



SBKA CIO
Report and Accounts of the
Trustees
for the Year ended 30 September 2025
(charity no. 1206483)

Somerset Beekeepers Association

Trustees Report for the Year ended 30 September 2025

The Trustees present their Report for the year from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025 for the CIO charity no. 1206483.

1. Reference and administrative information

Somerset Beekeepers Association (SBKA) has been in existence since 1906 and it became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 10 January 2024 (CIO no. 1206483). This is the first year in which the SBKA CIO is filing a full set of consolidated accounts after all assets and liabilities transferred over from the former SBKA registered charity (no. 277803) on 1 October 2024. The figures shown in these accounts for 2024 were the results for the former charity and are shown for comparison.

The SBKA CIO has 16 Trustees, 4 being Ex-officio comprising the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and 12 being nominated by the 12 Branches of the CIO. The Trustees during the year ended 30 September 2025 were as follows (*changes during the reporting period are shown in italics*):

Ex-officio Trustees

Simon Mills	Chairman (appointed 10 January 2024)
Vanessa Woodford	Vice-chairman (appointed 10 January 2024)
<i>Richard Edbrook</i>	<i>former Treasurer (stood down May 2025)</i>
Lance Moir	Treasurer (Trustee appointed 12 June 2025)
<i>Candy Worf</i>	<i>former Secretary (left SBKA March 2025)</i>
Neil Wellum	Secretary (appointed 8 March 2025)

Branch Trustees

<i>Richard Tiley</i>	<i>Burnham & District - stood down 21 November 2024</i>
Richard Cottrell	nominated by Burnham & District 21 November 2024
Lynne Thorne	nominated by Central
<i>Neil Wellum</i>	<i>Exmoor - stood down 8/3/25</i>
vacancy	Exmoor from 8 March to 30 September 2025
John Plaxton	nominated by Frome and District
Frederick Chaytors	nominated by Mendip
Barry Hulatt	nominated by Quantock 23 November 2024
Suzy Perkins	nominated by Somerton and District
Jane Jeanes	nominated by South-east
Philip Burton	nominated by South-west
Paul James	nominated by Taunton and District
Nicola Grass	nominated by Wedmore and Cheddar
Andy Dobson	nominated by Yeovil and District

2. Structure, governance and management

The responsibilities of the Trustees are set out in the SBKA Operation Guide and Handbook. The Trustees meet regularly and manage the day to day and seasonal requirements of the CIO and ensure

it is furthering the purpose of the charity for the benefit of beekeepers and the public. That purpose is “to advance the education of the public and beekeepers in the craft of beekeeping and to promote the importance of bees in the environment”.

During the reporting period, there were 5 trustees' board meetings and two general meetings held.

The SBKA is organised for administrative purposes into 12 Branches as follows: Burnham and District, Central, Exmoor, Frome and District, Mendip, Quantock, Somerton and District, South-eastern, South-western, Taunton and District, Wedmore and Cheddar, Yeovil and District. These may be added to or modified at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

3. Overview of the year's activities

3.1 Membership

At 30 September 2025, membership was 1,175 (2024: 1,224). This includes voting and non-voting members. Registered, partner and country members have voting rights. The other member categories do not. Two SBKA Honorary members, who are not members of the BBKA, are also entitled to vote. Based on the 2025 Autumn return, the voting membership is distributed across the Branches as follows:

Branch	2025	2024
Burnham and District	40	36
Central	49	36
Exmoor	75	68
Frome and district	72	68
Mendip	46	40
Quantock	75	66
Somerton and District	162	154
South-eastern	67	65
South-western	31	26
Taunton and District	166	157
Wedmore and Cheddar	33	32
Yeovil and District	78	73
Totals	894	821

3.2 Financial review

No restricted donations were received for research and no research projects were funded during the year. Total restricted funds total £8,442, of which £530 relate to New Leaf to support beginner beekeepers and the rest to fund research.

The net surplus for the year was £16,125 (2024: £20,879). The major changes this year were an increase of surplus at county level of £10,324 (2024: £6,393) due to lower expenditure in this transition year and the substantial expenditure on an extension to the apiary by Somerton Branch.

The County's Investment and Reserves policy is to hold a General Operating Reserve of £15,000 based on one year's expenditure plus a provision for an anticipate invasive species attack. As at 30th September 2025 the County's unrestricted reserves stood at £40,744. County anticipates a substantial spend on an

improved its platform during 2025-27. Branches have been encouraged to set operating reserves based on one year's income.

Purchase of assets

During the year some Branches bought equipment for use by their members £20,810 in total (2024: £990). Additionally ongoing repairs and maintenance are expensed. All branches are well financed and liquid.

3.3 Activities

The SBKA has been active both centrally and throughout its 12 local branches during the reporting period.

