

SHROPSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Registered Charity Number 1164389

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Trustees submit their report and receipts and payments account for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is governed by a Constitution dated 10 November 2015, a copy of which is available from the Secretary.

A minimum of three Trustees are required by the Constitution and there is no upper limit on the number that can be appointed. The Trustees are elected at the AGM to serve for a period of three years. One third of their number retire, in rotation, at each AGM. Additional Trustees can be appointed during the year and any so appointed must retire at the next AGM and if eligible seek re-election. Trustee appointments during the year are not counted as part of the number retiring by rotation.

A Committee is appointed at the AGM to assist the Trustees in the running of the Association and it meets monthly with a number of the Trustees. The members of the Committee are not Trustees and whilst they may express their opinion on the management of the Association they have no vote in deciding on the formal policies adopted. These policies are the sole responsibility of the Trustees.

The Trustees appoint one of their number to be Chair and appoint one of their number to be responsible for finance. This person may also be Treasurer but this is not a requirement. They also appoint the Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Delegate to the British Beekeepers' Association ('BBKA') Annual Meeting as Officers of the Association. The Officers are not required to be Trustees.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Glynn Williams (Chair)
Richard Hudson (Treasurer) – died
Sir Anthony Rigby – Oswestry branch representative
Mark Newman
John Connolly
John Adams

It is with deep regret that Richard Hudson sadly passed away in June 2024. The Trustees greatly appreciate the work he did on behalf of the Association. Following the death of Richard Hudson, Yvonne Harris was appointed Treasurer on 17 August 2024.

Objectives of the Charity

The objectives of the Charity are set out in the Constitution and are to promote and further the activity of beekeeping.

Activities of the Charity

On 30 September 2024 there were 417 active members of the Association.

Visits to the apiary site by members of the public continues to increase and requests for tours continue to be received. These visits provide us with the opportunity to explain the importance

of bees and beekeeping. Donations received from the public contribute to ongoing improvements to the site facilities and environment.

The Association also attends a number of local events and shows to promote beekeeping activities.

Income from the shop which sells both to members and the public continues to support development of the apiary site.

The Association has successfully run a number of training courses again this year, including tutorial sessions for selected BBKA modules, Beginners courses and Taster days. As a result, it has trained 32 new beekeepers. Income from the tutorial sessions is used to expand the Association's library. The Association has also confirmed dates for next year's courses and has been taking bookings since December 2024.

In addition, the Association ran a Beginners Course for Food Behind Bars, a charity promoting food-based education, at HMP Stoke Heath to introduce staff and prisoners to beekeeping. As a result, HMP Stoke Heath has purchased apiary equipment from the Association to continue the development of beekeeping on site. Additional meetings have been arranged to support Food Behind Bars at HMP Stoke Heath. The Association plans to continue this partnership in future.

The Association hosted a number of meetings over the winter period covering many aspects of beekeeping for all levels of experience.

Improvements to the apiary site included ongoing improvements to signage being installed, a project which was started last year. The Association has applied for and been granted planning permission for converting the existing toilet to provide facilities for disabled members and visitors.

For the second year running we have been classed as "Outstanding" by the RHS Heart of England in Bloom It's Your Neighbourhood Awards. The awards are judged on Community Engagement, Environmental Awareness and Gardening. This year we also achieved an Outstanding Achievement Award for a perfect 100%.

A list of new development projects has been collated and is being prioritised by the Committee alongside the requirement for grant and/or sponsor funding.

Since the year-end the Association has been awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a local voluntary group can receive in the UK and equivalent to an MBE. The Trustees are proud and honoured for the Association to have received this award which recognises the phenomenal effort of the Association's volunteers. The citation for the Award was as follows:

"Shropshire Beekeepers Association works to promote the craft of beekeeping, supporting beekeepers and training new beekeepers to care for and enjoy honey."

Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments account shows a surplus for the year of £12,616 and the Association held unrestricted funds of £43,481 on 30 September 2024. These funds are held to cover anticipated expenditure and to continue improvements to the Nobold Lane site. As required by the Constitution, the association must retain at least sufficient funds to cover anticipated fixed expenditure in the coming 12 months.

Membership income for the year has increased by 14% as a result of both recruiting new members and providing local membership as part of the training courses run by the Association.

Sales of consumables have increased by 19% and contributed a profit (after taking stock movements into account) of £11,500.

Training courses generated a cash surplus of £7,804 as a result of volunteers generously donating their time to run and manage these events.

The Gift Aid reclaim of £2,569 was submitted before the financial year-end but was not received until October 2024. This amount is included in the year-end Debtors figure.

