100



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which is an area association member of the British Beekeepers Association  
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It was advised that these budgets are similar to last year and in each case final draw downs last year were well below the approved budget figures but nevertheless necessarily available

#### 4.EVENTS

-MB advised that he will be standing down as Events Organiser . GH thanked MB for His work in this role over the previous years . It was acknowledged that a new Events Co-ordinator needed for the Group . (ALL)

-SK also advised that he will be standing down from arranging the Heligan Events that were held over consecutive Wednesdays during the summer and the Officers acknowledged the Group need to have someone in place to take on this role. (ALL)

-Other than the Heligan Events this year the Group has covered Events at Caerhays , Griggs at Sticker and assisted the CBKA at Stithians .A number of individuals have also given their time to Bee talks over the season

#### 5.MENTORING

-SK advised that he will be standing down as Mentoring Coordinator and again the Group Need someone to step into the Role as an important part of the Group Support Ethos (ALL)

#### 6.REQUEST FOR FUNDING

None forthcoming . A small amount of available funds remains with the CBKA

#### 7.SOCIAL PROGRAMME

- MH is arranging the Christmas Do with the venue to be at the Polgooth Inn Further details to be advised nearer the time (MH)

#### 8.GROUP PURCHASES

-TH advised that purchases have been concentrated on Jars and Feed TH &GK distributed syrup to members who collected from Tims Barn and in all has worked very well . Jars proved very popular and required a second order to suit demand. Fondant has proved popular with very significant savings to members as well as generating A small amount of income to Group Funds. Aside from savings TH advised that the Bulk Syrup sales alone has saved 50kg of plastic Being used through re-use of containers

#### 9.WINTER PROGRAMME

NA is now the Programme Organiser and The 2019 -2020 programme is more or less in Place with one more Programme date to fill (NA)

#### 10.SWARM CO-ORDINATION

-CM advises that she wishes to stand down as Swarm Coordinator/AHAT Coordinator The Officers would thank Carol for her work in this role .

-With the BBKA directive that Swarm Coordination should be run by the BBKA it was thought by the Officers that the Group Swarm Coordination Role will not be needed .

-Post Meeting note for Members ; Members wishing to be on the BBKA Post Code Swarm Collectors List need to make direct contact with the CBKA/BBKA (ALL)

-AHAT Coordination within the Group to be covered by the Group Secretary (MP)

-Useful AH identity cards to be purchased on behalf of the Group for distribution (1T)



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### 11.CBKA REPRESENTATIVE

- MW advised that potentially a new Group is soon to be affiliated to the CBKA
- CBKA are soon to issue a new Constitution
- CBKA AGM talk to be based on 'Reading Bees'
- CBKA thanked all members from the various Groups for their help and assistance at The Royal Cornwall Show which proved a very successful format this year

### 12.SAFARI

MP advised that 18 members attended this year's Safari and once again was enjoyed by all. It is planned to retain the single diary date for this May Event and it would be helpful as part of the organising to have more offers of Apiaries for Inspection to help with the logistics of the route planning

(ALL)

### 13.RCS

- JS thanked all the volunteers for assisting and the Officers Acknowledged JS work towards this event.
- Free issue of Group T-Shirts approved for volunteers
- Same theme to be followed at RCS in 2020 . 'The beekeeping Year'
- JS requested that a creative Member from the Group to assist and ultimately take over the arrangements for the Groups RCS attendance

(ALL)

### 14.Education

-BP advised that currently two members commenced the Basic Examination but for varying reasons did not complete the course . It was agreed that promoting the Basic Assessment was an important part from the Group and individual Perspective

### 15.AOB

- SK raised the proposal for a Facebook Page . After discussion it was agreed that SK & MB were to look at practicalities of setting this up. The thought being that this facility would enhance the profile of the Group particularly to potential younger beekeepers
- Probable link of this to the Website and administered by the Officers rather than Individuals

(MB , SK)

**-With several Officer Posts becoming vacant members are encouraged to step forward to fill these posts . If this doesn't happen the Groups support ,particularly to newbees, is at risk and as a Group we should not let this happen  
None of the roles are particularly time consuming so please can individuals consider if they can help . To recap we are looking for Members to co-ordinate Events , Mentoring and the Royal Cornwall Show . So three volunteers needed**

(ALL)

There being no other business the Chairman thanked the Officers and meeting closed at 9.10pm

Minutes Prepared  
Marcus Pilling 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019





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