

Barnsley Beekeepers Association

Meeting 8th March 2021

Venue ... Wherever Home is
Meeting Started ... 7.15 for 7:30pm start
No. Present ... 27 all via ZOOM
Apologies ... None received
Chairman ... Richard Senior

Chairman's Welcome

Speaker

A last-minute change to the running order so as to accommodate the Speaker, the business part of the meeting followed the talk.

Speaker tonight is Pam Hunter, Master Bee-keeper giving us a talk about plants, which are beneficial to both bees and ourselves. It proved to be a most interesting and informative talk, lots of shopping to be done at local garden centres for the many plants she suggested that are good for bees.

Previous minutes: - December 2020

These minutes were proposed accepted by Aimee Kite, seconded by Susan Higham with no objections.

Matters Arising

All members orders for wax foundation have now been received and fulfilled. Many thanks go to Ivor Flatman for his involvement in organising this essential supply. The YBKA Delegates meeting for 27th March was discussed, Richard to be our Delegate and Ivor is also to attend.

HMRI Gift Aid taxation

Aimee, our Treasurer, thanked all members who have declared a Gift Aid on their subscriptions. This has resulted in Aimee claiming and receiving, a £303.71 refund from our friends (??) at the taxation Office. Well done Aimee.

Training and courses

Members were advised of a "Bees Abroad" special talk on Thursday 11th March at 19:00 on sustainable enterprises in Africa.

Some concern was expressed over communications out to members, specifically YBKA information on upcoming events from BIBBA.

Post meeting note: - this has been addressed and the information circulated to all members.

Our speaker indicated that her local Association will be hosting a virtual event, on Saturday 27th March concentrating on some research work from Northumberland, Coventry and Exeter Universities, and cordially invited our membership to the event. Details will be published to all members when we receive them from Pam.

Great Yorkshire & Penistone Shows

The Great Yorkshire Show is currently going ahead on 13th to 15th July, but on a reduced admission, pre-ordered ticket basis only. Very little firm information is available. The Honey committee have been contacted regarding viability of the Honey show/competitions. Current feelings are that this will not prove viable. It is extremely unlikely that the Penistone Show will be held at all this year.

Apiary

All 3 Colonies are doing OK, with strong clusters of bees. All have been fed with fondant on 17th and 27th February and Colin plans on a feed only visit to the Apiary during the coming week.

Likelihood of fresh Queens from Eric at the start of the new season.

A separate Committee meeting is to be held to determine the way forward with the Apiary bearing in mind the Covid situation.

Jobs in the Apiary

Check stores (hefting the hive) and feed if necessary, using fondant. Do not use syrup at this time of year. With the current weather patterns, it is best to leave the colonies undisturbed as much as possible.

Next Meeting Programme

Apr 5th/12th April 5th this year is Easter Monday. To avoid potential conflicts, it was agreed to move the meeting to April 12th Speaker to be confirmed,

The meeting closed at approx. 9:30pm