

## **Barambah Bee Keepers**

Post Office Box 77, Nanango

President: Dennis Wilson (4163 1561)

Secretary: Sally Mewett (4168 5836)

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### Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held 11 March 2017 at the Kingaroy RSL club, Kingaroy 4610. Meeting opened at 10:30 am.

**Present:** Members: Jack Bates, Richard Bowtell-Harris, Robert Kruger, Sally Mewett, Jeffery Sorensen, Allan Sheppard, Scott Cossens, Merlyn Reeves, Denise Orme, Dennis Wilson, Steve Bliss.

Guests: A & J Raper

**Apologies:** Elaine Sorenson, Margaret Kidd, Grant Duston, Colleen Duston, Dave Horton, Gaye Jarvis, Joanne Tollefson, Ken Tollefson, Lyn Sheppard, John Stevens.

**Meeting Minutes:** for February 2017 have been posted online. Moved as true and correct by Robert Kruger, seconded by Dennis Wilson. Carried.

**Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Robert Kruger has prepared a report. We currently have a positive balance sheet.

**Business Arising:**

**Ipswich Open Day 11 March 2017:** Jon Stevens attending so has sent his apologies for our meeting.

**Activities for the coming year:**

1. Blackbutt hives field day. 4 or 5 members are interested in attending. A weekend day is preferred. Dennis to send an email with proposed date and travel arrangements. We may combine with a look at a flow hive.
2. Short courses (e.g. Jeff Herriot). 5 interested so far.
3. Either Nanango (8 April) and Kingaroy (6 to 7 May) show day. Kingaroy the preferred site. Margaret Kidd's observation hive has been brought in by Sally. Dennis is looking for volunteers to help with stall/display. Merlynn Reeves advised she has the correct honey show bottles if anyone is interested.
4. Nanango Markets – continue once per month. Dennis to co-ordinate and always looking for assistance.

5. Hamish Lamb (BioSecurity Qld) has been contacted by Jon Stevens (to be followed up). Steve Bliss suggested we contact Patricia Swift (Apiary Field Officer) who is possibly based at Gatton. Steve to provide email contact details.

**Hives** - Could members please contact Dennis, Ken or Jon Stevens if they need help or advice with their hive. Members can move their hives to the Kingair site if home site is poor.

***Other Business:***

**Gift Certificates** – All BBK gift vouchers are redeemable at South Burnett Beekeeping Supplies. Raffle and birthday gift certificates require further discussion re: value.

**Club stamp** – A stamp has been ordered from Kingaroy office Supplies (\$40) for use with receipt book etc.

**Coffee/Tea catering:** It was agreed that member would self cater at our meetings.

**Honey extractor:** It was agreed we would continue to borrow Jon Stevens' extractor instead of the club purchasing one.

**Hive husbandry:** Feeding hives: Dennis suggested mixing 3 cups sugar with 3 cups water in a ziplock bag, shake vigorously then pricking with a dressmaker's pin. Another idea is to make a stiff paste with white sugar (only) (never honey) on baking paper and place as a thin strip on a frame top (next to brood frame).

Watering hives: an idea used by some members is to have a water feature with plants nearby, or a shallow dish e.g. a dog bowl, with pebbles, or with hessian laid on top of the water.

Ants: mix 1 part borax with 1 part sugar and place around hive.

Best time to start a hive: August? September? No earlier

Moving hives: "3 feet or 3 miles". If moving a long distance, close it up for 24 hours, then open after the move.

**Mid year club luncheon:** Dennis proposed we have a mid year club lunch in August to gather and informally catch up. A good time to discuss pre-spring hive and club activities.

**Meeting raffle: No raffle this meeting**

***Demonstration:***

Steve Bliss talked about his "traffic cone" bees. A hive of bees had set up in a traffic cone alongside the road near Booie. Steve slid a piece of board under the cone and

