# MINUTES OF MORAY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION (MBA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) HELD AT ELGIN TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2018

Committee/Trustees	Appointment
Andrew Watson (Chairman)	Chairman
Tony Harris (Vice Chairman)	Vice Chairman
John Gifford (Treasurer)	Treasurer
Markus Steiner	Trustee
Steve Carter	Trustee
Andrea Dunford	Trustee
Alan Ranson	Trustee
James Black	Trustee
Anne Black	General Secretary/Trustee
Drew Dunford	General Secretary (Designate)

Ser	Item			Action
1	Chairmans Welcome			
'				
				All
	welcoming 26 members		fattendees is	
	appended to these min	utes.		
2	Apologies			
2	Apologics			
	The following apologies	were received from t	he following members:	Secretary
				1
	Committee/Trus		Member	
	Raefe Lettey	Pete Deer	•	
		Bridgit De John Baill		
		Dianna Ba		
		Jim Hinsh		
		Linda Hin		
		Oliver Ma		
		Amanda F	Peterson	
		Alasdair J	oyce	
		Ruth Burk	hill	
		Karen Bus		
		John Ledr		
		Lee Myers		
		Jane Ged	des	
•	ACM Minutes 2017			
3	AGM Minutes 2017			
	Members have been	given the opportunity	to comment on the	All
	minutes of the AGM h			
	feedback on any issues	resolved since the la	st AGM. The minutes	
	were accepted as a true	e record of the meetin	g.	
	D	0	D !!	i:
	Proposed	Seconded	Result	
	T Harris	S Carter	Carried	
4	Matters Arising			
	Busy Bees Honey Co-			
	all members that the MBA had successfully bid for and received £5,000 to purchase an Apimelter and electric Radial Extractor which			
	are currently located w	It is boned that 2010	by all IVIBA members	.
	for a minimal charge.	it is noped that 2018	wiii provide a bumper	

honey harvest for all members. **Secretary's Note**: The assets will be included on the property ledger.

# Secretary's Report

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Another busy year for the MBA with further courses having been run at the Birnie Apiary (Basic, Modular & Queen Rearing courses etc).

We had asked for members to consider volunteering to take up appointments on the Committee and several have come forward which will hopefully assist the exisiting committee in driving MBA forward as we draw closer to our centenary year (2019).

Anne Black stated that one of her highlights as Deputy Secretary in 2016 was assisting Ann Chilcott and Tony Harris with the organisation of the successful SBA Annual Conference at UHI Elgin.

In terms of the Birnie Apiary – we have had considerable support from members to tidy up the site and improve the facilities available to members which included the hexagonal flower beds.

A number of the Committee members have retired and they were thanked for their support during their tenures.

Finally, Anne Black announced that she was stepping down as the General Secretary with effect this AGM but would continue to be a Trustee. The Chairman thanked her for her support over the period of her tenure.

### 6 Treasurer's Report

John Gifford summarised the accounts, which have been independently examined. The current available funds are £1,618.43. Whilst this is a significant drop from the figures given last year the membership were reminded that some expenditure had been approved to enhance the Birnie Apiary such as the Hexagonal Flower beds. We have also had to pay out to replace bees that have been lost over the last winter.

Major Expenses have been for:

- Purchases of stores (Frames, Foundation, Jars, etc) which will be on sale for members and some of which will be used within the Apiary.
- Equipment purchases.

Comment was made by Eric Baker as to how we account for the stock and it was agreed that the Secretary/Treasurer/Trustees would look to create the ability for a Proof of Stock and Cash (POSAC) ledger to account for stock.

The treasurer also acknowledged that he was yet to claim back the Gift Aid in respect of membership fees from last year. This is not required to be done annually.

The Chaimen thanked the treasurer for his report.

## 7 Election of Office Bearers

The Chairman (Andrew Watson), Vice Chairman (Tony Harris), Treasurer (John Gifford) and committee members, James Black, Raefe Lettey and Alan Ranson offered themselves for re-election to the respective positions held. **Treasurer** 

**Secretary** 

Treasurer

Proposed	Seconded	Result
A Ranson	S Carter	Carried

There being no further nominees they are duly re-elected.

It was proposed on behalf of the committee that Anne Black, Andrea Dunford, Steve Carter, and Markus Steiner be elected as trustees.

Proposed	Seconded	Result
A Watson	T Harris	Carried

There being no further nominees they are duly elected.

It was also proposed on behalf of the Committee, that Drew Dunford be elected as General Secretary.

Proposed	Seconded	Result
A Watson	T Harris	Carried

There being no further nominees he is duly elected.

#### 8 MBA Constitution Amendments

The chaiman identified a change to the constitution which had been discussed at the last Committee Meeting which was to address the permitted tenure of Office Bearers of the Committee. The proposed change was:

Under the heading EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICE BEARERS, on page 2,

Line 13 – at the end of the line, insert, 'The Chairman, Vice Chairman and General Secretary shall serve for a term of 3 years after which they will stand down from their positions but may still serve as trustees. They will not be able to stand for their former positions for a period of 2 years.

