

**Charity No. 1197656**

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

# THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Charity Number:** 1197656

**Trustees:** Mr M West - President  
Mr C Cox - Chair  
Ms J Nimmo – Honorary Secretary  
Mrs J Brown – Honorary Treasurer

Mr P Barclay  
Mr B Brown  
Mr J Fell  
Mrs D Grove  
Mr N Hateley  
Rev G Heighton  
Mr J Patel  
Mr S Khan  
Mr R Pearce  
Miss S Peckett  
Mr R Stephenson  
Mr M Styles  
Mr C White  
Mr M Wibberley

**Principal address:** Honorary Secretary

88, Northfield Road,  
Kings Norton,  
Birmingham  
B30 1 JG

**Independent Examiner:** David W Cox FCMA, CGMA  
Chartered Management Accountant  
Hill View  
6, Manor Fields,  
Bishampton,  
Worcs WR10 2PF

## **THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

#### **Structure, Governance and Management.**

The Warwickshire Beekeepers' Association (the WBKA or the Association) was approved by the Charity Commission on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by its Constitution as accepted by the Charity Commission. The Association has been in existence since 1879.

The Association is affiliated to The British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA). The WBKA has a core function and eight branches governed by rules set out in Part 2 of its Constitution. The accounting period ends on 30<sup>th</sup> November each year.

#### **Trustees.**

The trustees serving throughout the year are shown on page 1.

The trustees include the Chair, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, the President, and at least one and up to two elected trustees from each branch. Appointments are made in accordance with the governing document.

#### **Objects and Activities for the Public Benefit.**

The objects of the charity, as set out in its governing document, are: -

*"to advance the education of the public and beekeepers in the craft of beekeeping and promote the importance of bees in the environment."*

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the general guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in carrying out the charity's objects.

#### **Achievements and Performance and Financial Review.**

##### **Membership.**

There were 899 full, partner and junior members in 2024/25, as well as 114 local members (local members do not have voting rights).

##### **Education and Training.**

In 2024/25, the Association continued to operate a successful "devolved" model of Education management whereby the 8 branch Education Co-ordinators (EDCOs) plan training for post-beginners across the county, but the beginner training happens in Branches.

It is hard to quantify the training, support and contribution to best beekeeping practice made by Warwickshire branches; the wider picture of winter branch meetings, bee safaris, apiary training meetings, mentoring and formal and informal training offered by the branches is impressive. These activities not only educate beekeepers but draw in new trainers and volunteers. All the Branches offered winter lecture programmes and Solihull, Shipston, Warwick and Leamington, Birmingham, Sutton and Rugby offered

## **THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

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Beginners' courses. There were also taster courses in some of the Branches which generate a very positive interest for a smaller input of time - increasing the supply of both new beekeepers (those who do take up beekeeping) and bee-positive members of the public (those who do not become active beekeepers).

The EDCO group has addressed training and education across the whole County and adds to the offering of each branch. In 2024/25 this included the Beyond the Basic Course, zoom lectures and a Microscopy group. The EDCOs have worked hard at training and the administration and management surrounding that training, including arranging online bookings, maintaining and monitoring equipment, offering Branch apiaries for queen rearing, booking schools etc.

#### **WBKA Beyond the Basic Course.**

This two-day event was run at Solihull School in February, and the team of experienced beekeepers ran an enthusiastic and efficient course aimed at the General Husbandry award - but also useful for Honey Bee Health Certificate.

The day was very positively evaluated, the majority of feedback respondents (21) classed themselves as Intermediate or Advanced, with only two beginners, so we hit the target participants for intermediate training. They were overwhelmingly enthusiastic and enjoyed the course and meeting other beekeepers across the county. 85% said they would be likely to enter the Honey Bee Health Certificate and 52% likely to enter the General Husbandry - a real triumph. The workshops and presentations were rated excellent by all the participants in feedback. This is an important succession planning issue as the General Husbandry is required for assessors of Basic and Honey Bee Health Certificate, and to give people the confidence to act as trainers. We had three new trainers - Linda Tuffin who has become a Master Beekeeper, and Graham Franklin and Paul Friend who passed General Husbandry in 2024. They set a great example, did very popular sessions and made the General Husbandry seem possible.

