## **Stowmarket and District Beekeepers' Association**

## Founded in 1947

## Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 19.30 At 18 Saxham Street. Stowmarket

At 18 Saxham Street, Stowmarket				
Attendees	Greg Monaghan [GM](Chairman), Richard Martin [RM](President), Bohdan Antoniw [BA], Linda Stuart [LS](Membership Secretary), Andy Smith [AS](Treasurer), Maggie Lawrence [ML](Training) Guests Sarah and Lawrence Paton Via Zoom Roger Chapman [RC](Secretary), Sarah Neesum [SM], Kathryn Martin			
1. Apologies for Absence	None			
<ol> <li>Minutes of previous meeting</li> </ol>	Approved			
3. Matters Arising	Covered in each topic			
4. Correspondence	None			
5. Training Courses	<ul> <li>All training material to be reviewed</li> <li>Dates changed with difficulty</li> <li>Should have name badges at each session</li> <li>Develop questionnaire for theory sessions</li> <li>ML to relay any club emails to trainees</li> <li>Will attempt to upload 3 to a page slides for trainees</li> </ul>	ML		
	to download and use for theory notes	RC		
6. Treasurers Report	<ul> <li>Current balance £4,778.93</li> <li>Agreed to continue with £1 per head contribution to EARS – when detail of research is clear</li> </ul>			
7. Membership	<ul> <li>146 Registered members plus 3 unpaid</li> <li>13 Partner members</li> <li>4 Country members</li> </ul>			
8. Website	<ul> <li>Send email to members to use website</li> <li>We've stopped paying for stowmarketbeekeepers.co.uk so it should die soon</li> </ul>	RC		

9. Club Events	<ul> <li>Sent 146 emails to members inviting them to Christmas Social only had 15 positive responses of which 5 came from committee members</li> <li>Hold a Goo/No Go meeting by Zoom on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 7:30.</li> <li>Zoom meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December and 4 members of committee attended and it was decided to cancel the Christmas Social and replace with a social event in February which would also include AGM (our constitution mandates it must happen in February) and a talk by Jane Corcoran, Suffolk Asian Hornet lead.</li> <li>Meeting arranged for 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7:30 at Stowmarket Community Centre, Hillside. Note for members' diaries sent with Christmas card.</li> </ul>
10. Club Apiary	<ul> <li>RM reported 8 hives alive going into winter</li> <li>Supers now all packed away in shed with wax moth protection</li> <li>Malcolm Freebody to remove branch on ash tree overhanging apiary</li> <li>Sarah and Lawrence went through their paper on running the association apiary</li> <li>To be used for         <ul> <li>Basic Training</li> <li>Honey crop</li> <li>Queen rearing</li> <li>Create NUCs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Must have its own set of tools , smokers, hive tools suits etc.,</li> <li>Would use record cards/sheets for each hive kept in shed</li> <li>Size of teams         <ul> <li>During the season April to July it should be open each weekend for members to visit. Opening on Saturday one week and Sunday the next week</li> <li>Should be 3 apiary team members at each weekend session including one experienced team member.</li> <li>RM Agreed to continue extracting and jarring honey. Apiary Team members would remove supers, transport to RM, and return any empty supers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

11. AOB	• AHAT – now to be known as AHT – see Social 5 <sup>th</sup>	
	February 2024	
	<ul> <li>Honey shows – suggested we should encourage our</li> </ul>	
	members to join with West Suffolk Beekeepers at	
	their September Honey Show	
	<ul> <li>Hadleigh Show 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024– Greg to contact Paul</li> </ul>	GM
	White who operates a stall for Suffolk Beekeepers at	
	the show. GM and RC to ask for volunteers	GM RC
12. Next Meeting	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 7:30 PM at Little College Farm	
	This has been revised to Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7:30	
	location TBE to support Social on 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	

6 MONTE, HAW

29<sup>th</sup> January 2024