

Minutes of Moray Beekeepers Association 21st May 2013 at Speymouth Hall 6.30pm.

1. Members Present: Tony Harris, Anne Black, Davie Stuart, Mike Collins, Joy Malcolm, Bob Malcolm (chair), Donna Clark (treasurer), Ian Mcandie, Yvonne Stuart (secretary).
2. Apologies: Ron Clark & Andy Watson.
3. Minutes Approved: Tony Harris, Seconded by Davie Stuart.
4. Previous Minutes: Item 5, Insurance Joy/Yvonne still on going. Item 9 fire alarm, fire alarm is not required at Birnie.
5. Opening Ceremony: Works still to be carried out: Paint outer coat on the cabin. Move plaques in to the cabin.
6. Keith Show: this is a 2 day event 11th-12th Aug, total cost for table & 2 chairs is £75.00. Yvonne + children can attend the Monday Joy, Bob & Anne will do the Sunday. We do need to buy extra passes for stall holders. (Proposed). Risk assessment required YS to deal with this. (Actioned).
7. Correspondence: I have had a lot of interest regarding dates for the Introduction to Beekeeping Course, another date will be set. Sponsorship from Glen moray Distillery, this is still ongoing I will discuss this further with Glen Moray at a later date. Glen Moray are also looking for honey to take to France on a food tasting trip in June.
8. Treasurers Report: The 2nd claim to leader is in for £6000, we get back from that £3000. A Watson is chasing up another claim for £7000 which we get £3500. The bank balance at present is £800. Donna is to collect a donation from Aberlour House Junior Highland Games, which will be half of the proceeds which was made on that day, looking forward to receiving this Donna.

9. Donna's Wish List: Donna would like a Bee House, this can hold up to 14 hives. The benefit of this is that when it rains or the weather is not too good you can still manipulate your hives with ease. Donna & Tony had a great time in Sweden very tiring says Donna, the only complaint Tony made was that the Beer was expensive.

10. Roles & Responsibilities: Monthly Meetings: these are very important All committee members will be there when possible, monthly meetings will combine with the Apiary sessions, we have new members which we need to socialise with and keep everyone up to date with what's going on. All monthly meetings are open to everyone. A nominated First Aider & Duty Beekeeper will be at hand at each meeting. The Duty Beekeeper allows the meeting to go ahead.

Emergency Signs: signs are being made with Emergency contact numbers to be sited at the Apiary for every ones use.

Hives: these are to be labelled for easy recognition for all who manipulate the hives.

Changes: Anne Black would like to do a website course, which would allow her to under take the role of Web Master, this will be taken to the Annual General Meeting next year.

Official Roles: Chairman: Bob Malcolm, no changes.

Secretary: Yvonne Stuart. Yvonne has requested a minutes secretary, which was approved by the committee.

(Proposed). Joy Malcolm will undertake this role.

Committee Roles: Treasurer: Donna Clark. Project

Manager: Tony Harris. Web Master: Paul. News letter: Tony

Harris. Apiary manager: Tony Harris. Maintenance Team:

Ron Clark & Davie Stuart. Equipment Manager: Andy Watson. Library: Anne Black. Secretary: Yvonne Stuart.
Rules for buying Equipment: this is for when buying at the Apiary, 3pks per person of foundation. 3x10 frames, all prices are now current, please show your membership card with any purchase, no membership no goodies. We do have a list of all our current members.

Library: all the books will be catalogued a £10 deposit must be paid if using the books from the library a list will be displayed shortly on the next newsletter and also on the website. Anne Black is currently dealing with this.

Honey Show: a sub committee is required for this event which is to be held in October at Baxter's, we are looking for any members who wish to help with the organisation of this. Mike is to write to Andrew Tough to confirm booking for our Honey Show. (Action).

11. Beam project: Tony has worked 118.5 hrs on the BEAM project, (not including the Swedish trip), he has claimed payment for the contracted 60hrs. He has claimed 218 miles (£87.20), a further 120 miles for which he will not be claiming for. Opening Ceremony this was huge success & thanks to everyone for making it such a special day. Talks The Stuart family gave a talk to Gordonstoun Aberlour House, & the school are keen for Moray Beekeepers to help them set up a school apiary. Anne, Donna & Tony attended the Gordonstoun Highland Games, selling honey & promoting bee keeping. Courses the training team have now finished the 3 practical courses at Birnie, they all passed & each have received a certificate. A big thank you to Anne Black for all her hard work with the food & hospitality. Tony has now run 3 of 4 sessions, 6 members are taking the

assessment probably in July. Birnie Apiary Anne is kindly donating a shed to the MBKA. Queen Rearing this will commence on the 29th may, other dates are 30th May (grafting), 2nd June (check for acceptance of queen cells), 5th June (check box & remove any queen cells), 8th June, (place sealed queens in nuc). There are no strong colonies at the apiary so I will use my own bees. Finally we are within budget, no more purchases are planned.

12. Any Other Business: School Visits: a number of schools have now visited the Apiary, all is going very well. Yvonne & Addy are doing a tremendous job well done to them, Andy has visited two schools and had a great time with these. The feed back from the schools has been very positive indeed, all those who have been have enjoyed their visit. Andrew Tassell was asking about the Junior Basic Bee master Course, this is just a pilot course at the moment which will run in July for two nominated members.

Anne Black has requested for a large water bottle with a tap on it for easy use, (proposed). Joy & Bob will order this for the Apiary. Anne has also donated a shed for the Apiary which Davie will collect & take to the site. (Action).

SBA: Tony Harris will be the new Secretary for the Scottish Bee keepers which he will start next year. (good luck with that Tony). Davie & Yvonne Stuart collected hives from a retired bee keeper at Kingussie and are busy sorting them out. The kind gentleman who donated them would like to visit our Apiary which he will be most welcomed to do so.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Date of next meeting is 25th June at 6.30pm at Spey Mouth Hall.