#### **National Bee Unit Days.**

This year we ran two days with the National Bee Unit in Birmingham and Stoneleigh, which gave members the chance to update. These were both very well attended and evaluated.

#### **Microscopy Group.**

David Bonner, Barry Meatyard, David Blower and Stuart Roberts are leading the establishment of a Microscopists group for the county. The meetings so far have resulted in (prize winning) entries of slides to the National Honey Show!

#### **Winter lectures**

The winter lecture speakers included Lesley Jacques (Discovering Pollen) and Saeunn Vigdis Sigvaldadottir (Honey Bees in Iceland) - in February and March.

#### **Module Study Groups.**

Dave Bonner has run an online Module study group for Module 1 and Module 3 with very high levels of exam success. The meetings and WhatsApp groups have been extremely popular - and active.

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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

#### Assessments passed in 2025 (2024 in brackets).

Warwickshire members achieved the following awards:

- 40 (30) Basic Certificates
- 5 (8) Honey Bee Health Certificates
- 19 (24) Modules (15 were Module 3)
- 1 (1) Advanced Theory Certificates
- 4 (3) General Husbandry

#### General Husbandry Certificates were awarded to:

Julian Humphreys (Coventry)  
James Thorne (Solihull)  
Julia Wigfield (Sutton)  
Alex Wray (Warwick and Leamington)

All the trainers and assessors in all the branches should be proud of this achievement!

#### Modules achieved 2025 (Not including November 2025).

The large number of Module 3 passes reflects the success of the module group run by David Bonner of Coventry Branch.

	Pass	Credit	Distinction	Total
Module 2	1			1
Module 3	9	2	4	15
Module 5		1		1
Module 6	1			1
Module 8	1			1
Total	12	3	4	19

#### Public Events.

Branches raised awareness of honeybees and their importance by manning displays at fairs and fetes. Members gave talks to schools, Women's Institutes, Brownies, Rotarians, gardening groups, allotmenters, as well as U3A and other community groups and also attended at residential homes, open gardens, seed swaps, and a Building Society. Throughout all these events there was focus on raising awareness about the threat from the invasive insect, the yellow-legged hornet (YLH). Below is a selection of some of the bigger events attended:

- Ecofest, Leamington Spa
- The World of Bees, Kingsbury Water Park
- Shape Festival, Sandwell
- Shirley Lions Club Carnival
- Woolston Open Gardens
- Dunchurch Show

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### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

- Lark in the Park, Manor Farm Park, Northfield
- Kenilworth Show
- Rugby Spring Fair
- Spring Festival Coventry Cathedral

#### **Trustees' Meetings**

Trustees meet four times per year, and their meetings (and the AGM) continued to be held via Zoom.

#### **Honey Shows.**

Three branches held honey shows, with the largest held by Birmingham Branch in mid-September at Winterbourne House and Gardens in Edgbaston. This show was held over two days and included observation hives, live bee demonstrations, candle rolling, and information about the yellow legged hornet.

The Association's Honey Show was held on Saturday 27th September at a new venue – St. Mary's Church Hall, West Street, in the county town of Warwick. The venue proved to be an excellent showcase for the high-quality exhibits and the town centre location provided an opportunity to open the show to the public.

#### **Yellow Legged Hornet.**

Nationally, 2025 saw a massive increase in both the number of sightings of this unwelcome invasive insect and of nests destroyed. There were 71 sightings in 2024 but 544 in 2025, and 24 nests destroyed in 2024 against 162 in 2025.

Although the YLH has spread beyond the Dover area, reaching Dorset and London, Warwickshire remains a low-risk area, perhaps vulnerable only to opportunistic 'hitch hiking' insects. Two suspected sightings were reported, one in Hinckley and the other at Lapworth. Monitoring was initiated by the Association's action team, but no further sightings were recorded.

YLHAT team have been monitoring the system carefully and have adopted what was considered a proportionate response as far as public awareness is concerned, concentrating effort on public shows and responding to invitations to give talks including an interview on BBC Coventry And Warks Radio. We have engaged actively with the BBKA's YLH initiatives and taken advantage of the resources they offered.

## THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

#### Subscriptions.

The breakdown of subscriptions for a full registered member for 2025 is shown below:

BBKA Capitation	£23.00
WBKA Capitation	£5.50
Bee Disease Insurance	£2.00

So, a full registered member paid a total subscription of £30.50 plus branch subscriptions that ranged from £6.50 to £15.00. Partner, Junior and Local Members benefitted from lower subscriptions.

#### Reserves.

The Association reserves policy is as follows: -

- To provide working capital to cover the administration and running of the charity for a period of up to two years and to ensure that the charity can continue and provide support to members and meet its objectives (and its fixed costs) in the event of a large variation of income e.g. a dramatic fall in membership.
- To cover uninsured losses.
- To cover specific projects or acquisitions.

Each branch determines its own application of the Association reserves policy taking into account the particular circumstances of the branch.

	Reserves			Total	Free Reserves	Cash Balances
	Working Capital	Uninsured losses	Specific projects			
Core	£10,700	£0	£0	£10,700	£16,880	£27,580
Birmingham	£1,500	£0	£10,000	£11,500	£11,499	£22,999
Coventry	£1,670	£0	£12,000	£13,670	£7,942	£21,612
Nuneaton	£700	£0	£500	£1,200	£3,689	£4,889
Rugby	£1,750	£0	£0	£1,750	£6,254	£8,004
Shipston	£3,000	£0	£2,000	£5,000	£8,108	£13,108
Solihull	£1,800	£0	£2,000	£3,800	£1,782	£5,582
Sutton	£5,000	£0	£10,000	£15,000	£8,126	£23,126
WLBK	£12,000	£0	£22,921	£34,921	£0	£34,921
Total	<u>£38,120</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>£59,421</u>	<u>£97,541</u>	<u>£64,280</u>	<u>£161,821</u>

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

**Correspondence.**

All correspondence should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary at the address on page 1.

**Approval.**

Approved by the Trustees on 18th March 2026, and signed on their behalf by: -

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CJ Cox', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr CJ Cox  
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jane Brown', written in a cursive style.

Mrs J Brown  
Treasurer



# THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

#### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Warwickshire Beekeepers' Association (the CIO) for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025, which are set out on pages 10 to 13.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO, 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act;  
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



David W Cox FCMA, CGMA  
Chartered Management Accountant  
Hill View  
6, Manor Fields  
Bishampton  
Worcs WR10 2PF

Date: 23rd March 2026

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

	Unrestricted	Designated to branches	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<u>£27,580</u>	<u>£134,241</u>	<u>£161,821</u>	<u>£154,584</u>
<b>Memorandum List</b>				
Land and Buildings	£0	£28,516	£28,516	£29,384
Fixtures and Fittings	£0	£6,491	£6,491	£17,761
Furniture and Equipment	£2,710	£36,090	£38,800	£29,234
Stock	£0	£7,418	£7,418	£8,584
Trophies	£16,500	£7,376	£23,876	£22,539
Other	£0	£307	£307	£480
	<u>£19,210</u>	<u>£86,198</u>	<u>£105,408</u>	<u>£107,982</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>£46,790</u>	<u>£220,439</u>	<u>£267,229</u>	<u>£262,566</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Course fees	£0	-£1,500	-£1,500	-£1,095
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>£0</u>	<u>-£1,500</u>	<u>-£1,500</u>	<u>-£1,095</u>

Note:

The Association also has 333 fully paid £1 shares in BeeCraft Limited. The Company is a 'not for profit ' organisation and its shares are neither income producing nor tradeable.

