

Barnsley Beekeepers Association

7th March 2022 Minutes

Venue	Gilroyd Social Club & via Zoom
Meeting Started	7:30 start
No. Present	23 + 2 via Zoom
Apologies	Aimee Kite, Sally Howe, Sue Higham, Cathi & Mike Lees, Mike Andrews
Chair	Richard Senior

Chairman's Welcome – Richard opened the meeting at 7:50, a little later than planned due to wax orders and technical issues with Zoom. Apologies made to those waiting online

February Minutes - Minutes circulated 8th February Accepted by Val Francis and Seconded by Gary Francis

Richard raised the YBKA suggested statement for use by districts re-imported of honeybees "As an affiliate of both the British Beekeepers Association and Yorkshire Beekeepers Association, (district beekeepers association) discourages the importation of both honey bee queens and colonies from outside the UK; and asked if it's a statement we want to use as an association, packages of bees cannot be imported but queens can be, JC has mixed thoughts that UK queens can't be readily available early enough, PK suggested this is more of an impact to commercial beekeepers. RS suggested another option of wording is to check where queens are being imported from. To be deferred until next meeting for a vote. VF suggested we encourage members to breed bees where possible via meetings and education i.e. queen rearing sessions.

Association Apiary update – all 6 colonies survive and made it through the winds, all on new stands, scaffolding poles required to repair the fence if any members have any available. Area has been tidied up and looks really good. 6 colonies was original agreement, original aim was to create some nucs for sale to members. If no poles are available association can look into buying some. Also suggested the picnic table is removed and a new one purchased.

Education & Training update – Val

Exams closing date passed, mod 1 exams a week on Saturday and the candidates are working hard towards the exam.

Anyone who is interested in basic beekeeping certificate this year please contact Val.

Wakefield & Pontefract beginners course after 2 years , Wakefield council have granted a lease for an apiary at Thornes park, posts and netting are underway, a larger programme of work to level the area and create a garden. Classroom available to help facilitate training courses. The 'Starting right with bees 2022' course starts in May for 8 weeks, not many places are left due to first refusal offered to people with courses cancelled in 2020. Small number of places available, see Ivor for leaflet!

The next and last of the winter season meetings: 4th April 2022 - Gerry Collins - What's going on in my hive?

AOB –RS thanked Ivor for his wax deal and Mike for arranging the anti tamper labels

The zoom call ended at 20:05