

Avon Beekeepers Association
Registered Charity no. 271717

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st November 2021 to 31st October 2022

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 **441** BBKA Registered members, **38** Partner members, **21** Country, **2** Junior, and **5** BBKA Honorary member: total **507** (2020/2021 - 520). 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.

Normal activities started to be resumed and a successful ABKA Spring Day School was held in April 2022.

The Association and its' branches continue to use the online platform 'Zoom' to run some talks as well as committee meetings.

Financial Review

Total monetary assets at 31 October 2022 were £57,638 (2021, £47,171): £45,603 unrestricted funds after deducting designated funds specifically held for further Apiary development.

The combined unrestricted accounts for the year ended 31 October 2022 show a surplus of receipts against payments of £10,472 (2021, surplus £5,995).

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

Total cash reserves of £57,638 remain at more than one year's income from voluntary sources (£31,612) and slightly more than one year's payments that were £47,103. This is acceptable as the expenditure is wholly within the charitable purposes of the association.

The Executive's cash reserves have increased to £17,115 (2020/21 £15,347).

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 2020/21 into 2021/2022.

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 Curralls Lane Felton Bristol BS40 9XF

Names of charity trustees who managed the charity for 2021/22 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 (resigned November 2022)
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 2022 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

FCCA

22 Woodside Road
Brislington
Bristol BS4 4DP

22 January 2023

Avon Beekeepers Association
Accounts for the Executive, Receipts and Payments Account
for the Period 1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022 (General Fund)

Section A. Receipts and Payments
A1 Receipts

	Note	2021/22		2020/21	
		General Total Funds		General Funds	Total
Voluntary Sources		£	£	£	£
no.					
Avon Membership	(3)	2,375		2,513	
Donations/Interest		8		0	
Gift aid tax recovery		850		743	
Sub-total			3,233		3,256
Operating Activities					
Introduction and training courses		343		0	
Insurance		0		0	
Sub-total			343		0
Total Receipts			3,576		3,256

A2 Payments

Direct Charitable Expenditure

BBKA and BDI	0		0	
Education course costs	1,196		547	
Bath & West, National and SWJCC sponsorship	0		0	
Fund Raising Events Costs	0		0	
Website and newsletter costs	0		0	
Reimbursement for hosting ABKA AGM	0		0	
Educational equipment and grants for branches	0		394	
Donations to outside organisations	400		0	
Sub-total		1,596		941

Management & Administration Expenditure

Committee meetings	0		0	
General stationery, postage, telephone	0		0	
Insurance	0		0	
Presidential chain repair	0		0	
Bank charges	87		90	
Sub-total		87		90

Professional fees

Costs for legal advice	0		0	
Examination of Accounts	125		125	
		125		125

Total Payments

Net Receipts/(Payments) for the year

		1,808		1,156
		1,768		2,100
Opening cash and bank balances		15,347		13,247
Closing cash and bank balances	(8)	17,115		15,347

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

B1 Monetary Assets

£	£	£	£
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CAF Bank interest bearing account (8)
Total for General Funds

17,115		15,347	
	17,115		15,347

B2 Non-Monetary Assets

Educational Assets at insured values
 47 Beecraft shares valued at cost

Total

0		0	
47		47	
	17,162		15,394

Combined Executive and Branches Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Period 1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

Section A. Receipts and Payments

A1 Receipts Voluntary Sources no.	Note	2021/22 General Funds £	Designa ted Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Total Funds £	2020/21 Total Funds £
Membership	(3)	19,011			19,011	18,074
Associate membership		730			730	674
Members' BDI additional colony insurance		761			761	732
Advance subscriptions for 2021/22		0			0	0
Major Grants	(4)	6,013			6,013	0
Swarms		850			850	750
Other grants and donations		0			0	1,718
Gift aid tax recovery		4,247			4,247	3,712
Sub-total		31,612	0	0	31,612	25,660
Operating Activities						
Introduction and training courses		10,137			10,137	6,030
Advance payments for 2023 courses	(5)	1,300			1,300	540
Fundraising events proceeds		1,017			1,017	962
Hire of books and equipment		145			145	105
All risks insurance		0			0	0
Apiary items sold to members		9,210			9,210	6,185
Apiary honey sales		4,140			4,140	980
ABKA Reimbursement for Avon AGM		0			0	0
Sub-total		25,949	0	0	25,949	14,802
Income from Assets -						
Interest		6	8		14	1
Total Receipts		57,567	8	0	57,575	40,463