The SBKA's education officers have continued to run online study groups for members regarding the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) study modules. These groups also extend to beekeepers from other areas. The Annual Lecture Day took place in February and was well attended. Former online educational lectures remained free to access for members and were generally available throughout the UK and abroad. Some 9 school visits were undertaken and some 27 lectures were given to gardening groups and similar.

A number of members have been successful in obtaining BBKA qualifications this year, including the basic assessment and a range of BBKA theory modules. One member was awarded the advanced theory certificate and one was awarded an Intermediate theory certificate.

Introduction to beekeeping courses for beginners were run by 10 SBKA Branches, training some 200 people, of whom more than 10% are known to have gone on to keep bees. Notable amongst these were a number of Royal Marine Commandos from the Norton Manor Camp, where an apiary has been installed with the help and guidance of Taunton Branch members to help promote education and welfare. A number of Branches also ran 'taster days' for people who might be interested in taking the course.

Considerable emphasis continues to be given to SBKA's preparedness to respond effectively in the event that Yellow-legged (Asian) hornets (YLH) and their nests are found in Somerset. Two nests have been found and destroyed as close as Hampshire and Dorset in 2025. All Branches have Asian hornet action teams (AHATs). Under the guidance of our Asian hornet co-ordinator, a training day was held for AHAT members. The teams also undertake their own training, including monitoring for the presence of hornets and learning to mark them and track them to find their nests. Advisory leaflets and other literature continue to be widely circulated through Branch events across the county. The SBKA is looking to develop more cost-effective ways to produce YLH monitoring equipment and bait with the help of some of its most experienced members. The environmental risks associated with YLH have also been drawn to the attention of County Councillors and a local MP, a small number of members going on to visit the Houses of Parliament to discuss the problem and the wider challenges facing bees and beekeepers.

Numerous town and village shows and fairs were also attended across the county, including the Royal Bath and West Show, Taunton Flower Show, Mid-Somerset Show, as well as shows and events in Bridgwater, Castle Cary, Dunster, Frome, Somerton and many more. At the Royal Bath and West Show, the SBKA won the coveted Challenge Shield, narrowly beating Wiltshire, and there were also the highest number of competition entries, with over 400 exhibits displayed on the show benches. A number of Branches also ran their own Honey Shows which are open to the public and where there are judge competitions in relation to honey, beeswax and other related products. All these events provide opportunities to inform the public about bees and beekeeping. Supervised observation hives are often on display.


The Branches also undertook a large number of social activities for members, including apiary visits, educational lectures, bee teas, annual dinners, etc. All such events provide an opportunity to talk about beekeeping and promote the craft. Some practical sessions were undertaken to improve skills regarding beeswax, candle-making and skep making.

The SBKA introduced its own safeguarding policy this year, drawing heavily on the BBKA's version. At the time of submitting this report, the SBKA is starting to undertake a review of its other policies. A more detailed description of Branch activities can be found in the attached Annex to this report.

3.4 Future activities

The standard range of activities will continue in 2026. Asian hornet response preparedness will continue to be a high priority, in keeping with national activity across the country.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



Lance Moir – Treasurer
Somerset Beekeepers' Association

23 January 2026

Somerset Beekeepers Association (charity no. 1206483)

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Somerset Beekeepers'
Association
for the Year ended 30 September 2025**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Somerset Beekeepers Association

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Somerset Beekeepers Association (the Charity) for the year ended 30 September 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 Charity'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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I 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.

