

Avon Beekeepers Association
Registered Charity no. 271717

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st November 2020 to 31st October 2021

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

The Association's objectives are to advance the science of apiculture and to promote and foster the education of the public therein.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

In planning our activities for the year the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

The main activities are as follows:

- ABKA stands at county shows where members of the public can find out about beekeeping and the importance of bees in the environment from practicing beekeepers,
- beginner courses for members of the public who are interested in taking up beekeeping,
- practical training for new members at one of our training apiaries,
- advanced classes for practicing beekeepers to enable them to take firstly the basic examination, and then further Module examinations run by the national beekeeping association, the BBKA, as they become more experienced,
- regular meetings and lectures by invited specialist speakers on specific aspects of beekeeping and honey bee problems,
- giving talks on beekeeping at schools, both primary and secondary, to help children's awareness and importance of bees and other insects in the environment,
- upgrading our training apiaries to provide the best possible environment for educating our new members in practical beekeeping and, where possible, spaces for holding meetings and lectures,
- collecting honey bee swarms and while doing so helping the public to become aware of bee behaviour and their importance in the environment,
- the ABKA website (www.avonbeekeepers.org.uk), and the websites of our branches and links from BBKA website provide plenty of information on bees and beekeeping and associated events in the locality. Members are informed of forthcoming events both locally and nationally by post or email. Regular newsletters are produced to promote the importance of education for members.
- running meetings and talks via the Internet (e.g. on 'Zoom') where meetings at outside venues are impractical.

Many of our experienced beekeepers carry out these activities as volunteers. We also encourage young people from all backgrounds and faiths to become interested in bees and, hopefully, some will take up beekeeping as junior members of the association.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

ABKA's membership remained steady over the year. By the year end there were **464** BBKA Registered members, **36** Partner members, **18** Country, **1** Junior and **1** BBKA Honorary member: total **520** (2019/20 520). Included in that figure are 4 Honorary ABKA members. In addition each branch has a number of associate members who do not have bees. These are members who are considering taking up beekeeping and attend apiary meetings to gain knowledge.

As for the previous year the Covid-19 pandemic drastically affected our ability to carry out our normal activities during the year. The ABKA Spring Day School that is an important educational forum for beekeepers had to be cancelled again.

The Association and its' branches continue to use the online platform 'Zoom' to run talks as well as AGMs and committee meetings. It is likely that use of this system will continue into the future

Financial Review

Total monetary assets at 31 October 2021 were £47,171 (2020, £41,175): £36,140 unrestricted funds after deducting designated funds specifically held for further Apiary development.

The combined unrestricted accounts for the year ended 31 October 2021 show a surplus of receipts against payments of £5,995 (2019, deficit £411).

Membership subscriptions remain the main source of income for the charity.

Total cash reserves of £47,171 remain at more than one year's income from voluntary sources (£25,660) and slightly more than one year's payments that were £34,468. This is acceptable as the expenditure is wholly within the charitable purposes of the association.

The Executive's cash reserves have increased to £15,347 (2019/20 £13,247).

Reserves Policy

The overriding policy is to ensure that the Association and each of its branches shall end each year with a minimum level of reserves and available funds to enable each to cover the next year's projected expenditure. The funds shall not be more than three times the minimum unless established to meet anticipated costs of improving or replacing apiary facilities by one or more branches. Unless there is such a proposal branches should not consider any further increase in subscription until funds are brought within the policy.

Subscription Rates

There was no change to BBKA capitation and ABKA capitation rates from 2019/20 into 2020/21. The BBKA are proposing increases in capitations for the 2021/22 season. However the ABKA finances are in a good shape and the association is unlikely to increase the ABKA capitation.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Avon Beekeepers Association ("ABKA") was founded in 1974 and registered as a charitable trust with the Charity Commission (Registered Number 271717) in 1976.

ABKA is an unincorporated association administered by an Executive Committee of officers and branch delegates (trustees) in accordance with the revised Rules of Association registered with the Charity Commission, as adopted 6 March 2004 and amended 19 March 2008.

The officers of the Executive Committee are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Association in March and branch delegates are appointed annually at the AGMs of branches in November.

ABKA has five branches the members of which live in the local authority areas of Bath, Bristol and North Somerset and their neighbouring districts that once formed the County of Avon.
In accordance with the Rules of ABKA, separate committees run each of the five branches and their committee members are elected at branch AGMs.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Avon Beekeepers Association
Other name used: ABKA
Registered Charity no. 271717
Charity's principal address: 38 Currells Lane Felton Bristol BS40 9XF

Names of charity trustees who managed the charity for 2020/21 were:

President	Stephen Brain	Bath Delegate	Anne Rowberry
Chair	Neil Campbell	North Somerset Delegate	Eric Sortwell
Hon. Gen. Secretary	Paul Moorhouse	Bristol Delegate	Neil Campbell
Hon. Treasurer, Membership Sec'y & eR2 Manager	Mark Hunter	Keynsham Delegate	Paule Pimble
Publications and Public Relations	Eric Sortwell	Weston-super-Mare Delegate	Vacant
Education Secretary & Newsletter	Rob Francis	BBKA Delegate	Neil Campbell
SWFC Delegate	Anne Rowberry		

The members of the Executive Committee are the Trustees of the Charity. No branch committee member is a trustee other than the branch delegate unless elected as one of the main officers of the executive. Details of branch committees are published on the website www.avonbeekeepers.co.uk.
All communications should be addressed in the first instance to the Hon. Secretary through the ABKA website.