A2 Payments

Direct Charitable Expenditure

BBKA	(3)	10,181			10,181	9,629
Bee Diseases Insurance		1,712			1,712	1,720
Teaching Apiary Building and Equipment		9,515			9,515	8,298
(6)						
Teaching apiary costs	(6)	4,353			4,353	4,139
Educational courses costs		8,381			8,381	1,062
Educational Expenses		2,373			2,373	768
Costs at regional shows etc.		0			0	0
Fundraising event costs		60			60	0
AGM & other meetings inc speakers costs		439			439	40
ABKA Reimbursement for Avon AGM		0			0	0
Website and newsletter costs		493			493	451
Costs of apiary items for sale to members		7,446			7,446	7,028
Donations to other charities, organisations		287			287	0
Agent's fee for site valuation		0			0	0
Sub-total		45,240	0	0	45,240	33,135
Management & Administration Expenditure						
Committee meetings		0			0	0
General stationery, postage, telephone		3			3	5

Insurance	(7)	1,236			1,236	617
Presidential chain repair		0			0	0
Bank Charges		399			399	386
Honoraria		0			0	100
Sub-total		1,638	0	0	1,638	1,108
Professional fees						
Costs for legal advice		0			0	0
Examination of Accounts		225			225	225
Total Payments		47,103	0	0	47,103	34,468
Net receipts/(payments) for the year		10,464	8	0	10,472	5,995

Avon Beekeepers Association

Combined Executive and Branches Accounts (cont'd)

		2021/2022				2020/2021
A3 Summary of Cash and Bank Movements in Year		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£	£
no.	Note					
	Opening bank and cash balances	36,143	11,028	0	47,171	41,176
	Excess/(shortfall) of receipts over payments	10,464	8		10,472	5,995
	Transfers between funds	-1,000	1,000	0		0
		9,464	1,008		10,472	
	Closing bank and cash balances	45,607	12,036	0	57,643	47,171

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)	45,607	12,036	0	57,643	47,171
Cash						
Total Funds		45,607	12,036	0	57,643	47,171

B2 Non-monetary Assets

Educational Assets at Insurance Values (11)

Branch Apiary Buildings		163,260	163,260
Beekeeping Equipment		48,080	50,080
Apiary Equipment		16,488	17,413
Educational and display equipment		18,231	17,361
Trophies at insured values		21,533	21,533
Total Insured Assets		267,592	269,647
Honey stocks	(12)	300	300
Bulk purchase stocks		623	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		10,970	10,347
Total Non-monetary Assets		278,562	279,994

Avon Beekeepers Association
Notes to the accounts for the period 1 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 October 2022

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

The total of £6,013 includes grants received by Bath (£2,150) and Bristol (£3,665)

5. Advance Payments for Educational Courses

Deposits were received for 2022 courses of £1,300 (2021 £540)

6. Teaching Apiary building and equipment/Teaching apiary costs

The total of £13,868 includes North Somerset costs of £3,041 and Bristol costs of £6,171

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 2022 were:

		Bath	North Somerset	Bristol	Keyn sham	W-s-M	Executiv e	Total
2022	General	6,456	6,768	11,593	2,267	1,408	17,115	£45,607
	Design'd	12,034		2				£12,036
	Total	£18,490	£6,768	£11,595	2,267	£1,408	£17,115	£57,643
2021	General	4,210	6,151	7,123	1,848	1,464	15,347	£36,143
	Designate d	11,027		1				£11,028
	Total	£15,237	£6,151	£7,123	£1,848	£1,464	£15,347	£47,171

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 £1,767 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 2022, 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