



BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting 13.01.2018 Report for the Surrey BKA AGM

First you should understand that as your delegate at the ADM I take copious notes in order to have an aide memoire when you ask questions about the meeting. I then edit and tidy the notes before presenting them to your divisional trustees and representatives at an SBKA council meeting.

This year the edited notes run to 9 pages and I don't intend to inflict that on you. If you want detail, please ask your divisional representative who has it all.

This year the ADM was dominated by the dispute between the BBKA Executive and BBKA trustee Ian Homer regarding the management of the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers in UK in 2017 and allegations of bullying. It was a sorry affair. Nobody came out of it well. This has been extensively covered in the beekeeping press. If you really want more detail please ask your divisional representative.

There is a panel to assess applications for research funding. A number of applications are being considered.

BBKA had a surplus of £83,700 despite a freeze on capitation so no increase in capitation for the 2018/19 year.

The Surrey Shield for notable achievement in basic assessments was presented to Kendle and Westmoreland BKA.

The George Knights Award for educational achievement above basic level went to Reading BKA.

Applications for BBKA Area Association Membership.

Surrey BKA is an Area Association. We have 1,000 members and one vote at the ADM. Every year little associations, usually with personality differences, want to break away from their associations to form a new BBKA Area Association. Every year the delegates, most of whom are new to the very complicated ADM and don't understand what is going on, vote to accept these little organizations. This year three joined, Hexham, Ainwick and Tyneside. Most of our Surrey divisions have more members than any of these associations but each of them now has the same vote as Surrey BKA. There is a backstop. As your delegate I can demand a 'member vote'. That means that instead of one member one vote, the number of members in an association is counted. This redresses the balance and means our vote is weighted in favour of our larger membership. This used to be a very occasional back stop for important votes. As we get more and more little associations becoming Area Associations I find myself requesting a member vote on a regular basis. This way we can punch our weight.

Election of President

A potential president only needs one vote to be elected.

'For' or 'abstain' are the only options. There is no option to vote against!

Margaret Murdin was elected.

Voting was For 35, Abstain 30. I will leave you to draw your own conclusions.

Nominations for the Executive Committee

10 candidates for six vacancies.

4 vacancies for 3 years

Howard Pool

Suzanne Bennett

Pam Hunter

Walaa Elsayeh

1 vacancy for 2 years

Anne Rowberry

1 vacancy for 1 year

Diane Drinkwater

Unsuccessful candidates

Roger Chappel, Mike Cullen, John Canning, Peter Lovering

Nominations for Examination Board

4 candidates for 3 vacancies

Julie Coleman, David Rayner, Shirley Bond,

Unsuccessful – Lynne Ingram

Propositions

This is what the ADM is supposed to be about. Propositions are put forward by Area Associations such as Surrey BKA and the BBKA executive are required to act on the result.

2018/1

Extra notes required regarding BBKA Enterprises Ltd. Accounts in the ADM pack.

Suffolk proposal. Financial statement is not audited but prepared for board to approve. Reports for past years are not clear. Suffolk BKA think it is not possible to separate sponsorship and sale of goods or how sponsorship is used. No record of Fera funding in the accounts.

Howard Pool's response for BBKA. Suffolk delegate could well be right about past years accounts.

The balance sheet is now 'cleaned' and any profit transferred to BBKA. BBKA Enterprises is purely a trading arm fire wall and has changed considerably.

Vote For 20 Against 42 Abstain 3 Surrey against

2018/2

An active programme of publicity to inhibit the importation of bees

Devon proposal. Members want this. Issue with small hive beetle.

A lot of debate and changes.

Finally For 57 Against 5 Abstain 1 Surrey for

Moved to proposition **2018/7** in order to allow a guest to speak (now 5pm)

Initiating the process to convert the BBKA to a Charitable Incorporated Organization.

BBKA should have incorporated some time ago as the association employs people and owns property. Limited Liability is beneficial to trustees without taking any current constitutional rights away.

It should be noted that an incorporated organization can only have one objective.

Vote For 62 Against 0 Abstain 1 Surrey for

Back to proposition **2018/3**

Evidence of the robustness of the process for issuing a Bee Health Certificate

Devon BKA. They want to know how thorough the paper trail is. Should be able to audit it and influence the process. Are government cuts having an effect on the system?

Paperwork is checked in London or Manchester (the only permitted ports of entry). The system is stretched and BBKA will keep eye on it.

Comment from a delegate. 525 queens imported from Argentina and only 1 was examined. Are we importing disease? For 48 Against 10 Abstain 3 Surrey against.

2018/4 *Improved management and coordination across the BBKA organization*

Not debated. Moved to next business.

2018/5

Surplus from IMYB be earmarked to promote beekeeping for young people. Taken together with Vale and Downland proposal that IMYB funds should be ring-fenced for future IMYB events.

Howard Pool was concerned about 'painting ourselves into a corner' if IMYB ceases to exist.

Vale and Downland believe people who donated were under impression it would be for IMYB.

Mike Somers (a past Surrey BKA President) said the money is held in trust and cannot be used for other things. Future costs will be less as host country pays most. Possibly 500 euros to enter plus our costs - probably about £5000 for travel etc.,

Amended proposition. *Exec propose surplus from IMYB ring fenced to support future English teams of young Beekeepers or any forthcoming IMYB or successor in title meetings.*

Vote for amendment

For 53 Against 7 – Abstain 0 Surrey for

Vote on substantive proposition For 56 Against 2 Abstain 1 Surrey for

2018/6

Section 19.5 of the constitution be amended

Withdrawn. Any amendments would need to be considered by the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

John Hendrie proposed withdrawal of remaining propositions as time had run out. The school hall had to be cleared by 6pm.

The Presidents chain of office was presented to Margaret Murdin.

Meeting opened at 10am and closed at 5.25pm

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