Joshua Kingston

Joshua Kingston BSc (Hons) ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

23 January 2026

SOMERSET BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION									
Accounts for Year Ended 30 September 2025									
	COUNTY			DIVISIONS			CONSOLIDATED		
	2025			2025			2025	2024	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<u>Income</u>	General	Restricted	Total	General	Restricted	Total	Total	Total	
<u>Subscriptions</u>									
Subs - SBKA & Divisions	14,410	-	14,410	7,350		7,350	21,760	22,311	
BBKA Capitation	-	18,347	18,347			-	18,347	17,461	
Divisional	-	-	-			-	-	-	
BDI	-	-	-	25		25	25	446	
Research	-	1,001	1,001	-		-	1,001	1,333	
Magazines	-	-	-	-		-	-	958	
Other	-	-	-	-		-	-	128	
<u>Donations</u>									
General Funds	175		175	1,245		1,245	1,420	1,789	
Restricted Funds		-	-		-	-	-	4,976	
<u>Fundraising</u>									
Advertising/Sponsorships				-		-	-	-	
Grants				2,070		2,070	2,070	-	
Auctions/ events				7,364		7,364	7,364	10,622	
<u>Gift Aid</u>			-	10,477		10,477	10,477	10,235	
<u>Bank Interest</u>	578		578	2,066	-	2,066	2,644	1,957	
<u>Educational Activities</u>									
AHAT/SWBKF	-		-			-	-	1,335	
Lectures	2,358		2,358	50		50	2,408	2,320	
Courses				16,064		16,064	16,064	14,054	
Exam Refunds etc.			-	-		-	-	-	
<u>Honey and other shows</u>									
Bath & West			-			-	-	-	
County/Divisional Honey Shows			-	9,348		9,348	9,348	6,200	
Other shows			-	486		486	486	2,461	
Other shows			-			-	-	-	
<u>Member Activities</u>									
Apiary meetings			-	762		762	762	1,180	
AGM			-	-		-	-	-	
Committee meetings			-	-		-	-	-	
Newsletters			-	29		29	29	-	
Year books/ badges	62		62	8		8	70	-	
Equipment sales/hire				-		-	-	-	
Lunches				1,074		1,074	1,074	51	
<u>Apiary</u>									
Asian Hornet	-		-	45		45	45	-	
Honey & fondant sales				10,869		10,869	10,869	6,939	
Equipment sales/hire				17,394		17,394	17,394	7,253	
Donations				20		20	20	70	
<u>Buildings</u>									
Room hire				50		50	50	150	
other income				-		-	-	133	
Donations				-		-	-	29	
<u>Website/ IT/Social Media</u>									
<u>General Administration</u>									
Misc Income				-		-	-	-	
Insurance Claim				-		-	-	-	
Other				275		275	275	58	
							-	-	
							-	-	
Sub Total	17,583	19,348	36,931	87,071	-	87,071	124,002	113,557	
TOTAL INCOME	£ 17,583	£ 19,348	£ 36,931	£ 87,071	£ -	£ 87,071	£ 124,002	£ 113,557	

SOMERSET BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION									
Accounts for Year Ended 30 September 2025									
	COUNTY 2025			DIVISIONS 2025			CONSOLIDATED		
	£ General	£ Restricted	£ Total	£ General	£ Restricted	£ Total	£ Total	£ Total	
Expenditure									
Subscriptions									
BBKA	£ -	£ 18,305	£ 18,305			£ -	£ 18,305	£ 19,135	
SBKA	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	
Divisional	£ -	£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
BDI	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 30		£ 30	£ 30	£ -	
Research	£ -	£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	£ 2,784	
Magazines	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ 955	
Other JCC	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ 248	
Projects /Donations									
Donations & bees for developme	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -	
Project* 2 Costs				£ 208		£ 208	£ 208	£ 50	
Badges			£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -	
New Leaf		£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	£ 502	
Fundraising									
BBKA IYBM			£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
Grants		£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
Auctions/ events			£ -	£ 7,856		£ 7,856	£ 7,856	£ 10,105	
Gift Aid									
Bank Charges	£ 60		£ 60	£ 370		£ 370	£ 430	£ 404	
Educational A AHAT									
EFB	£ -	£ -	£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
Lectures	£ 3,517		£ 3,517	£ 217		£ 217	£ 3,734	£ 1,126	
Courses			£ -	£ 4,137		£ 4,137	£ 4,137	£ 3,663	
Exam Refunds etc	£ 720		£ 720	£ 207		£ 207	£ 927	£ 591	
Honey and other shows									
Bath & West	£ 1,000		£ 1,000			£ -	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	
County/Divisional Honey Shows	£ 170		£ 170	£ 5,468		£ 5,468	£ 5,638	£ 4,700	
Other shows			£ -	£ 346		£ 346	£ 346	£ 1,233	
National Honey Show membersh	£ -		£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
Member Activities									
Apiary meetings			£ -	£ 1,749		£ 1,749	£ 1,749	£ 2,385	
Lecture day costs	£ -		£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
AGM	£ -		£ -			£ -	£ -	£ 328	
Committee meetings	£ 649		£ 649	£ 784		£ 784	£ 1,433	£ 720	
Newsletters			£ -	£ 28		£ 28	£ 28	£ 212	
Year books/ communications	£ 152		£ 152	£ 402		£ 402	£ 554	£ 89	
Special Awards	£ -		£ -	£ 59		£ 59	£ 59	£ 24	
Lunches/Dinners			£ -	£ 1,234		£ 1,234	£ 1,234	£ -	
Apiary									
Asian Hornet	£ -		£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -	
Maintenance & Repair			£ -	£ 1,168		£ 1,168	£ 1,168	£ 1,419	
Equipment purchases etc			£ -	£ 21,063	£ -	£ 21,063	£ 21,063	£ 13,349	
Fondant costs			£ -	£ 6,221		£ 6,221	£ 6,221	£ 3,173	
Utilities/Rent/Insurance			£ -	£ 2,698		£ 2,698	£ 2,698	£ 1,980	
Other			£ -			£ -	£ -	£ -	
Buildings									
Utilities/Rent			£ -	£ 532		£ 532	£ 532	£ 902	
Maintenance & Repair			£ -	£ 2,682		£ 2,682	£ 2,682	£ 1,170	
Insurance			£ -	£ 1,435		£ 1,435	£ 1,435	£ 1,304	
Website/ IT									
General Administration	£ 876		£ 876			£ -	£ 876	£ 837	
Treasurers & Secretaries Expenses				£ 1,104		£ 1,104	£ 1,104	£ 853	
Insurance	£ -		£ -	£ 168		£ 168	£ 168	£ 701	
Postage & Stationery/Manuals			£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -	
Misc	£ -		£ -	£ 294		£ 294	£ 294	£ 4,374	
Accounting review	£ 1,158		£ 1,158			£ -	£ 1,158	£ 180	
Sub Total	£ 8,302	£ 18,305	£ 26,607	£ 60,460	£ -	£ 60,460	£ 87,067	£ 91,688	
Asset/ Investment Purchases									
Exmoor				£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 200	
Burnham				£ 3,968		£ 3,968	£ 3,968	£ -	
Taunton				£ 600		£ 600	£ 600	£ 300	
Somerton				£ 16,042		£ 16,042	£ 16,042	£ -	
Mendip						£ -			
Frome				£ 200		£ 200	£ 200	£ 490	
Central				£ -		£ -	£ -	£ -	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£ 8,302	£ 18,305	£ 26,607	£ 81,270	£ -	£ 81,270	£ 107,877	£ 92,678	
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	£ 9,281	£ 1,043	£ 10,324	£ 5,801	£ -	£ 5,801	£ 16,125	£ 20,879	
BALANCE OF FUNDS B/FWD	£ 33,358	£ 5,504	£ 38,862	£ 173,264	£ -	£ 173,264	£ 212,126	£ 191,247	
Trabsnfer between funds	- 1,895	1,895							
BALANCE OF FUNDS C/FWD	£ 40,744	£ 8,442	£ 49,186	£ 179,065	£ -	£ 179,065	£ 228,251	£ 212,126	