The Trustees confirm that there are no potential liabilities under any guarantees given by the CIO, or any outstanding debts secured by express charge on the assets of the CIO as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted but Designated to Branches	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>1) Voluntary Sources</b>				
BBKA Subscription	£0	£17,740	£17,740	£18,365
WBKA Subscription	£4,603	-£25	£4,578	£4,747
Branch Subscriptions	£0	£8,860	£8,860	£8,248
BDI Premiums Members	£0	£3,514	£3,514	£3,532
Gift Aid tax refund	£0	£5,960	£5,960	£5,980
Donations	£0	£1,983	£1,983	£1,520
Grants	£0	£0	£0	£0
	<u>£4,603</u>	<u>£38,032</u>	<u>£42,635</u>	<u>£42,392</u>
<b>2) Trading Activities - Primary and Ancillary Trading (Tax Exempt)</b>				
Course Fees	£2,626	£13,724	£16,350	£11,996
Events (including honey sales, candle sales, demos and displays)	£0	£11,625	£11,625	£12,324
Hire of apiary sites and equipment to members	£0	£615	£615	£471
Sales to further members' craft of beekeeping	£0	£32,884	£32,884	£31,022
Advertising income	£298	£0	£298	£298
Refreshments (sales)	£0	£0	£0	£63
Miscellaneous	£0	£2,345	£2,345	£1,608
	<u>£2,924</u>	<u>£61,193</u>	<u>£64,117</u>	<u>£57,782</u>
<b>3) Income from Assets</b>				
Bank and building society Interest	£219	£1,467	£1,686	£1,774
Sale of assets	£0	£0	£0	£158
	<u>£219</u>	<u>£1,467</u>	<u>£1,686</u>	<u>£1,932</u>
<b>4) Miscellaneous</b>				
Fundraising Events	£0	£1,048	£1,048	£781
Miscellaneous	£100	£938	£1,038	£339
	<u>£100</u>	<u>£1,986</u>	<u>£2,086</u>	<u>£1,120</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u><u>£7,846</u></u>	<u><u>£102,678</u></u>	<u><u>£110,524</u></u>	<u><u>£103,226</u></u>

# THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted but Designated to Branches	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>5) Direct Charitable expenditure</b>				
Members' Capitation Fees - BBKA	£0	£18,107	£18,107	£18,312
Members' Capitation Fees - WBKA	£0	£21	£21	-£6
BDI Premiums: Members only	£0	£3,597	£3,597	£3,560
BDI Premiums: Branch Training Apiary	£0	£50	£50	£47
Hire of rooms for meetings	£30	£3,583	£3,613	£3,409
Speakers/lecturers fees	£100	£2,043	£2,143	£2,540
Training Apiary Expenses	£0	£8,535	£8,535	£8,610
Extraction Unit Expenses	£0	£3,255	£3,255	£1,437
Honey show expenses	£1,379	£3,499	£4,878	£3,889
Training Course Expenses and Consumables	£2,786	£4,254	£7,040	£6,798
Demonstrations and displays costs	£0	£2,079	£2,079	£1,798
Insurance	£194	£1,842	£2,036	£1,849
Other educational expenses	£0	£1,072	£1,072	£1,070
	<u>£4,489</u>	<u>£51,937</u>	<u>£56,426</u>	<u>£53,313</u>
<b>6) Other expenditure</b>				
Purchases of stock to further members' craft of beekeeping	£0	£30,301	£30,301	£31,391
<b>7) Miscellaneous Payments</b>				
Gifts	£250	£853	£1,103	£714
Bank Charges	£0	£483	£483	£394
Refreshments	£0	£826	£826	£1,281
Telephone, postage, stationery	£4	£70	£74	£169
Website costs	£30	£1,462	£1,492	£1,915
Digital subscriptions	£274	£251	£525	£927
Professional fees	£0	£200	£200	£200
Honoraria and Officers Expenses	£500	£858	£1,358	£1,568
Miscellaneous	£0	£4,946	£4,946	£4,771
	<u>£1,058</u>	<u>£9,949</u>	<u>£11,007</u>	<u>£11,939</u>
<b>8) Fixed Assets (Purchases)</b>				
Training Equipment	£0	£302	£302	£2,128
Show Equipment	£627	£1,835	£2,462	£478
Honey Extraction Equipment	£0	£1,071	£1,071	£539
Training Apiary Equipment	£0	£1,573	£1,573	£2,105
Library	£0	£145	£145	£92
	<u>£627</u>	<u>£4,926</u>	<u>£5,553</u>	<u>£5,342</u>

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>£6,174</u>	<u>£97,113</u>	<u>£103,287</u>	<u>£101,985</u>
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted but Designated to Branches	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>Total Receipts less Total Payments</b>	£1,672	£5,565	£7,237	£1,241
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	-£70	£70	£0	£0
Balance brought forward	£25,978	£128,606	£154,584	£153,343
<b>Cash Funds at year end</b>	<u>£27,580</u>	<u>£134,241</u>	<u>£161,821</u>	<u>£154,584</u>