



## REPORT ON THE 2020 BBKA ANNUAL DELGATES MEETING

11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 – 10.30am to 3pm

Abbreviations used: Margaret Murdin, BBKA President (MM) Margaret Wilson, BBKA chair (MW), Martin Smith Past President and currently Standing Orders expert (MS)

67 voting delegates present. Manchester want VAT on equipment addressed. MM to do that when we have left EU.

Committee reports taken en bloc and approved.

Tyneside won Surrey Shield for best performance with Basic Assessments. Nearly 750 took the basic in 2019.

Yorkshire won George Knights prize for performance above basic level.

Finance Report: Surplus for 4th year running so no increase in capitation next year. £19 capitation gives an income of £469k but other sources increase income to over £1 million. Situation looks ok at present.

Appoint auditors Harrison Beale and Owen - local company.

Applications for Area Association Membership.

Laddingford. applied last year and were refused. They split from Kent BKA because they didn't want to be 'forced' to take BeeCraft. This year they applied again because after last year they linked with Thanet but this doesn't work for them. For some reason they can't attend each others events. They can re-apply this year even though they tried last year because the 3 year rule where propositions can't be re-presented to the meeting doesn't apply to membership applications.

Laddingford's representative spoke of the many things they do. All good. 86 full members, 38 friends and 1 junior.

Initial vote F 45 A19 Ab3. so Laddingford were initially elected.

Then the Yorkshire delegate called a membership vote. This caused a fuss in the room from small associations.

Manchester pointed out that 14 associations hold 55% of the vote.

Yorkshire delegate was pressed to withdraw but would not as he said he had been mandated by his members.

Manchester delegate threatened to walk out of the meeting if a membership vote was held. Membership vote was F 9691. A 13888. Ab. 1027. So Laddingford's application failed again.

Election for Exam board. 1 applicant Helen Hughes elected.

Election of President. 1 candidate. Margaret Wilson. For 53. Abstain 14. (No option to vote against)

Election of trustees:

4 vacancies for 3 years

Stephen Barnes 50 votes

Anne Rowberry 49 votes

Joyce Nisbet. 49 votes

Richard Bond. 33 votes

2 vacancies for 2 years

Bob Hogge 34 votes

Gareth Morgan 26 votes

1 vacancy for 1 year

John Hendrie 56 votes

Amend clause 6.4 of disciplinary procedures. A suspended trustee must not visit BBKA premises unless supervised by someone authorised by the chair. Vote on this amendment requires 50%.

Vote F 66. A 0. Ab 1

**Prop 1** Ratification of annex C to the BBKA CIO Constitution. needs 2 thirds vote.

F 65. A 1. Ab 1 Surrey for.

**Prop 2** The position of Hon Treasurer is no longer required.

According to the Charity Commission we do not need a treasurer.

Vote to agree we no longer need a treasurer. F 60. A4. Ab3. Surrey against

**Prop 3.**

Amendment to CIO so associations can now submit their own returns. This allows flexibility. In practice not changing much. F 67. A 0. Ab 0. Surrey for

**Prop 4.** Single vote for trustees - streamline voting so people with most votes get longest terms.

Vote on minor amendment 50% needed F 66. A 1. Ab 0

Vote on proposition (also applies to trustees and exam board) F 65. A 2. Ab 0. Surrey for

**Prop 5** proxy voting is only activated when there is a physical attendance of 90%.

MW said this ADM wouldn't have been quorate this morning on the basis of the proposal.

Amendment: Cumbria - instead of 90% threshold should be 70% so proxy should activate when 70% of delegates are present at the start of the meeting. Vote for amendment F 49. A 15. Ab 3 Surrey for

Vote for proposition F 23. A43. Ab 1. Surrey for. Proposition Failed

**Prop 6** Amend title chairman to chair. F 51. A 14. Ab 2. Surrey for.

**Prop 7** New Area Association Members should have a minimum of 50 paying members.

Cornwall proposed increase to minimum membership of 100 paying members.

Some talk about small divisions with less than 50 members paying for 50 members in order to qualify. Agreed not acceptable.

London BKA said they started with 67 and are now 300 strong. A high threshold would stifle new associations.

Jersey unlikely to ever get 100. Guernsey will never be that big. Must consider small areas.

Peterborough: entry level was brought down some years ago to 50 because of geographical issues.

Vote on amendment to proposition for 100 physical paying members of BBKA F25. A 39. AB 3 Failed Membership vote on amendment 14881. 9054. 671. so eventually passed that new associations should have 100 members.

Numerous comments from the room from small associations. No point in us coming to meetings in future! Can't outvote big associations. Happens every year etc

Proposition should now have 100 paying members.

Cumbria wants to withdraw their proposition. Vote on that. SBKA no to withdrawal. For 64%. Against 36% Abstain 0%

So proposition withdrawn after all that! Percentages were shown because the person running the electronic voting was new and struggling with the system!

**Propositions 8, 9, 10, 11** withdrawn by Yorkshire BKA.

MS. Yearbook to be reinstated through ER2. Now set up with officers - secretary, chair and treasurer Live as of 10th January. At 31st Jan will be opened up to see any association. For next few weeks there will be access to own association only to allow associations to edit info so only what they want to have in the public domain is shown. It was decided to extend the trial period when associations can only access their own data to end of February as some associations thought 3 weeks was far too short a time to check their entries!

Alex Ellis from BeeCraft highlighted the importance of access to member data by Specialist Members like BeeCraft. They need to communicate with BBKA member associations.

**Prop 12.** BBKA should provide insurance for AHAT teams.

Much has happened since the proposition was put forward. Insurance is now in place (personal and public liability) for monitoring AH but not for dealing with nests. Done as part of existing insurance policy at no extra cost. Up to 15 members per local division will be insured but they will have to register with BBKA and complete a simple online registration 'quiz' in order to demonstrate that they understand the parameters within which they can operate. BBKA trustee Anne Rowberry is working on this and registration will be made available after the AHAT conference in February.

Vote on proposition. F 60 A 5 Ab 4. Surrey for

**Prop 13** BBKA should raise pollinator awareness amongst planning and landscaping professionals.

BBKA would set up a project group where BBKA would be a partner along with planners and landscape gardeners and those who train them.

W Norfolk proposed to amend the proposition. That BBKA should raise pollinator awareness among planning and landscaping professionals and training providers. Vote on amendment F63. A 4. Ab 0.

Surrey for

Vote on proposition. F 54. A 10.ab 3 Surrey for

**Prop 14** BBKA should mandate CONBA (Confederation of National Beekeeping Associations) to join Apimondia.

Apimondia uses United Nations definition of a country. BBKA can't apply and neither can England. Must be UK so must be done by CONBA. All other CONBA members must work together.

Vote on proposition. F 62. A 3. Ab 2. Surrey for

Proposition withdrawn by proposer as it is not viable.

Vote to withdraw proposition F 62 A 3 Ab 2. Surrey for

Chain of office passed to new President Margaret Wilson

MW thanked MM for her efforts. Vote of thanks and meeting closed.