



EssexBeekeepers' Association

Charity to charity payments considerations

Introduction

The Central Executive Committee (CEC) of Essex Beekeeping Association (EBKA) is considering:

- a) Making a donation to UK Charity –Bees Abroad for Bees Abroad/ Wax Chandlers Company World Bee Day initiative by sponsoring a project for the relief of poverty through beekeeping.
- b) The CEC encourages divisions to mark World Bee Day with local initiatives and also to sponsor a project.

I have been asked to check any specific requirements with regard to one charity making payments to another charity.

Essex Beekeepers' Association Rules – Governance Document

The EBKA charitable objective is to promote and further the craft of beekeeping. The EBKA Rules (Governance Document), last amended January 2021, makes no mention of the area of benefit but in practice this will be Essex.

Charity Commission Guidance on one charity working with another charity

The Charity Commission acknowledges that the charities on their register are hugely diverse – in the aims they have, the work they do and the people they support. With this in mind the Charity Commission sets four questions that trustees of the charity should consider and be satisfied with prior to working *with another charity:

1. it will be an effective way of using your charity's resources to further its charitable purposes
2. it will be in your charity's best interests
3. the charity's governing document doesn't prevent you from doing it
4. Trustees have identified and can deal with any risks that the proposal presents

Whilst Trustees are ultimate responsibility for everything that happens in the charity their main obligation is to make sure the charity delivers on its purpose and mission (charitable objective).

*Fundraising for another charity is permitted and requirements are slightly different in that prior to undertaking this only need to validate that charity you are fundraising for are consistent with your own charity; the charity which funds are being raised for is aware fundraising is happening and donors are aware who you are collecting for. EBKA divisions and individual members do this for Bees Abroad on a regular basis at Annual Conference; County Honey show and some training events.

Considerations

I see no issue with **item B** – divisions undertaking local initiatives if they follow the fundraising requirements. The funds can pass through the local division's bank account and the Treasurer just needs to show in the accounts similar to how they would account for donations to Fund Honey Bee Research where payment is made to BBKA (another charity).

If a division wished to use existing reserves they have built up in the bank account then they would need to answer the four questions.

For **item A** I have assumed that existing EBKA reserves will be used then the four questions need to be answered to come to a final decision.

I have limited my assessment on questions one and two as I am a member of Bees Abroad and make a regular donation to Bees Abroad (Beekeepers for Life) so must register a 'conflict of interest'.

Bees Abroad objective is consistent with EBKAs in respect to the advancement of the craft of beekeeping. *Bees Abroad Charity's objects ("the Objects") are the relief of poverty in any part of the developing world, in particular through the advancement of the craft of beekeeping*

On item three – the EBKA governance document does not prevent funds being given to another charity. Trustees may wish to enhance EBKA rules in the future to include option to fund UK based charities that advance beekeeping outside the UK.

On item Four – Trustees should arrange appropriate feedback mechanism from Bees Abroad to validate that funds have been used as they expect them to be.

In addition to recording the decision on whether or not to support another charity I would recommend this includes answers to the four questions.

Keith Lomax

EBKA Governance Committee

24 Feb 2022