SOMERSET BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION								
<u>Accounts for Year Ended 30 September 2025</u>								
<u>Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30th September 2025</u>								
	Cash Funds 2025	General	Restricted	Total	2024			
County	£	40,744	£	8,442	£	49,186	£	38,862
Burnham	£	9,271	£	-	£	9,271	£	12,604
Central	£	12,459	£	-	£	12,459	£	9,975
Exmoor	£	15,217	£	-	£	15,217	£	12,020
Frome	£	21,169	£	-	£	21,169	£	18,910
Mendip	£	12,756	£	-	£	12,756	£	12,110
Quantock	£	14,555	£	-	£	14,555	£	13,349
Somerton	£	11,803	£	-	£	11,803	£	19,104
South East	£	4,208	£	-	£	4,208	£	4,486
South West	£	5,749	£	-	£	5,749	£	5,832
Taunton	£	41,227	£	-	£	41,227	£	36,918
Wedmore	£	14,096	£	-	£	14,096	£	13,288
Yeovil	£	16,555	£	-	£	16,555	£	14,669
Total	£	219,809	£	8,442	£	228,251	£	212,126
RESTRICTED FUNDS INCLUDED IN BALANCE C/FWD		c/fwd						
	Research	7,912						
	New Leaf	530						
		<u>£ 8,442</u>						

Other assets

The Charity owns, through its Divisions, equipment for the use by members such as bee suits, extractors, hive equipment etc. Some Divisions own an apiary site and building and all the equipment and bees thereon. Display and promotion equipment are owned by Divisions and County. The overall value for of these assets is estimated at £484,388 (2024: £522,854). There has been a complete re-evaluation of asset values this year and so figures are not directly comparable.

Liabilities

At the year end, no liabilities were noted:

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 23 January 2026 and are signed on their behalf by:

Lance Moir

Lance Moir – Treasurer
Somerset Beekeepers' Association

Somerset Beekeepers' Association Notes to the Accounts for the year ending 30 September 2025

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 using the receipts and payments basis.

2. Restricted funds

Funds which have been donated for special purposes, being bee research, cannot be used for general purposes without the prior written agreement of the members. Educational funds relate to grants which the charity has restricted for that use.

Branch funds are restricted for the use by the Branch and cannot be used by any other branch or county without members' agreement.

3. General funds and reserves

The Trustees have a policy to hold central reserves for general use of a minimum of £15,000, being sufficient to cover general expenditure in the event of an emergency.

4. Trustees' Liability Insurance

Insurance costs in respect of Trustee Liability are paid for by the British Beekeepers' Association.

Contact information

Chairman

Simon Mills

chair@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk

Treasurer

Lance Moir

treasurer@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk

Website:

<https://www.somersetbeekeepers.org.uk>

Charity Registered address:

c/o Secretary
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