**Cumbria Beekeepers Association Executive Meeting Southey Street Methodist Rooms 2.00pm 7 Oct 2017**

**1) Attendance:-**

Walter McPhee Chair Carlisle

Ian Gregory  Vice Chair Cockermouth

Melanie Vincent Treasurer Cockermouth

Peter Weatherill Acting Sec Cockermouth

Val Sullivan Whitehaven

Rebecca Ivison Penrith

John Harris Cockermouth

Nick Mills  Carlisle

Stuart Beattie Membership Sec Penrith

Stephen Barnes Keswick

Sara Barnes Keswick

**2)  Apologies:-** P Matthews, C Matthews, R Robinson, Richard Backhouse, Dennis, Ken Hodgson, Graham Pinches

**3)  Minutes of previous meeting:-**  The minutes of the previous meeting were perused by the committee and the following corrections were made:

Item 10. Val Sullivan had not been consulted as to assisting with the provision of food for the Honey Show.

Item 12. Sara Barnes had been accepted as the replacement Secretary

These corrections were made and the minutes accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**4. Draft Proposals for the ADM:-** No draft proposals had been received from the branches. However Melanie Vincent proposed that the BBKA find another method to post the BBKA News to members that did not use polythene bags. All were in agreement about the merits of the proposal, but costing etc could be a problem. It was proposed that the matter of using environmental methods be proposed at the ADM but not as a costed proposal. Melanie was asked to download a form from the BBKA website and submit the proposal. **Action: Melanie Vincent.**

Steven Barnes informed the Committee that the BBKA were to propose a new qualification with regards to the Quality of Queen Rearing. This qualification would require a minimum pre qualification of Bee Husbandry. Steve pointed out that this had been raised by Cumbria previously with no action taken.

**5. Proposal to Forward Rob McGarvie as a BBKA Trustee.** As he was not present at the meeting to personally put his case forward then further action could not be taken. It was proposed that he be asked to attend the next meeting to put his case forward. The Sec should include this item in the next minutes. **Action:- Secretary**

**6. Preparations for the Honey Show.**

**Food:** Val Sullivan was asked and agreed to the provision of 2 types of soup and required rolls for the lunch for about 40 attendees. She agreed to this proposal. Melanie Vincent is not able to provide homemade biscuits for the Show but it as agreed that she purchase enough biscuits and tea coffee milk and sugar. She agreed to this. **Action:- Val Sullivan and Melanie Vincent.**

**Judging:** The Chairman informed the committee that Peter Matthews had agreed to judge the show exhibits and his wife, Christine, had agreed to taken on the duties of Steward.

It was agreed that the bookseller, Margaret Richies, could have a stall at the Show and that Penrith could sell their calendar at the event. Val Sullivan agreed to email Margaret Richies giving permission. **Action:- Val Sullivan**

**Key for the Hall:** Stephen Barnes was aked to ensure that the key for the hall was available. **Action: Stephen Barnes**

**7. Honey Show Medals**

**Best in Show Medals:** Stephen Barnes informed the committee that he had managed to acquire 15 BBKA Best in Show Medals. They had been found in the back of a cupboard at the BBKA and he had to act quickly to acquire them. The committee agreed to repay Stephen the £285 cost. It was agreed that the committee would pay for engraving the year on the medal before they were presented. Past winners would be asked to come forward to claim their medal retrospectively. Val Sullivan was awarded her medal for last year show. Stephen Barnes was asked to ensure that this years Best in Show Medal was engraved with this years date. **Action: Stephen Barnes**

**Cups:** Stephen Barnes told the committee that he was now in possession of all the cups bar one and he was expecting to have that delivered in the near future. A question of who was responsible for the engraving of the trophies with the names of the recipients. It was agreed that this was the responsibility of the recipient.