Professional Support

ABKA's principal banker is CAF Bank Ltd., PO Box 289, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA.
The branches have accounts with clearing banks as follows:-
Bath – HSBC (2 accounts), Bristol – Lloyds (2 accounts), North Somerset – Lloyds (2 accounts),
Keynsham – Barclays, Weston-super-Mare – CAF

The Independent Examiner is Fiona Hale
22 Woodside Road Brislington Bristol BS4 4DP

Avon Beekeepers Association
Independent Examiner's Report to the Association's Trustees

I Report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st October 2021 set out on pages 5 to 9.

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.

N.B. I have not been responsible for the independent examination of the individual Branch Accounts.

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 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.

Signed: Fiona Hale

22 January 2022

FCCA

22 Woodside Road
Brislington
Bristol BS4 4DP

Avon Beekeepers Association
Accounts for the Executive, Receipts and Payments Account
for the Period 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021 (General Fund)

Section A. Receipts and Payments

A1 Receipts

Voluntary Sources

Avon Membership
Donations
Gift aid tax recovery

Note no.
(3)

Sub-total

Operating Activities

Introduction and training courses
Insurance

Sub-total

Total Receipts

2020/21		2019/20	
General Funds	Total	General Funds	Total
£	£	£	£
2,513		2,549	
0		0	
743		841	
	3,256		3,300
0		0	
0		0	
	0		0
	3,256		3,300

A2 Payments

Direct Charitable Expenditure

BBKA and BDI
Education course costs
Bath & West, National and SWJCC sponsorship
Fund Raising Events Costs
Website and newsletter costs
Reimbursement for hosting ABKA AGM
Educational equipment and grants for branches
Donations to outside organisations

Sub-total

Management & Administration Expenditure

Committee meetings
General stationery, postage, telephone
Insurance
Presidential chain repair
Bank charges

Sub-total

Professional fees

Costs for legal advice
Examination of Accounts

Total Payments

Net Receipts/(Payments) for the year

Opening cash and bank balances

Closing cash and bank balances

(8)

0		0	
547		173	
0		160	
0		0	
0		1,200	
0		0	
394		228	
0		85	
	941		1,846
0		48	
0		0	
0		0	
0		0	
90		60	
	90		108
0		300	
125		125	
	125		425
	1,156		2,379
	2,100		921
	13,247		12,326
	15,347		13,247

Section B. Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the General Fund at year end

B1 Monetary Assets

CAF Bank interest bearing account

Total for General Funds

(8)

£	£	£	£
15,347		13,247	
	15,347		13,247

B2 Non-Monetary Assets

Educational Assets at insured values
47 Beecraft shares valued at cost

Total

0		0	
47		47	
	15,394		13,294

Combined Executive and Branches Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Period 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021

Section A. Receipts and Payments

A1 Receipts Voluntary Sources	Note no.	2019/20			2019/20 Total Funds £
		General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	
Membership	(3)	18,074			17,703
Associate membership		674			1,215
Members' BDI additional colony insurance		732			720
Advance subscriptions for 2021/22		0			260
Major Grants	(4)	0			0
Swarms		750			
Other grants and donations		1,718			7,138
Gift aid tax recovery		3,712			4,202
Sub-total		25,660	0	0	31,238
Operating Activities					
Introduction and training courses		6,030			8,698
Advance payments for 2022 courses	(5)	540			0
Fundraising events proceeds		962			1,116
Hire of books and equipment		105			130
All risks insurance		0			0
Apiary items sold to members		6,185			1,163
Apiary honey sales		980			817
ABKA Reimbursement for Avon AGM		0			0
Sub-total		14,802	0	0	11,924
Income from Assets –					
Interest		0	1		14
Compensation from bank					0
Total Receipts		40,462	1	0	43,176

