

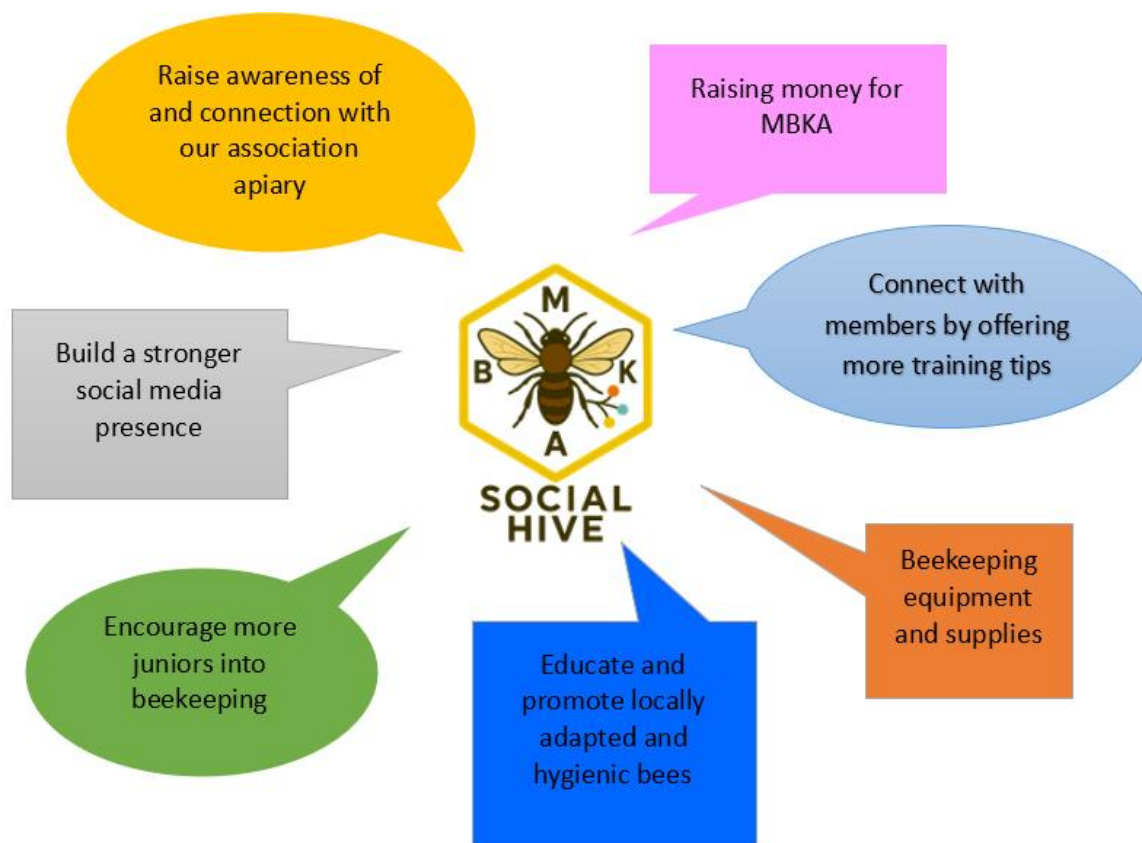
Launch of Social Hive

At our most recent MBKA AGM, we held an interactive session inviting members to share what we're doing well, where we could improve, and what they'd love to see more of. The themes that emerged — captured in the diagram below — were clear and inspiring.

From this, we've launched MBKA's **Social Hive**, a space shaped by the voices of our members and rooted in our shared desire to connect, grow, and sustain our community. The Social Hive team brings together a group of dedicated members working alongside the committee to help bring these ideas to life.

As we prepare for more junior participation, we've also developed additional policies, including our Safeguarding Children and Social Media policies, which are now in their final review stages.

We're excited to share that MBKA now has an active presence on **Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube**. We've begun testing content and expect everything to be fully up and running by the end of July.

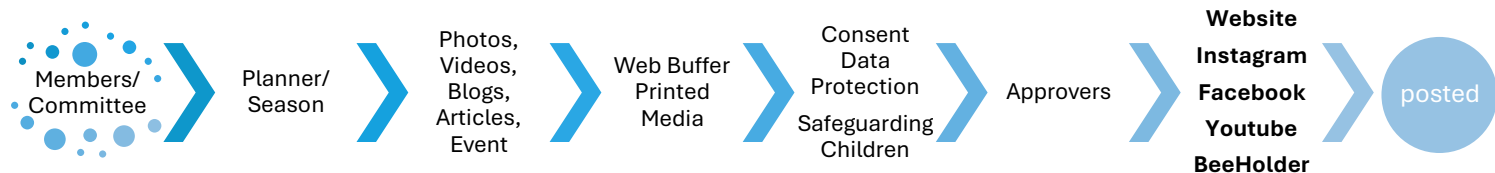


"Social Hive" carries warmth, community, and that unmistakable bee-centric charm

Posting content on Social Hive

We would love to hear from you and have your feedback, photos and videos of what's happening in your apiary, perhaps sharing something interesting or a tip or learning.

As one of our key objectives is Education, our social media content will go through review before being posted to ensure our content promotes safety, good practices and welfare. Below is a diagram explaining that process. If you would like us to share anything, please contact mediateam@montybees.org.uk



MBKA - Social Hive visit Saint Mary's in Newtown

And we're off — quite literally buzzing.

Russ Coleman and Lizanne Muller visited St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Newtown after a request came through the committee from their teacher, Sophie Richards. The children had a fun-packed agenda ahead of them, and all twelve arrived buzzing with excitement.

Together we talked about bees, dressed up, built a mini hive, collected pollen, tasted honey, and even saw live bees in an observation hive. For anyone feeling a bit unsure, our virtual hive was ready to save the day — no stings, just smiles. To top it all off, we handed out some pollinator-friendly plants and talked about how they help our local environment thrive.

It was a wonderful two-hour session, full of curiosity, laughter, and genuine engagement. We cannot thank the St Mary's team enough for their enthusiasm and the warm welcome they gave us. And a special thank-you to Sophie Richards — not only an exceptional teacher, but also our "flower of the day," bringing colour and joy to the whole experience.