Proposed	Seconded	Result
A Watson	T Harris	Carried

The secretary was tasked with amending the Constitution to reflect this change.

Secretary

# 9 Membership Fees

There has been no changes to membership fees for several years. An increase in line with inflation will enable the Association to continue to prosper over the coming years. It was proposed that the fees be changed to:

Membership Type	Membership	Renewal Rate
	Rate	(after 01.06.18)
New Member Joining Fee	£10.00	n/a
F & FC members only		
F – Full Member	£17.00	£ 20.00

Treasurer

FC – Full (Concession)	£10.00	£13.00
Member (over 65 yrs)		
Y – Youth member (12-16yrs)	£5.00	£7.00
J – Junior Member (6-11 yrs)	FREE	FREE
C – Conservation Member	£10.00	£10.00
L – Life Member	FREE	FREE

The Chairman put the options to the floor and this small uplift to fees was supported by Ann Chilcott.

Proposed	Seconded	Result
J Gifford	A Watson	Carried

# 10 | Spring/Summer Programme 2018

Details of forthcoming events were notified to members.

Date	Event	Location
Sunday 22 Apr 18	First Inspections/Q	Birnie Apiary
	Marking and Clipping	
Saturday 19 May 18	Visit to Pluscarden	Pluscarden
	Abbey	
Sunday 24 Jun 18	Swarm Control &	Birnie Apiary
	General Inspections	
Sunday 22 Jul 18	Summer Inspections	Birnie Apiary
Sunday 26 Aug 18	Heather Picnic	TBC
Sunday 02 Sep 18	Honey Extraction	Birnie Apiary
	Talk/Demonstration	
Saturday 20 Oct 18	Members Honey Show	Birnie Apiary

Additionally, regular Apiary Inspection sessions will take place at Birnie and members are encouraged to attend (see website for further details).

# General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The Secretary gave the meeting an overview of the changes relating to the GDPR which comes into effect on 28 May 18 and runs along the same principals of the Data Protection Act 1998. The MBA will need to ensure compliance with these new regulations. The Secretary informed members that he would shortly be writing to members to make them aware of the GDPR and how it will relate to members in the future. More to follow in due course.

# 12 Presentation of Certificates

The Vice Chairman invited those present who had attended courses to receive their respective certificates and a warm congratulation was given to all.

Basic Beekeeping Certificates, were awarded to Eric Baker, Karen Bush, Andrea Dunford, Drew Dunford, Sarah Hayes, Sharon Scapens.

The next step after taking the Basic Assessment is to sit some of the modular exams and congratulations are due to **Sarah Hayes** who passed **Module 1**, **'Honey Bee Management'**, exam in November 2017. ΑII

**Secretary** 

Module 2 certificates, 'Honey Bee Products and Forage, to Stephen Carter, Jane Geddes, John Gifford, and Susan Godlington.

John Gifford, along with John and Dianna Baillie also passed Module 3, 'Honey Bee Diseases, Pests and Poisoning'.

Andy Watson is still on track to achieve the Expert Beemaster qualification and this summer he was successful in the Intermediate Practical Assessment, and having added this to all his modular successes, he is now awarded the Advanced Beemaster certificate.

A few members are taking further exams in March so good luck to them. Congratulations to all our successful beekeepers.

If you are interested in taking the SBA Basic Beekeeping assessment in 2018 then MBA will be running a course commencing in April. The only criteria for taking this assessment is that you have kept bees for one season, are enthusiastic to learn, and have a laugh at the same time.

For more information please have a word with John Gifford or Alan Ranson who will be running the course this year.

# 13 The Healthy Bee's (Bee Education in Scotland) Project

Tony Harris gave an overview of the project which will follow on from the Bee Aware project which previously assisted MBA in the setting up of Birnie Apiary. The project is to help us improve Beekeeping in Scotland. The project will run for 3 years with a number of courses being run throughout the year. Costs for the 2 day courses are likely to be £60. Whilst it may appear that the project is not directly beneficial to MBA in terms of finances it should create other spin offs for funding. Further details will be populated on the MBA website.

## 14 Any Other Business

There were no other points discussed.

# 15 The Year in Photos.

Tony Harris had put together a slide show of photos sent in by Association Members which had captured what the MBA had been upto over the last year. A further request was given to continue to provide photos throughout the next year.

On conclusion of the powerpoint presentation the Chairman closed the meeting at 2015 hours.

Vice Chairman

A A Dunford MBE General Secretary A Watson Chariman

Date: 28 Feb 18

# List of Attendees:

Steve Carter

John Gifford

Alan Ranson

Andrea Dunford

**Drew Dunford** 

Tony Harris

Andy Watson

**Sharon Scapens** 

Tom Balch

Barbara Westie

Markus Steiner

James Black

Anne Black

Simon Jager

David Parry

**Christopher Toynton** 

Ann Chilcott

Eric Baker

Willie Forsyth

Pam Nairn

Graeme Nairn

Ian Cassells

Donna Clark

Ron Clark

Torquil Gordon Duff

Martin Allen