



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2021 To 31st December 2021

Charity name: Bedfordshire Bee Keepers Association

Charity registration number: 1184466

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objective of Beds BKA is to preserve the honeybee by furthering the craft of beekeeping and educating the public of the benefit of bees in the environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The association provides public benefit by training beekeepers and providing information to the public about beekeeping, honey bees, other pollinators and their importance to the environment via talks, leaflets and displays. This is achieved through the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing training courses on beekeeping for members and non-members to learn or improve their knowledge of the craft. • Participating in local craft events and shows; trustees and other members attend to explain the importance of honeybees (and other pollinators) for human and wild life. • Holding an annual Honey Festival where the public can meet beekeepers, be shown hive products and beekeeping equipment and attend talks on bees and their benefits to the environment. • Giving talks to local groups. • Organising talks by expert speakers • Contact with the local media • Involving children through visits to schools <p>The association provides a free public service for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dealing with honey bee swarms • giving advice about swarms • giving advice about solitary and bumble bee nests

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The Association had a successful and active year in 2021 despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic:</p> <p>1) Membership in 2021 increased to 567 (2020: 548).</p> <p>2) Support for beekeeping research. Continued support was provided for honey bee research via the project known as 'Eastern Region Research Studentship' (EARS). This is directly sponsoring a PhD Student at Newcastle University to carry out research into why chronic bee paralysis virus is becoming more of an issue. We intend to increase financial support for a PhD student in the Eastern Associations Research Studentship (EARS) from £1500 to £2000 pa, starting in autumn 2022.</p> <p>3) Successful beginners course. An online training experience will not suit everyone but it was considered very important to meet the needs of potential new beekeepers as widely as possible, including those who had lost out the previous year when the pandemic ended their training courses halfway through. In the event, an innovative online version of the Beginners Course attracted over 50 participants.</p> <p>Presentations on key topics were enhanced by photographs, on-location videos, and artwork, all produced in-house. Sessions were recorded so that students could re-visit them in their own time or join the course late. 83% rated the course as "Excellent" with many stating that it "Exceeded Expectations". Students were assigned to mentors wherever possible for some practical introduction to beekeeping in the apiaries of experienced members who kindly volunteered their services.</p>

		<p>4) Training for Improvers and more established beekeepers. Regrettably, the ongoing pandemic curtailed this area which is best suited to practical and in-person training.</p> <p>5) Outside events. These play an important part of our outreach to the public. In 2021, the pandemic situation resulted in no organisations able to host public events in the first half of the year and only a few in the second half. We did manage a stand at Taste Bedford in September and Bromham Mill Christmas Fayre in December. These attracted considerable public interest and enabled dissemination of information on bees to a wide cross-section of adults and children.</p> <p>6) Public Talks and School Visits Two schools in Luton received “visits”, with the beekeeper on Zoom and using a pre-recorded talk that included footage of another beekeeper opening a hive. A short presentation was given to farmers at an online Bedfordshire NFU meeting. Other members gave an outdoor talk about bees to allotment holders on-site, to Haversham Village School and via Zoom to a school in Liverpool.</p> <p>7) Autumn and winter talks on bees and beekeeping were held online via zoom. These free talks were publicised via EventBrite and were open to members and public alike.</p> <p>8) Swarm Services to the Public. Members provided a swarm capture and swarrn placement service for the public.</p> <p>10) Preserving the Honey Bee. Our District Advisors continued to support members with any beekeeping issues or problems helping to ensure appropriate management and health of members bees. Our bulk purchase scheme provides members with the opportunity to obtain beekeeping supplies locally at a reasonable price thereby helping members to care for the bees in their charge.</p> <p>Our annual Honey Show, judged by independent judges, helps to maintain and improve beekeeping standards by competition. Run as a virtual event due to the pandemic, this year the Show included 2 new categories specifically aimed at children in order to increase children’s awareness of the importance of bees. The Show results are publicly viewable on the Association website as a further interest to the public.</p> <p>The weather had a particularly big impact on our bees this year, with some hives in possible danger of starvation in the Spring, and just two periods when the nectar really came in (three if the ivy is counted). Queen rearing was especially difficult with periods of poor weather resulting in failed or imperfect mating. Sudden queenlessness remained a concern, with a whole host of issues that included delayed or poor mating, queens going drone-laying or suddenly disappearing.</p> <p>We had the first report for many years of foulbrood disease within Bedfordshire, European Foulbrood (EFB) in the countryside north of Luton. Our seasonal Bee Inspector Peter Folge will be checking the situation carefully for us in 2022. A sample from a “sentinel apiary” just to the south of Luton, sent to the National Bee Unit (NBU), tested negative for Small Hive Beetle.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	See attached accounts for 2021
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The association policy is to hold target reserves equivalent to one year's running costs plus an appropriate amount to finance the potential establishment of a beekeeping centre (subject to a 10% tolerance either way). The amounts agreed were GBP 11,300 and GBP 18,000 respectively making a total of GBP 29,300.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	GBP 30,575. This is at the reserves target
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are elected by members at the AGM; one third of elected trustees must retire at each AGM. At other times, the members or the charity trustees may appoint a new charity trustee as an addition or to fill a vacancy; this trustee must retire at the next AGM.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bedfordshire Bee Keepers Association
Other name the charity uses	Beds BKA
Registered charity number	1184466
Charity's principal address	30 High Street, Haversham, Milton Keynes, MK19 7DX

