**Minutes for Cheshire Beekeepers Association – Mid-Cheshire Branch**

AGM 2024

**1. Chair’s welcome and summary**

Steve Purkis welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the year of the branch with highlights of the key events and achievements including the establishment of a new club apiary, attendance at five external events and shows with a prize winning stand at Cuddington and Sandiway Gala.

He also highlighted that the branch continues to grow and support new beekeepers with members now exceeding 100.

Steve also mentioned that he is stepping down from Chair and thanked everyone for the help and support during the year. He will remain on the committee.

 **2.  Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Natalie Bushell, Jo Zielinski and Jan Haynes.

**3.  Approval of minutes of 2023 AGM**

The minutes with unanimously approved, proposed by Stuart Forbes, seconded by Nick Johnson.

**4.  Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no outstanding matters arising from the minutes.

**5.  Secretary’s report**

Ian Turley presented the Secretary’s report, a copy of which had been circulated to all members before the meeting. He echoed the Chair’s comments about the key aspects of the year but also mentioned the success of the Branch at the Cheshire Honey Show, winning the County Sheild for the very first time; a real indication of how the branch as grown and progressed.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

Sarah Johnson presented the Treasurer’s report and accounts, a copy of which had been circulated to all members before the meeting showing a healthy growth in funds largely due to gaining sponsorship for Parkers for our apiary expenditure and kind donations and to our apiary hosts and speakers for not taking/taking little in expenses. We also raised increased money through honey sales at the external events.

**7.  Election of Officers and Committee**

* Branch Chair
* Branch Secretary
* Branch Treasurer
* Committee Members

 **8.  Programme of events (see attached)**

**9.  Date of next year’s AGM**

The next AGM will be held on Monday 6th January 2025.

**10.  Date of next branch meeting**

The next branch meeting will be held on Monday 5th February 2024 at the Blue Cap in Sandiway, which is our main venue for our monthly branch meetings.

**“SBI - Asian Hornet Update & What Next” - Ewan Houldridge**

Ewan is a North West Seasonal Bee inspector and has been extensively involved with the Asian Hornet during 2023 and will give a talk on what is expected now and in the future.

**11.  Any other business**

**12. Post AGM talk on Making Mead.**