

BABKA

Constitution

Barkston Ash Beekeepers Association

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1 Name

- 1.1 The association shall be known as **Barkston Ash Beekeepers Association**, referred to as 'the Association' in this document.

2 Objects

- 2.1 The objects of the Association are:
- 2.1.1 To support the membership in their pursuit of the craft of beekeeping
 - 2.1.2 To promote an awareness of the importance of honey bees and beekeeping amongst the general public

3 Affiliation

- 3.1 The Association is affiliated to Yorkshire Beekeepers Association and through them to the British Beekeepers Association.
- 3.2 Any change to this status can only be agreed at a full general meeting of the Association and if passed will require a change to the constitution.

4 Membership

- 4.1 All members have full voting rights at general meetings and are entitled to all benefits of the association.
- 4.2 The membership subscription, to be paid annually, is due within 30 days following the AGM. After this date, membership will be deemed to have elapsed.
- 4.3 Membership of the association may be –
- 4.3.1 **Full Member** - these members will be full registered members of YBKA and BBKA.
 - 4.3.2 **Partner Member** - these members will be partner members of YBKA and BBKA.
 - 4.3.3 **Associate Member** - these are members whose primary membership is with another district association within the Yorkshire Beekeepers Association.
 - 4.3.4 **Social Member** - these are members that do not wish to be a member of YBKA and BBKA and do not keep bees.
 - 4.3.5 **Honorary Member** - members who are over 80 years of age and have been members of the association for over 10 years may have this status conferred by a vote at a general meeting, and from that time hence the honorary members will be entitled to free membership, as long as they wish to receive it. The association will honor honorary membership status conferred under former administrations.
- 4.4 All members will abide by the Rules & Regulations of the association. Rules & Regulations will be determined by the committee and publicised on the association website as Protocols.

5 Financial Year

5.1 The financial year will start on 1st October.

6 Officers of the Association

The Executive officers of the association are -

6.1 Chairman

6.1.1 The Chairman must be a registered member, partner member or honorary member.

6.1.2 Committee meetings will be called by the Chairman, and the agenda will be controlled by the Chairman.

6.1.3 The Chairman cannot be Secretary or Treasurer at the same time.

6.1.4 The Chairman is allowed a casting vote in addition to the normal vote. The Chairman may only exercise the casting vote when a vote is tied.

6.2 Vice-Chairman

6.2.1 The Vice-Chairman will be a registered member, partner member or honorary member.

6.2.2 The Vice-Chairman will stand in for the Chairman if the Chairman is not available.

6.3 Secretary

6.3.1 The Secretary must be a registered member, partner member or honorary member.

6.3.2 The Secretary will maintain minutes at the AGM.

6.3.3 The Secretary, in conjunction with the Chairman, will prepare the agenda for committee meetings.

6.3.4 The Secretary will arrange the winter program of lectures.

6.3.5 The Secretary will communicate with the membership.

6.4 Treasurer

6.4.1 The Treasurer must be a registered member, partner member or honorary member

6.4.2 The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the accounts of the association.

6.4.3 The Treasurer will present financial reports at the AGM and committee meeting.

6.4.4 The Treasurer must be prepared to have the accounts examined at the AGM.

- 6.4.5 The Treasurer will communicate with the YBKA membership secretary, and ensure that the association capitation payments to YBKA are dealt with in a timely manner.

6.5 Non-Executive Committee Members

- 6.5.1 Five committee members will be elected or re-elected each year

- 6.5.2 A delegate to the YBKA will be elected or re-elected each year

- 6.6 The executive officers and committee members will be elected or re-elected at the annual general meeting. The maximum term of office for any executive officer is ten years.

7 The Committee

- 7.1 A meeting of the Committee will be called by the Chairman.

- 7.2 The Chairman, or the Chairman's delegate, will chair all full meetings of association and committee meetings.

- 7.3 The committee will consist of the association Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and the five elected committee members.

- 7.4 The Chairman may invite additional members of the association to attend committee meetings.

- 7.5 The quorum for a committee meeting is 4 members.

- 7.6 The minutes of each meeting will be recorded by the Secretary or, in the absence of the Secretary, by a nominated committee member.

- 7.7 Should a vote be required, all members present may vote.

- 7.8 The committee will appoint, if required, additional non-executive officers such as:

- 7.8.1 Apiary manager

- 7.8.2 Equipment officer

- 7.8.3 Education officer

8 The Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- 8.1 The AGM must be held annually in October.

- 8.2 The membership of the association will be given at least six weeks' notice of the date of the AGM.

- 8.3 The quorum for the AGM will be 10 members or a quarter of the membership, whichever is the smaller.

- 8.4 The AGM will be chaired by the association chairman.

- 8.5** The agenda will be prepared by the secretary and agreed with the chairman.
- 8.6** The business of the AGM will include –
 - 8.6.1 The Treasurer’s report
 - 8.6.2 The Secretary’s report
 - 8.6.3 The election of executive officers and committee members
 - 8.6.4 The setting of subscriptions for the current year
 - 8.6.5 Committee recommendations
- 8.7** Should a vote be required, all members present may vote. In the event of a tied vote the chairman will have the casting vote.

9 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

- 9.1** An extraordinary general meeting may be called by the committee or by a petition signed by a quarter of the membership. The EGM must then be called within two months of the committee’s decision or the receipt of the petition.
- 9.2** An EGM can only be called to address one or more specific issues that need to be set out in writing.
- 9.3** At least four week’s notice of any EGM must be given to all members along with the details of the propositions to be discussed.
- 9.4** The quorum for an EGM will be 10 members or a quarter of the membership, whichever is the smaller.
- 9.5** The extraordinary general meeting will be chaired by the chairman of the association.

10 Indemnity

- 10.1** In the execution of the trusts hereof, no member of the committee shall be liable for any loss to the property of the association arising by reason of any improper investment made in good faith (so long as he/she shall have sought professional advice before such investment) or for negligence or fraud of any agent employed by him/her or by any other member of the committee hereof in good faith (provided reasonable supervision shall have been exercised) although the employment of such agent was strictly not necessary or by reason of any mistake or omission made in good faith by any member of the committee hereof or by reason of any other matter or thing other than willful and individual fraud, wrongdoing or wrongful omission on the part of the committee who is sought to be made liable.

11 Bee Disease Control

- 11.1** Members of the association who keep honeybees should register with Beebase, the database run by FERA.

12 Commercial Activities

- 12.1** Members must not use the name Barkston Ash Beekeepers Association to promote personal and/or commercial activities outside the association.
- 12.2** Members selling under the auspices of SDBKA may only sell locally produced honey and bee products.

13 Dissolution

- 13.1** If the committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the association it shall call an extraordinary general meeting of all members of the association giving at least 21 days notice and stating the terms of the resolution that is being proposed. The proposal to dissolve the association must be passed by a two thirds majority of those present. The committee will then have the power to realise the assets of the association, and after clearing any debts, the balance of the assets shall be transferred to such other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the association, or failing that to another charity agreed by the membership.

14 Expulsion

- 14.1** The committee shall have the power to expel from the association any member whose conduct they consider a risk to the welfare of fellow members of the association or to the association as a whole.

15 Altering the Constitution

- 15.1** The constitution may be altered at the AGM or at an EGM, provided three weeks' notice of the proposed amendment had been circulated to the membership and a two thirds majority is achieved in the vote.

Constitution Amendments History

AGM 2017 - Numerous changes made for adoption (tidying up and re-numbering paragraphs)