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity in 2021

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Matt Alabaster	Bedford Apiarist		
2	David Chapman	NE Beds District Advisor		
3	Fiona Cook	Honey Show Secretary		
4	Anne Cross	Dunstable District Advisor		
5	Richard Dowsett	Biggleswade District Advisor		
6	Jeremy Freedman			
7	Steve Gale	Facebook Chatpage Manager	1/1/21 – 1/12/21	
8	Karen Glasse	Kempston District Advisor		
9	David Goodridge			
10	Colin Hall	Chair		
11	Chris Higham	Treasurer		
12	Christopher Jenkins	Assets Manager		
13	Caroline Jordan	Amphill District Advisor		
14	Rosemary Long	Membership Secretary		
15	Caroline Luxford	Health & Safety Officer		
16	John Macdougall	Publicity and Outdoor Events		
17	Richard Medcalf		1/1/21 – 7/7/21	
18	Mike Niemann	Stockwood Apiarist		
19	Chris Saunders			
20	Ray Smith	NW Beds District Advisor		
21	Wally Thrale	Sandy District Advisor		
22	Jennie Tysom	Safeguarding Officer		

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details


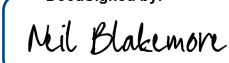
Other optional information

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	DocuSigned by:  <small>D733A1A57D45437 ...</small>
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Full name(s)

John Rankin Macdougall	Neil Blakemore
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Position
(eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Assistant Secretary	Treasurer
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Date

**BEDFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
PROFIT/LOSS 2021**

	Actual	Budget	Actual
	to 31st December 21	Full Year	Full Year
	2021	2021	2020
	GBP	GBP	GBP
REVENUE			
Subscriptions	5,572	5,334	5,542
Bulk purchase scheme	22,390	22,732	25,752
Training	4,530	1,950	530
Events	50	250	0
Apiary sales	2,929	1,533	1,287
Donations	97	123	138
Interest earned	3	21	21
Magazines	761	673	673
Other revenue	0	0	0
Total revenue	36,332	32,616	33,943
COSTS			
Bulk purchase scheme	21,172	20,903	24,504
margin %	5.4%	8.0%	4.8%
EXPENSES			
Subscriptions	422	290	565
Print & Post	2,021	1,895	1,895
Committee	519	632	639
Events	178	1,555	170
Training	125	1,937	937
Apiary	1,183	231	575
Insurance	3,974	1,806	1,806
Donations	1,500	1,500	1,500
Bank charges	293	145	161
Depreciation	925	850	868
Magazines	608	673	541
Total expenses	11,748	11,514	9,657
surplus/(deficit)	3,412	199	(218)

BALANCE SHEET

	2021	2020
	GBP	GBP
ASSETS		
Fixed Assets	3,003	3,708
Cash	30,470	27,723
Stock	2,922	1,957
Debtors	1,418	2,882
Creditors	(1,313)	(3,182)
Total	36,500	33,088
REPRESENTED BY		
Surplus b/f	33,088	33,306
Profit/(loss) for period	3,412	-218
Total	36,500	33,088

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ members of Bedfordshire Beekeepers Association on accounts for the twelve months to December 2021 as set out on page 2 of this report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts (under sections 43 of the Act).
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from us as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 03-02-2022

Name:

Neil Blakemore

Professional qualification or body:

Associate of Institute of Chartered Accountants
England and Wales.

Address:

Moor Farm, High St, Pavenham, Bedford MK43 7NU.

Disclosures:

None to report