

Ryedale Bee Keepers Association – Annual General Meeting 2025

Tuesday November 11th , Wombleton Village Hall 7pm

MINUTES

1. Present & apologies for absence

Number of members present :- 10

Apologies :- Karen Eastwood, Robin & Janette Hurd, Giles Jeffs, Kay Stevens, Pete Widlinski, Marian Cambridge, Philip Closier

2. Minutes of previous AGM

Agreed as an accurate record of 2024 AGM.

Proposed by John Sutherland, Seconded by Simon Lathlean

3. Treasurer's Report

Please see full report circulated prior to meeting. Summary slides presented to those in attendance.

- The total RBKA balance as of 1st November 2025 stands at £6841.42.
- An increase of £493.79 or 7.8% versus 2024.
- £3129 has been re-deposited via YBKA for a further 1 year term @4.3% with the CAF (Charities Aid Foundation) Bank.
- Gift Aid claim has been processed by YBKA resulting in a £429.19 refund.
- £150 received from the Allison Willis Trust - a substantial contribution towards the cost of the Observation Hive and promoting YLAH awareness
- Membership numbers are 55 Registered Full Members (including 2 Lifetime), 7 Partner and 3 Associate Members.
- Purchases include: Observation Hive, Small heather honey press, A replacement YLAH banner, An authentic honey banner, 2 x waterproof posters.
- Bulk orders for syrup cost £1123.04 for one pallet. All sold and at lower cost than 2024 and realised £76.96 to RBKA. Fondant pricing was secured again at a lower price than 2024 but there were insufficient pre-orders to warrant purchasing a pallet.
- RBKA spent £400.00 on meetings, including hall rental and speaker fees where applicable, and £284.89 on administration, including IT and market insurance.
- Operating costs of ~£680 are matched by the Ryedale association fees plus earned interest on the capital balance and margin on bulk sales.
- The capital balance continues to be available for use to encourage new and to benefit existing members. A list of current assets is available for review. Suggestions for new assets and equipment that could be purchased for shared use by members and the Association is encouraged.

We encourage completion of Gift Aid form – monies reclaimed from HMRC can really help the Association

Request for ideas from Members on Asset/Equipment purchase. One suggestion for this year is a Gazebo for outdoor shows/ events.

Please insure hives (via the BDI element of your subscription) to maximum number of colonies you think you will have at any point in the forthcoming year. Include this sum in your renewal.

Questions Raised :-

Simon Lathlean raised the spend on Market Traders Insurance, and what it covered. It was purchased to cover attendance at Malton Market (condition of pitch) when promoting YLAH awareness and Authentic Honey. Spend will be reviewed as part of 2026 activities (Malton monthly market no longer taking place, but there are other opportunities for educational stands at market events)

John Sutherland asked whether Accounts had been independently inspected. Members present agreed this would be helpful to ensure we are transparent. Committee will arrange for this to be completed.

4. Chair's Report

Please see full report circulated prior to meeting.

Question raised :-

Guy Richardson asked whether there was an opportunity to bulk buy frames for next season. It was something looked at earlier this year, following Huddersfield BKA Chair mentioning it at the Microscopy session. The committee will investigate bulk buy options for 2026.

5. Proposals Arising

There were no proposals arising this year.

6. Education Secretary Update

Simon reported we have one member who completed Honey Bee Health modules, but as yet no takers for Bee Basic. Hoping to encourage more members to participate in this so if you are interested please contact Simon.

There are 8 expressions of interest in the 2026 Beginners course, and it was agreed that we should go ahead with the course.

YBKA will be rolling out more advanced husbandry courses, open to all but preferably those that have completed Basic.

7. Election of Officers & Committee

All current committee members have indicated they are happy to remain in post. No comments or objections from members.

Proposed to accept the committee en bloc :- John Sutherland, Seconded by Stuart Davison

It was noted that all of the Officers are entering the last year of a maximum 3 year term.

8. AOB

- Christmas Meal will be on Tuesday 9th December at the Moors Inn, Appleton-le-Moors at 7pm for 7.30pm sit down

Meeting closed at 7.35pm