

North London Beekeepers 2017

Minutes of the 83rd Annual General Meeting

Sunday 29th January 2017, 2.45pm at the Highgate Society Hall, 10a South Grove, Highgate, N6 6BS

The 2017 AGM Notice, the Agenda, the Annual Review and last year's Minutes had previously been circulated to members by e-mail with links to the NLB web-site. www.beekeeping.org.uk

The Welcome: The North London Beekeepers Chair, Nicky Faith welcomed members to the 83rd AGM. She started by giving the meeting the sad news of Margaret Jarvie's death. The Secretary of NLB Alison Kahane then gave brief notices of forthcoming events including: the Middlesex Federation Day on Saturday 25th February; the NLB workshop on swarm control and prevention, on the evening of Wednesday 22nd February 2017; the Annual NLB Shed party to mark the start of the season on Sunday 9th April. In addition it was announced that Kenwood Apiary honey would be available for members' own use at the end of the AGM at £3.50 @ 227g jar.

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence: 41 members were in attendance, with three apologies.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 31st January 2016 were approved and seconded.

Matters Arising: There was a discussion about the proposed new Kenwood Apiary shed. It was agreed that the Committee would consider again the shed's position, size and whether it should have electricity.

3. The 2016 Annual Review was accepted by the Meeting. The following points were minuted:

* **Chair's Report for 2016 from Nicky Faith:** She thanked the diligence of Bob Jack with the website, John Hauxwell for his workshops, plus Harriet Copperman who organized the refreshments at meetings at the Highgate Society Hall. Nicky also was grateful for the work of each of the Committee Members. She went on to explain that the NLB needed to obtain permission from the Corporation of London for the proposed new shed. Another discussion followed about the new shed. It was agreed that the Committee would fully consider the points and suggestions made during the discussions.

* **Kenwood Apiary Report for 2016** from Johan Kjaer – He emphasized the bumper harvest and thanked the Thursday afternoon beekeepers for their good work maintaining the Apiary ready for it to be used at weekends. He said that Chris Mayson and Jill Ellis would be assisting him officially particularly when he is absent. Johan mentioned a new large container outside the Apiary that he hopes would be used for equipment such as extractors.

New Apprentices: Nicky congratulated Renny Harrop and Maria Christodoulou on becoming Maggie Ridout NLB Apiary Apprentices for 2017-19. She then presented them with their certificates.

* **Honey Show Report from Nicky Faith:**

Nicky said the show had been a great success but some very tiny specks in some honey jars had prevented more awards being allocated by the judge. She reported that after more or less continual overseeing of the NLB Honey Show for many years she was now handing over the organization to Helen Rogers and Paul Welland.

- **Education Report:** Julie Parker said that many of the people who had come to one of the 'Taster Sessions' in September had enrolled on the 2017 Beginners' Course. Another new event was 'Grow Your Knowledge and Catch Up morning,' aimed at members who keep bees but had not attended any beginners' course.

- **Membership Report:**

At the end of 2016 NLB:

151 full beekeeping members 17 partner 1 junior 1 associate 2 honorary members.

Richard Corrigan reported that Web-collect was working well.

4. Honorary Treasurer's report: The Audited Accounts for 2016 from Hamish Johnston Stewart were accepted.

The following matters were raised:

- 'Bees for Development' donation will be reviewed next year.
- NLB has a healthy balance due to our membership levels, honey sales, courses [beginners and taster sessions] and sale of equipment kindly donated to the Association from members such as Vic Godrich.

5. Election of the NLB 2017 Committee Members:

The following were elected by the Meeting:

Officers:

Nicky Faith as Chair: proposed by Mary Ogle, seconded by Caroline Washington
Alison Kahane as Secretary: proposed by John Hauxwell, seconded by Helene Fawsett
Hamish Johnson Stewart as Treasurer: proposed by John Uden, seconded by Malcolm Balston

Other Members of the Committee

Richard Corrigan: proposed by Chris Laver, seconded by Eimear NicReamoinn
Johan Kjaer: proposed by Simon Hewitt, seconded by Jill Ellis
Amanda Hayes: proposed by Connie Smith seconded by Stephanie Cziczco
Julie Parker: proposed by Adam Morris, seconded by Danyal Conn
Paul Welland: proposed, by Amanda Hayes seconded by Mary McIlroy

6. Election of other member: None

7. Subscriptions Rates for 2017 remained the same:

Renewing Full Beekeeping Member before 1st March 2017	£30
Renewing Full Beekeeping Member after 1st March 2017	£40
New Full Beekeeping Member	£40
Partner Member	£13
Associate Member	£20
Junior Member	£ 5

8. Proposal from the Committee to formally confirm the name of the Association as 'North London Beekeepers' Association' rather than 'North London Beekeepers'.

This was debated by the Meeting and then it was put to the vote. The proposal was lost, as it did not receive the votes of '*at least two-thirds of the members present*' as outlined in section 11 of the Constitution.

9. Proposals from the membership: None were notified to the Chair before the deadline.

9. Any Other Business: None

NB After the 2017 Annual General Meeting members enjoyed light refreshments, followed at 4.45pm by a talk from Andrew Willis who is a member of New Forest Beekeeping Association, on 'A Bee's Eye View of Beekeeping'. [The talk was delayed by 45minutes due to the lengthy debates during the AGM]