Since the year-end, the following activities have taken place:

- Association has received two grants totalling £8,500 to continue improvements to the site. These funds will be assigned to improvements to the walkways.
- The Trustees have invested in an on-line accounting system which will be integrated with its banking, membership and training income systems to streamline recording of receipts, payments and associated income and expenditure.
- The Trustees have decided to change the methodology of year-end reporting and will adopt accruals-based accounting rather than its current method of receipts and payments with effect from 1 September 2024.
- The Trustees have reviewed the capital assets used by the Association and reassigned those still in use to more appropriate categories. As part of the adoption of accruals-based accounting these assets will be depreciated from 1 September 2024 over an appropriate useful life.

Risk Management

The Association has a number of risk management policies in place which are reviewed in a regular basis and the Trustees consider whether any additional systems and procedures are required to mitigate any further risks identified.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibility

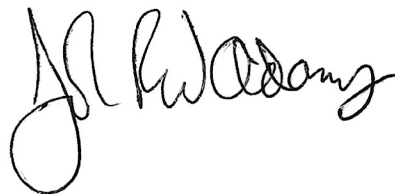
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 enable the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period in the form of a Receipts and Payments Account, together with specific additional information concerning assets and liabilities at the financial period end.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

This report, on pages 2 to 5, has been approved by the Trustees' and signed on their behalf by:

~~G Williams~~ J Adams

15 March 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Adams', written over the printed name.

SHROPSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Year ended 30/09/23 £
RECEIPTS				
Subscriptions	12,664		12,664	11,116
Gift Aid				2,370
Donations	2,827		2,827	2,642
Course and entry fees	8,748		8,748	8,211
Interest	901		901	364
Consumable sales	39,861		39,861	33,439
Other	<u>904</u>		<u>904</u>	-
GROSS INCOME	65,905	-	65,905	58,142
PAYMENTS				
BBKA capitation and bee disease insurance	8,076		8,076	8,096
Apiary and maintenance costs	8,527		8,527	6,826
Room hire and member's events	1,193		1,193	536
Consumables purchases	29,585		29,585	27,710
Course costs	944		944	2,683
Trade shows	-		-	238
Honorariums	150		150	650
Insurance	1,762		1,762	1,643
General administrative costs	<u>795</u>		<u>795</u>	<u>378</u>
	51,032	-	51,032	48,760
Asset purchases				
Apiary equipment	-			1,192
Leasehold improvements	1,200		1,200	2,035
Plant and machinery	620		620	-
Books for library	<u>438</u>		<u>438</u>	-
	2,258	-	4,293	3,231
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,289		53,289	51,991
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)	12,616	-	12,616	6,151
Cash funds held at beginning of period	<u>30,865</u>	-	<u>30,865</u>	<u>24,714</u>
CASH FUNDS HELD AT END OF PERIOD	<u>43,481</u>	-	<u>43,481</u>	<u>30,865</u>

SHROPSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Cash funds – Bank accounts	<u>43,481</u>	<u>-</u>
Other assets	Value £	
Leasehold improvements	71,554	-
Apiary equipment	16,000	-
Fixtures and fittings	1,549	-
Plant and machinery	1,220	-
Literature and artefacts	11,002	-
Stock of consumables	14,745	-
Debtors	2,599	1,000
Prepayments	<u>1,069</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>119,738</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Investment assets		
Shares in Beecraft Limited	<u>6,000</u>	
Liabilities		
Income received in advance	784	
Creditors	<u>976</u>	
	<u>1,760</u>	

The receipts and payments account and related notes were approved by the Trustees on 15 March 2025

SHROPSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Note

- 1 Income from course and entry fees and consumables is reported net of associated transaction fees.
- 2 The assets listed under Other assets – Unrestricted Fund are valued at original cost where purchased by the charitable organisation.

A number of trophies are included under Literature and artefacts. Where these are silver, these have been valued at the silver price on 30 September 2024. The artefacts are insured for a total value of £30,590.

- 3 The value listed under Leasehold improvements represent amounts spent on the apiary site since the lease from Shropshire Council was granted.
- 4 There were, at the Accounts date, no loans where someone else has agreed to pay if the Charitable Incorporated Organisation cannot, nor are any secured against assets of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Shropshire Beekeepers Association

On accounts for the year
ended

30 September 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1164389

Set out on pages

2 to 8

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/9/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

S. Alexander

Date:

7/3/2025

Name:

Simon Alexander

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA – ICAEW

Address:

7 Murray Crescent

Pinner, London

Middx HA5 3QF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NONE