



Tarland Bee Group – Steering Group Meeting

Saturday 15th October 2022 - 4pm

Present: Lizzy Shepherd (LSh), Yvonne Davidson (YD), Lizzie Bacon (LB), Lindsay Stewart (LSt), Sarah Leahy (SL), Marie Clark (MC), Dave Woods (DW)

Apologies: Dave Muirhead (DM)

Agenda and minutes:

1. Annual meeting – date and arrangements

- Date – 3pm on December 3rd at Bee Bothy. Tea/coffee & cakes
- YD to prepare report to members and LSh report on accounts.
- Members to be sent an invite with an electronic request to acknowledge their attendance. (DM – electronic request)

2. Winter Talks

- To be offered to members only and held in The Bee Bothy. Probably a Sunday afternoon 3.30 – 5.30pm
- Members will be asked to notify interest electronically.
- Suggested topics:
 1. *Forage in the locality by season – Lst, YD*
 2. *2 x talks on honey, how forage affects honey, a practical workshop and label legislation etc. LSt, SL*
 3. *Wax processing workshop SL, MC*
 4. *Ask the panel session - TBD*
- Dates – SL to coordinate with speakers and organise dates.

3. Apiary checks over winter

- Once varroa treatment is out agree who is to check bees first and report to other Steering Group members. Further winter checks to be arranged by email.

4. Beginners 2023

- Applications to join to go out after Christmas
- 8 beginners maximum

- Same format as last year with a talk on basics at the first session by YD.

5. Library

- LB has had a number of meetings with Hayley Lockerbie (HL) who is kindly helping with the library set up.
- Agreed new book shelves to be ordered. LB
- Book plates to be designed by Aboyne Academy students for The Bee Group, The Seed Swopping Group and The Apple Pressing Group. DW to organise with input from HL.
- Borrowing and returning books will be available when the Apiary is open and a Steering Committee member present.
- Silica containers in the book cupboard to be checked by Steering Committee members visiting the apiary and LB advised when they require changing.

6. Latest Grant application

- The MacRobert Trust have again generously supported Tarland Development Group by awarding a grant of £10K for Tarland Bee Group. Funds are designated for building an outdoor shelter and additional equipment.

7. External talks

- As requests to do external talks arrive, they will be emailed around the Steering group to gauge availability to help. The preference is now to invite groups to The Bee Bothy to see the facilities.

8. New members

- New applications for membership of TBG to be emailed around the Steering group for approval.

9. Future work parties required to;

- Complete work on the pond
- Plant trees, bulbs and plant plugs.
- Move chuckies and lay slabs.
- Hives in storage to be sorted and sold as appropriate. A TBG sale to be organised in the Spring.

10. TBG Art Group

- LSt has started a TBG Art Group. If the trial is deemed successful members will be invited to join; numbers will be limited.

11. AOB

- YD to purchase an additional kettle and additional chairs.
- Monthly Bee Notes to go in folder in The Bee Bothy. LSh
- Additional heather plants to be purchased by LSh
- A booking system is required to coordinate bookings between the 3 user groups and prevent double bookings. DM to investigate.