

Minutes of Moray Beekeepers Association Committee meeting held in Spey Bay Hall on Tuesday 25th June 2013.

1. Present : Bob Malcolm (Chair), Yvonne Stuart (Secretary) , Donna Clark (Treasurer)

Tony Harris , Anne Black, Mike Collins, Ian McAndie , Davie Stuart, Joy Malcolm.

2. Apologies: Ron Clark and Andy Watson

3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 21st May with the amendment to item 8 – delete sentence

(A. Watson is chasing up another claim for £7000 for which we get £3500) -
proposed Tony , seconded Anne

4. Matters arising from previous minutes:

Keith Show: Yvonne reported she had submitted risk assessment and application form for the Show – awaiting reply as to cost etc.

Introduction to beekeeping courses : 2 additional courses have been arranged for 29th June and 6th July (generating £260 minus catering costs for the 29th) -additional cash will be forthcoming for the 6th July.

Labelling of hives: Bob reported he had obtained numbers for each hive and would affix them with double sided tape .

Collection of hives from Kingussie: Yvonne reported she and Davie were sorting out hives donated by Mr David Johnston – there were quite a few but some were in a poor condition. Yvonne will write and thank Mr Johnston.

Honey Show to be held at Baxters: Mike reported he had contacted Baxters about the show and confirmed the dates booked were 11th and 12th October. After discussion it was decided (due to start of school holidays) that we would book only Saturday 12th October for a one day show. Mike asked for names to form a sub committee and it was agreed that this would comprise of Mike, Tony, Anne, And y and Yvonne. Tony requested everyone to rally round and submit some show articles .

Insurance: Yvonne requires to list items to be included in the insurance quote and these were listed_ with total cost around £10,000 – she would submit this to insurance broker.

5. Correspondence : Yvonne has submitted an e-mail requesting details of funding application from Statkraft Berry Burn Wind farm who have issued a bulletin stating they were prepared to consider funding various local enterprises – she is waiting for a reply

6. Treasurers Report: Donna reported that the bank balance was now £7,775 – this includes £3,000 from Gordonston school, £5,816 from our 1st Leader claim, and £2,920 from our second claim. Marie, from Leader had requested more detailed claims for our training sessions e.g. numbers attending ,catering costs, travel costs .etc. It was agreed we would submit all our receipts for all expenses pertaining to the courses so that Donna can make a detailed claim. This has caused her considerably extra work.

7. Beam : Tony reported he had worked 208 hours and travelled 378 miles in June but claimed only 60 hours and 160 miles

Talks to Groups and Shows: Pitgavenny fun day (Tony Yvonne and Davie)
Hopeman : (Davie)
Greenfingers Open Day: (Mike and Ron)
Lossiemouth Family Day: (Anne,James, Mike, Sue,Tony)
All MBA honey has now been sold generating around £400

School visits : 12 school groups have visited Birnie and generated excellent feedback – we have now fulfilled our commitment to Leader for 12 child conservation sessions.

Scottish Government Bee Health day hosted by MBA was a success , raising our profile and generating income through catering. Tony thanked all those assisting on that day.

SBA Nucleus Creation workshop again hosted by MBA – 11 students and the day resulted 5 nucs containing sealed queen cells from queen rearing programme.Tony submitted an article to SBA outlining the events on that day.

Hive and Bee Offer: (proposed) Our nuc supplier is no longer able to supply our 18 nucs on order.

After discussion, the committee proposed that all members of MBA would be e-mailed and anyone able to sell a nuc conforming to our requirements would be reimbursed at the same price as we would have paid our supplier.It was unanimously agreed that we would make every effort to source our supply of nucs locally , or at least from , from Scotland ,as this was our original intention.

The cost we would have spent for travelling for our nucs could now be transferred to another item if we approached Leader for permission.

8. Mileage claims: Tony requested all those still to submit mileage claims should do so asap to enable Donna to make her Leader claims.

9. **Birnie Apiary:** The shed donated by Anne and James has now been erected – thanks go to them for this.

10 **Web Master:** Anne reported that the web site could do with updating and that Ian and she would be prepared to work together on this. The Committee agreed that Anne would receive website training . Any changes regarding the website would be proposed at the AGM.

11. School visits: Some schools had indicated they would like a return visit to Birnie and discussion took place as to whether we should continue these visits at present. It was agreed that we would discuss the matter early next year . it was pointed out that we are a training apiary and we have obligations to the community but, as we had run so many courses this year, we should have a break from school visits meantime.

12. Birnie back up generator: Anne reported that James would be willing to mend our old generator – the spare part was around £28 – the committee proposed we accept his kind offer.

13. Kitchen units: Anne has some units which could be used to improve the facilities at Birnie – we would leave until winter when we can take time to install them.

14. Rail for beesuits: The new suits were becoming crumpled and various solutions put forward – ongoing discussion.

15. Sugar project: It was agreed that we would run this project again this year and Tony would make the arrangements and inform Committee members of their roles in the project. ACTION TH

16. Honey Extraction training day at Thornes 24th August : Tony has booked 5 places – Tony and Anne going – Joy and Bob willing to go , Yvonne to advise whether she can attend. Tony stated that the course would be funded by MBA but those attending would be expected to run a similar course for MBA members later in the year.

Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

Date of next meeting ; 30th July in Spey Bay Hall