**8. The Editor of the Cumbria Bee Times.**  The committee was informed that Nathan Woodhead of the Penrith Branch had volunteered to to take over the position of Editor of the Cumbria Bee Times. He has a background of Publicity and Media. He sounded like the ideal candidate. It was proposed that he be invited to the next meeting and that he be co-opted onto the committee. This was unanimously agreed. **Action: Rebecca Ivison** to inform Nathan of the committees’ decision.

**9. County Swarm Collectors.** Stewart Beattie outlined the progress so far of getting the names of swarm collectors on the proposed BBKA database. There seemed to be some confusion as to who would be responsible for keeping the database up to date, whether it should be the responsibility of the Branch Sec or someone on the committee. There followed some discussion of who in the local authorities, council and the Police get the information from. It appeared that there were man out of date lists being held. Stewart agreed to contact these authorities to make them aware of the BBKA database. **Action: Stewart Beattie**

**10. Membership List Submissions for 2018.** The Membership Sec informed the committee that the Membership List for 2018 had to be with the BBKA by mid Mar, unfortunately he would be on holiday at this time. He asked that all submissions were made by mid Feb so they could be collated before he departs to sunnier climes. This was agreed. **Action: All Branch Secretaries/Membership Secretaries**

The Membership Secretary summarized the branch membership for 2017 compared with 2016. The main items of note were 22 members of Carlisle had not renewed this year although 5 new members had joined. At Penrith 21 new members had joined but 8 members had now renewed.

**11. Northern Bee Group.** Stephen Barnes informed the committee about the formation of the Northern Bee Group. This had come about by the demise of the Northumberland Beekeeping Association. The associations at Hexham, Alnwick, Tynedale and Newcastle had proposed the formation of a Bee Group similar to the South West Counties Group. This would not replace the existing county/area association or independent groups, but would give them all greater influence, ie clout, when dealing with such bodies as the BBKA. An invite had been sent to Cumbria, Sedbergh and Kendal to attend the inaugural meeting in Hexham on 12 Oct 2017. Stephen would be attending as a BBKA Trustee, Ian Gregory agreed to represent the committee and report back at the next meeting. **Action: Ian Gregory and Secretary** to place on next agenda.

**12. Treasurers Report.** The Treasurer informed the committee that a cheque for £665 had been sent to the BBKA for this years capitation. Unfortunately due to an oversight there were insufficient funds in the current account so an additional £10 was payable to the BBKA. The committee accepted the Treasurers explanation and agreed to the extra charge. The current balance of all account belonging to the association was £8187.72.

**13. Review of Actions from the Previous Meeting.**  A review of the actions of the previous meeting was undertaken and nearly all had been actioned or covered in this meeting.

**Next Committee Meeting**. It was agreed that a meeting should be held in Nov to review the Honey Show and in all probability it would be held in the Friends Meeting House, Keswick. The Secretary is to arrange and inform all members. **Action: Secretary**

**Cockermouth Convention.** This again had been plagued by low attendance although all those who had attended remarked on the quality of the Speakers and the organization. It was felt again that the lack of publicity had hampered this although all secretaries had been informed of the event. It was discussed as to whether the event could be held earlier in the year so as not to distract from attendance at the Honey Show. No decision was made and this natter will be discussed at a later meeting.

**14. Any Other Business.**

**Email addresses for executive roles of the committee.** It was agreed that to ease communication the rolls of Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Secretary should all have an identifiable email with their roles in the address. The Chairman agreed to undertake this. All passwords to the account will be held in a central location so that in case of incapacitation accounts can still be accessed. This was agreed. **Action: Chairman**

**Bee Improvement Day.** BIBBA has offered to hold a Bee Improvement Day in our region next year. This would be a practical course and Houghton Hall was proposed as an ideal location. This matter should be included in the next meeting when more information may be available. **Action: Secretary**

**15. Meeting Review.** A review of the meeting was undertaken and all agenda items had bee discussed/resolved/minuted for action

There being no further items for discussion the meeting was closed at 1600hrs