



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 23th January 2019

Haverfordwest Cricket Club

- 1. Apologies** – Geoff Bazin, Barbara Pegg, David White, Peter Dart, William Lint, Gareth Isaac, H. Smith, J & M Dale
- 2. Minutes of the previous AGM** - Agreed. Diane Corbett proposed minutes were an accurate account and this was seconded by Paul Eades
Matters arising from the minutes – None
- 3. Chairman's Report ***

Jeremy Percy (JP) opened his report by commenting on the success of the season in terms of it being a good year for bees and honey production. This had been matched by an increase in demand for local honey. The Bee Auction has been one of the highlights of the year in addition to establishing a new beginner's apiary following the space at Kethins being no longer available due to significant renovation works being carried out on the farm buildings. The space for the new apiary at The Rhos, provided by the owners of the Woodland Farm, has also seen a new bee shed built on site. There has been a steady flow of new beekeepers attending the twice monthly sessions.

The Honey Show was well attended and the quality of entries are improving year on year. The Honey Lunch was an opportunity to present the awards for well-deserved efforts by members, as well as time to enjoy the pleasurable food and company.

JP reminded members that the association was lucky to have a willing band of volunteers on the committee and thanked them for their ongoing commitment.

There was also a reminder that this is the 100th centenary for the Association and it is an enormous milestone for any organisation. Some ideas were proposed for inclusion in the celebrations but JP also asked members for their ideas, and help to see the plans through.

*A full copy of this report is available from JP



4. Treasurers Report

A Treasurers Report was presented to the membership by the Association's Treasurer, Lesley Lewis, stating the list of income generated and costs incurred from the various activities undertaken by the Association. Members present indicated their satisfaction with the report.

5. Membership Fees for 2020

New members present noted how low the fees are considering how much support is available to members. Members voted by a considerable majority to increase the fees to £25 for a family membership.

6. Apiary Managers Report

Paul Eades (PE) reported a very busy year with well attended apiary meetings. There had been no shortage of new beekeepers taking advantage of the courses on offer. The introductory sessions have been particularly well attended and this helped people make up their minds whether beekeeping was for them.

Apiary meetings will begin in April and members were reminded that they would be able to access up-to-date information on the Association's webpage and Facebook. PE spoke about his experiences of beekeeping during a trip to Australia and his account will be in the Centenary magazine in due course

Taster sessions will be held again this year and these will be two hour sessions with Scolton taking the bookings and payments. PE echoed the Chair in reminding members that the association depends significantly on the time and commitment of volunteers, whose level of support underpinned the strength of the Association.

PE also reminded members that Geoff Bazin is still the Thornes agent for Pembrokeshire and to be sure to let Geoff know of their requirements early in the season.

PE also reminded members of the value of beekeepers supporting each other in small local groups and hoped this would be further developed.

A full transcript of the Apiary Managers report is available from the Secretary.



7. Queen Rearing Report

The bees went into winter in good shape, reported Ricky Wilson (RW). The first pollen was seen around the 20th January. Stores were good and there was good reason to be optimistic. However, the rain came in and then the wind, resulting in a battering for the hives. The population of the hives was in decline rather than increase.

Queen Rearing normally starts in mid-April but going through the colonies, there was nothing of any value. What was there was needed for their own hives.

Improvements soon followed and the plentiful supply of dandelion pollen and nectar gave the first queen cells a good start. Re-queening colonies was successful and although the weather was too dry to take the bees to the heather, the year progressed well and nothing much needed feeding.

RW had a surprise visit during the summer, courtesy of Roger Burns, who brought Marla Spivac and Bill Klett to visit. RW reported how lucky he had been to have the chance to spend a couple of very interesting hours with such authorities in the beekeeping world.

The honey show was a thrill to judge, and very difficult due to the superbly tabled exhibits. The winning light honey was awesome. RW congratulated all who took part.

RW wished members a wonderful New Year and hope it is at least half as good as the one just past.

The full report is available from the Secretary.

8. Election of Officers and Committee

Members were reminded that they were welcome to forward any names for the committee. In the absence of any new names, it was proposed that we carry on with the present committee, the members voted overwhelmingly in favour of this.

The Chairman closed the meeting with a vote of thanks to all attending.

The Committee therefore is as follows:

Pembrokeshire Beekeepers' Association Cymdeithas Gwenynwyr Sir Benfro



Charity Commission Registration No. 509570

Chair -	Jerry Percy
Vice Chair and Apiary Manager	Paul Eades
Treasurer	Lesley Lewis
Membership Secretary	Diane Corbett
Secretary	Lesley Williams
Editor Newsletter	Jerry Percy
Queen Rearing	Ricky Wilson
Swarm co-ordinator	Alan Johnson
Bee Breeding	Ricky Wilson
Thorn Agent	Geoff Bazin

9. Date and venue of next AGM

Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at Haverfordwest Cricket Club 7:30pm