

# PEEBLESSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**The current Coronavirus pandemic and its restrictions on meetings and travel, meant that this meeting took place online via Zoom.**

## DRAFT MINUTES

### **1. Apologies for absence**

*Apologies:* Jim Dick, Linda Dick, Bob Soutter

*Present (via Zoom):* Miriam Baete, Shirley Barrett, Duncan Calder, Amanda Clydesdale, Janet Dutch, Geoff Goldstraw, Linda Haldane, Peter Jack, Richard Leeman, Ranald Macgregor, Wilma Maclean, Scott Richardson, Frances Soutter, Peter Stevenson, Dave Stokes

### **2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM**

Minutes were read and proposed correct by GG, Seconded by FS

### **3. Matters arising from minutes**

No matters arising

### **4. Secretary's Report**

Read (to be made available on the PBKA website); vote of thanks proposed by RL and seconded by FS.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Read (to be made available on PBKA website): vote of thanks proposed by AC, seconded by GG.

### **6. Subscriptions**

Although the Association made a small loss – expected since Covid prevented face-to-face talks, beginners' course and other events – it is in a very healthy position and there is no necessity to increase the £10 subscription. However this is a small sum and an increase should be considered for next year: suggested by SB and endorsed by several members.

### **7. Election of Office Bearers**

All offices are open for election: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Committee members.

**President:** PS nominated David Ferguson, seconded by PJ; endorsed by the general approval of the meeting.

The meeting thanked Geoff Goldstraw for his many years of service to the Association, as member, Secretary, and latterly as President.

**Treasurer:** PS nominated by AC, seconded by WM, and approved by the meeting. PS will continue to act as Treasurer, with the assistance of LH.

**Secretary:** AC to continue by default, and proposed by LH, seconded by WM.

**Committee:** current committee members indicated they were willing to continue – with the welcome addition of GG – and were approved by the meeting.

## **8 AOCB**

8.1 *Coronavirus:* AC will continue to keep members informed of any restrictions affecting management of PBKA and members' apiaries.

8.2 *Association apiary management:* to operate according to restrictions in force – currently PBKA apiary will ensure 2 beekeepers working at 2m distance, though it is expected that restrictions will ease, and it will be possible for beginners to have hands-on mentoring at the apiary.

8.3 *Purchases for Association:* PS had purchased a POS unit: can be used for subscription payments, taking payments at the honey stall, etc. A mobile phone had also been purchased for the association, which can also be used for payments, apiary photos and filming, and Apps for apiary records.

Discussion later suggested that purchasing/making a bee vacuum might be very useful – it would have been very helpful when PS and DF recently removed bees from inside a roof. AC – it would also be useful for swarm collection, every year one or 2 swarms were unreachable, in roofs/chimneys. DF to collate information,

8.4 *Projects: tree planting.* Currently on hold, but not ruled out – trees were free via the Woodland Trust (they do a selection of trees for pollinators), but the supports and protective tubes cost c. £5 per tree. PS to investigate. Current restrictions also rule out group meetings for planting.

8.5 *Annual dinner:* the 2019 dinner was much enjoyed, and we should have an annual dinner as soon as restrictions permit.

8.6 *Varroa: new legal requirements* for reporting presence of varroa (eg on your BeeBase file) come into force this summer: the requirement for notification of AFB, EFB, Tropilaelaps and small hive beetle continues. Full details will be published in April's SBA magazine – AC will ensure non-SBA members will see the article.

8.7 *Borrowing PBKA equipment:* Richard Leeman offered to continue to manage the loan of PBKA equipment to members: £5 per item, for a week's hire. For people hiring the heather press, it may be necessary for them to purchase the actual bag, as the bags probably cost more than the £5 hire.

NB anyone wishing to borrow equipment must make sure the secretary has their current address. PS and AC to update members' details when subscription reminders go out: this could include a list of equipment available to borrow.

### **The PBKA Committee for 2021 and 2022 is as follows:**

President: David Ferguson

Honorary Vice President: Kate Atchley

Treasurer: Peter Stevenson

Secretary: Amanda Clydesdale

Committee members: Janet Dutch, Geoff Goldstraw, Linda Haldane, Wilma Maclean, Richard Leeman, Bob Soutter, Frances Soutter