



# ALNWICK & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMARY OF MINUTES  
Of the Committee Meeting held on 21 August 2017  
At Swarland Working Men's Club at 7.15pm

## TREASURERS REPORT

- Just over £4.3k in the account.

## TRAINING

- Taster session – 10 people turned up and Sue R has their emails to pass to Lisa and Keith so that they can be contacted and hopefully brought into the association. All those who attended received information on Brian's Course. They found a queen and marked her during the session.
- Morpeth shops did not like to advertise the "Alnwick and District" flyer. It was proposed that we use the ADBKA abbreviation but have "Supporting Beekeepers from the Tweed to the Tyne" on any publicity to get over any preconceptions about the area the Association covers.

## PR AND SHOWS

Sandra is retiring from organising the shows. She has enjoyed doing it and will continue to help out. It was agreed by the Committee that she has done an excellent job and the Committee are extremely grateful for this. A volunteer is now required to take on this role. The role can be shared out and also it was agreed to review the shows that are attended as the footfall is reducing every year. Alternative options are garden centres, food festivals.

## NORTHUMBERLAND BKA AND AREA ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP OF BBKA

NBKA is only used for capitation purposes and Hexham and Alnwick would ideally like to be members of BBKA in their own right. BBKA are not keen to have branches as Associations due to the increase in costs for attending meetings. A proposition needs to be put to BBKA in advance of the meeting which BBKA may reject – we need to have a strong argument (90 miles between Hexham and Alnwick for meetings). NBKA will be meeting on Thursday to put forward the proposed to wind up NBKA which can then be done if BBKA accept the branches as full members. Ben has informed BBKA of what is being proposed, he has received an acknowledgement but no feedback.

Brian suggested speaking to Associations that have been accepted by BBKA in their own right – Tom agreed to provide details of which associations had been accepted for membership  
Whatever the outcome is Ben is not willing to continue in the role of Secretary.

## OTHER INFO

- New bee inspectors name is Chris Appleby from Morton, County Durham
- It was reported there has been an issue with people taking their hives to the heather. In the past everyone went at once, it is now being done randomly and the farmer likes to know when people are going up. Also there has been an issue with non-members taking up hives. It was agreed an email be sent to members stating they must contact the farmer before they take hives up, state they are a member of the Association and also state they should give the farmer a jar of honey.
- Shaun Scrimgeour has had two hives stolen from Hepple, they were branded with 2 brood boxes and supers on – note to go out to member to warn of thefts.