



Lune Valley Beekeepers

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Reg No: 116775

Trustees' Report

for the year ended 29th February 2024

We are pleased to report that we have had another successful year during which membership continued to grow steadily.

Our newsletter continues to be published monthly and is shared with a number of other clubs both in the UK and abroad via eBees. Some 20% of our membership now comprises of out of area members who have joined in order to receive the newsletter.

Our alternative approach to beekeeping uses a long hive that allows easy access to beekeepers of all ages and physical abilities to enjoy the hobby whilst allowing the bee colony to flourish with minimal disruption to the hive and in a more natural, treatment free environment.

During the year we have been asked to make over 20 presentations to other beekeeping organisations, schools and community groups. These included 3 special residential schools and a residential drug rehabilitation centre which felt that beekeeping could be therapeutic for their residents.

Our new breeding apiary was completed during the year and is now fully stocked with locally adapted, near native bees, ready for the 2024 season. During the year we were able to ensure that all new members who wanted bees were able to obtain nucleus colonies of near native, locally adapted bees and install them successfully.

During the summer season we held a range of practical training and social meetings for members, including our summer barbecue and our annual Open Day. This was our most successful Open Day yet, attracting many visitors and raising more funds than ever before. During the winter season we organised a diverse range of informative meetings, some of which were online meetings.

Early in 2023 we received approval from the City Council for our woodland development plan which, over a 5-7 year period will open up the woodland to create a more attractive environment for wildlife. We hope to incorporate volunteers from outside of the Club as well as Club members to deliver the plan. A similar plan is being developed to continue to improve the quality of our wildflower meadow. We are extremely grateful to all the members who contributed, often working alone, to maintain the Apiary, woodland and the meadow.

Sales of Lune Valley Long Hives to both members and non-members have progressed steadily throughout the year. During the year hives were sent as far away as Malvern in Worcestershire and Cupar in Scotland.

We continue to have an involvement with FoodFutures, a North Lancashire based organisation whose objectives are to encourage more people to develop more healthy diets by growing more of their own food using organic growing methods. Our objectives are to ensure that their plans and strategies involve appropriate provisions for pollinators.

During the year we were sad to receive the resignation, due to ill-health, of Jane York, one of our Trustees. Jane has committed much time to the Club, especially in maintaining the wildflower meadow and other aspects of the Apiary, and her efforts will be missed. We were pleased, however, to welcome two new Trustees, Nigel Leech and Louise Evans, who were appointed during the year.

2024 presents us, and other beekeepers with a serious challenge, that of controlling and hopefully eradicating the Asian hornet, which has caused so much damage in northern France. For the last three years this invasive species has been striving to establish itself along the south coast of England. Whilst it may not become a serious threat in the north of England for a year or so, we are already planning a local spotting and trapping programme and informing relevant local organisations of the precautions they should take.

Dr Fred J Ayres, Chairman of Trustees, 18th April 2024

LUNE VALLEY BEEKEEPERS
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Reg No: 1167727
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
1st March 2023 to 29th February 2024

Year 2022-23
for comparison

INCOME		
660	Subscriptions	772
525	Insurance	590
950	Course fees	730
6589	Sales of goods	5137
428	Donations	488
146	Gift Aid	600
539	Fund raising	1577
250	Grant income	0
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10087	Total income	9894

EXPENDITURE		
638	Site costs	683
369	Apiary costs	93
784	Meadow costs	0
6013	Cost of sales of goods	4097
105	Display materials	957
496	Course costs	45
744	Insurance	777
594	Web site	338
117	Other items	30
559	Obsolete equipment	516
0	Meeting costs	140
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10419	Total expenditure	7676

-£332	Operational surplus for year	£2,218
0	Depreciation for year	675
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-£332	Surplus for year	£1,543

Membership as at 29th February 2024 **59**

LUNE VALLEY BEEKEEPERS
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Reg No: 1167725
BALANCE SHEET as at: 29th February 2024

**Year 2022-23
for comparison**

	FIXED ASSETS	As at 1.03.23	Additions	Depreciation	As at 29.02.24
3146	Containers & Fittings	3146	0	0	3146
1710	Exhibition equipment	1710	240	195	1755
1850	Equipment & tools	1850	0	185	1665
2550	Hives & stands	2550	400	295	2655
				<u>675</u>	
<u>9256</u>	TOTAL FIXED ASSETS				<u>9221</u>
3500	Colonies of bees as at 29th February 2024				3500
	CURRENT ASSETS				
	710 Stocks of goods for re-sale		461		
	645 Debtors		874		
	781 Cash at Bank		<u>1589</u>		
	<u>2136</u>			2924	
	CURRENT LIABILITIES				
	-634 Pre-payments		1909		
	0 Creditors		<u>0</u>	1909	
1502	NET CURRENT ASSETS				<u>1015</u>
<u>£14,258</u>	TOTAL ASSETS				<u>£13,736</u>
	Represented by:				
	2000 Trustees' Loans			750	
3422	<u>1422 Members' Loans</u>			<u>607</u>	1357
	ACCUMULATED FUND				
	16446 As at 1st March 2023			10836	
	-332 Add: Surplus for period			<u>1543</u>	
	<u>16114</u>			12379	
	-5278 Less: Depreciation earlier years			0	
10836					<u>12379</u>
<u>£14,258</u>					<u>£13,736</u>