A2 Payments

Direct Charitable Expenditure					
BBKA	(3)	9,629			9,446
Bee Diseases Insurance		1,720			1,680
Teaching Apiary Building and Equipment		8,298			9,928
Teaching apiary costs	(6)	4,139			10,236
Educational courses costs		1,062			1,961
Educational Expenses		768			2,290
Costs at regional shows etc.		0			50
Fundraising event costs		0			2,058
AGM & other meetings inc speakers costs		40			472
ABKA Reimbursement for Avon AGM		0			0
Website and newsletter costs		451			2,339
Costs of apiary items for sale to members		7,028			1,040
Donations to other charities, organisations		0			460
Agent's fee for site valuation		0			0
Sub-total		33,135	0	0	41,960
Management & Administration Expenditure					
Committee meetings		0			48
General stationery, postage, telephone		5			8
Insurance	(7)	617			723
Presidential chain repair		0			0
Bank Charges		386			248
Honoraria		100			0
Sub-total		1,108	0	0	1,027
Professional fees					
Costs for legal advice		0			300
Examination of Accounts		225			300
Total Payments		34,468	0	0	43,587
Net receipts/(payments) for the year		5,994	1	0	- 411

Avon Beekeepers Association
Combined Executive and Branches Accounts (cont'd)

A3 Summary of Cash and Bank Movements in Year	Note no.	2020/2021			2019/20 Total Funds
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	
		£	£	£	£
Opening bank and cash balances		25,716	15,460	0	41,176
Excess/(shortfall) of receipts over payments		5,994	1		5,995
Transfers between funds				0	0
		4,433	-4,433		
Closing bank and cash balances	(8)	36,143	11,027	0	47,171
					41,176

Section B. Statement of Assets and Liabilities at end of the year 31/10/20

B1 Monetary Assets

Bank balances and cash funds

Bank Current Accounts	(8)	36,143	11,027	0	47,171	41,090
Cash						86
Total Funds	(8)	36,143	11,027	0	47,171	41,176

B2 Non-monetary Assets

Educational Assets at Insurance Values (11)

Branch Apiary Buildings		163,260	128,260
Beekeeping Equipment		50,080	48,081
Apiary Equipment		17,413	15,261
Educational and display equipment		17,361	17,361
Trophies at insured values		21,533	21,533

Total Insured Assets

		269,647	230,856
Honey stocks	(12)	300	300
Bulk purchase stocks		0	0
Bristol Apiary land at registration value	(13)	10,000	10,000
47 Bee Craft shares valued at cost	(14)	47	47

Total Other Assets

Total Non-monetary Assets

	10,347	10,347
	279,994	231,203

Avon Beekeepers Association
Notes to the accounts for the period 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 October 2021

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP revised 2015).

2. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either: -

Unrestricted general funds. These are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. These funds are termed as General Funds within this document.

Designated funds. These are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes or projects. They may be held within the unrestricted general funds or in a separate account.

Restricted funds. These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Endowment funds. ABKA has no endowment funds.

3. Membership

Members' subscriptions include branch fee, ABKA capitation, BBKA capitation and Basic BDI insurance. These can be claimed for Gift Aid tax reclaim by eligible members.

4. Grants

No major grants were received in this accounting year.

5. Advance Payments for Educational Courses

Deposits were received for 2021 courses of £540 (2020 £nil)

6. Teaching Apiary Costs

Bath incurred costs of £2,628 and Bristol £1,511.

7. Insurance

All Risks Insurance cover is for branch apiary buildings and equipment.

8. Bank Balances

Unadjusted Bank balances held by the branches and the ABKA Executive at 31 October 2021 were:

		Bath	North Somerset	Bristol	Keyns ham	W-s-M	Executive	Total
2021	General	£4,210	£6,151	£7,123	£1,848	£1,464	£15,347	£36,143
	Design'd	£11,027		£1				£11,028
	Total	£12,043	£6,151	£7,124	£1,848	£1,464	£15,347	£47,171
2020	General	£3,016	£1,369	£5,099	£1,526	£1,373	£13,247	£25,630
	Designated	£9,026	£3,000	£3,434				£15,460
	Total	£12,042	£4,369	£8,533	£1,526	£1,373	£13,247	£41,090

9. Each branch and the Executive plan to hold sufficient funds to meet their budgeted net outgoings for the following year but target not to hold funds in excess of approximately three year's net outgoings.

10. ABKA Unrestricted Funds

The Executive funds increased by £2,100 on the previous year.

NON-MONETARY ASSETS

- 11.** The branches can be confident that all their property is adequately covered by full replacement all risks insurance and at reasonable cost. Cover is with Aston Lark.
- 12.** Honey stocks and bulk purchase stocks are not eligible for insurance cover. Nil values are attributed to hives, colonies, or very old assets.
- 13.** Bristol's freehold apiary site is zoned as agricultural land and was valued at £10,000 on registration in 2004. Discussions with the valuer in March 2010 indicated that there had been no material change since 2004 and the Executive consider this valuation still applies.
- 14.** At present the executive has no assets other than Bee Craft shares.

LIABILITIES

Avon Beekeepers Association has no liabilities

The Receipts and Payments Accounts and Statements of the Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ended 31st October 2021, which are set out on the pages above are as approved by the Trustees of the Association.

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees

Mark Hunter
ABKA Hon. Treasurer

21 January 2022