

CONFIDENTIAL

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BEALES HOTEL, HATFIELD ON THURSDAY 25 JULY 2019 AT
1:00PM**

Attendance	Eoghan Cameron Claire Sadler Oliver McCullough Ian Coghill Martyn Jones Robin Marshall-Ball Alasdair Mitchell Professor Ann Mortimer Cara Richardson Paul Shaw Peter Watson Carl Woodall Sarah Turner	Chairman Vice-Chair
Ex-Officio:	Ian Bell Angela Davies Caroline Bedell Christopher Graffius Steve Bloomfield Dan Reynolds	Chief Executive Executive Director of Business Management Executive Director of Conservation Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Executive Director of Shooting and Operations Director England
Minute Secretary	Sandra Forkin	

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

1 To receive apologies for absence and to note absentees

Apologies had been received from Lord Dear, Sally-Anne Cockerill, Ian Grindy, Steve Griffiths, Tommy Mayne and Dr Colin Shedden.

2 To confirm confidential items

The Chairman confirmed that items 10, 13, 19 were confidential.

3 To identify suggested items of any other business

The Chairman confirmed any other business will be split into two, as there is a lot to get through.

AOB 1

- Game Fair
- Raptor paper
- GL and Wild Justice JR update

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- Governance Review

AOB 2

- BASC Game Rearing Policy
- GKWT – Year of the Game Keeper 2020

The Chairman asked if anyone else had any other business.

4 Declarations of interest

The Chairman and Vice-Chair expressed an interest in item 13 on the agenda, Honorariums. Peter Watson expressed an interest in item 10 – BGA, as he is a BGA board member.

5.1 Minutes of the 23rd May 2019 Council meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

5.2 Minutes of the 15th June 2019 Council meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

5.3 Minutes of the 23rd May Executive and Finance Committee meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

5.4 Minutes of the 25th June 2019 Scottish Committee Meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

5.5 Minutes of the 28th March 2019 Wales Committee Meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

5.6 Minutes of the 14th May 2019 Northern Ireland Committee Meeting

The Chairman advised that the minutes will be approved electronically; and the Executive Director of Business Management would arrange this.

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6 Matters arising from earlier Council meetings

A Political Committee update was given by the Committee Chairman. No Political Committee meeting has taken place yet. However, the political position is currently dangerous and there is likelihood of a general election very soon.

The next Political Committee is scheduled for 14 August. It will be essential to find out what the Political officers are doing in each of the areas. This feedback will give us an insight in preparation for the General Election.

We will then hopefully discuss any political strategy moving forward

AOB 1 - Game Fair

The Chairman updated Council on the Game Fair

AOB 2 – Raptor Paper

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs referred to the paper that had been presented

GL Update

The Executive Director of Conservation gave an update of General licences as detailed below:

- Northern Ireland - consultation process due to come out Mid-August.
- Wales - likely to publish a new licence between 14th–19th August, BASC are engaged in consultation; and we have put forward evidence on species and the damage that is caused. A BASC survey is currently underway and results will be issued by end of July. It is hopefully that this will have some influence.
- Scotland - announced their consultation this week, which is open until the 9th October. It is a fairly straight forward consultation.
- England - Estimated that the consultation will be end August/beginning September.

Council were advised that we are working with the Shoot Liaison Committee and have instructed Field Fisher to pull together a list of questions for a QC to advice on. For example, what is the minimum you have to put into a general licence, we are also asking around the habitat and 300 metres noise disturbance. We do expect to have some challenges.

There were no questions.

Wild Justice Update

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs updated Council.

Governance Review

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The Chairman reminded Council that in his opening brief after being elected as Chairman, he wanted to complete the Governance Review.

We need to make sure we are following the correct processes and doing what our members need us to be doing.

Council agreed that the Vice-Chair should lead the governance review.

7 Health and Safety

The Health and Safety report was taken as read. There were no questions.

8. Council Election process 2020

The Council Election process report was taken as read.

AGM

Council asked for a proposal to be developed on the itinerary related to holding the AGM at Marford Mill and the associated costs. It was agreed this would be brought back to Council for further discussion and a decision to be made.

9. Election of Advisory and Committee Chairs

The CEO asked Council to approve the Chairs of the Committees for 2019/20. At this time no-one has confirmed they wish to stand down or have confirmed an interest in Committees without Chairs.

Council discussed and confirmed the following:

Committee	Chair
Pensions	Ian Grindy
Deer Stalking	Carl Woodall (<i>note: see below</i>)
Gameshooting and Gamekeeping	Dormant
Wildfowling	Alasdair Mitchell
Political Affairs	Martyn Jones
Pathways to Shooting	Claire Sadler
Uplands	Ian Coghill
England	Sarah Turner
Northern Ireland	Oliver McCullough
Scottish	Cara Richardson
Welsh	Peter Watson

10 BGA Update *CONFIDENTIAL*****

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11 Investigation update (oral) *CONFIDENTIAL*****

12 CRM Presentation

The Executive Director of Business Management presented a proposal to Council to replace the current CRM system. The presentation outlined the business case for the replacement, the project timeline and resource requirements, as well as a high-level estimate of the cost.

The Chairman advised that without the CRM system the Association would grind to a halt. He also asked how we would identify the companies it will go out to tender to. The Executive Director of Business Management stated that specialist organisations have been identified through the Association's IT provider and through our membership association.

The Chairman asked for updates moving forward and suggested that a Council member be part of the tender process.

Council all agreed to proceed with the first part of this project, and for the Executive Director of Business Management to seek volunteers from Council, to be part of the project.

13 Chairman and Vice-Chairman Honorariums * Confidential *******

14 Chairman's Report (oral) *Confidential*****

The Chairman provided an oral update. He had attended:

- Welsh Countryman's Show
- Royal Highland Show
- GWCT Scottish Fair Scone / Q&A Session on BASC Stand
- Meeting WildLife Habitat Trust (Paul Williamson completing some follow up work)
There was a discussion between Council members with regards to the frustration around Trustees
- Tour of Mill and Departments – my overall impression is very high morale within Head Office. The Chairman commented that as Council we are quite distant and do not appreciate this and we have some great talent, expertise in the organisation
- In process of arranging meetings at all the Regions
- Lords V – Commons – A good networking event and would be good to have more representation
- Royal Welsh – A big deal of a show and fantastic for BASC, a good presence and I look forward to going back next year

15 Chief Executive's Report *Confidential*****

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The CEO report, which was circulated at the meeting was noted.

16 Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs' Report

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs report was noted.

17 Executive Director of Shooting and Operations' Report

The Executive Director of Shooting and Operations report was noted.

18 Executive Director of Conservation's Report

The Executive Director of Conservation report was noted. In addition Council are to be made aware of :

- The focus is on General Licences
- The Conservation strategy will be issued in September for approval
- Taste of Game Strategy will be addressed and a put in place around food
- Budgets
- Let's Learn Moor / Uplands Committee discussions – There were no objections from Council to take this forward

19 Executive Director of Business Management's report *Confidential*****

The Executive Director of Business Management report was noted.

20 AOB 2

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs noted that there is likely to be a review of game bird rearing and in particular the statutory code that applies to game bird rearing in Wales. There is also a possibility that the focus will be on raised laying cages as Wales has the largest raised laying cages. There was a Policy agreed by Council in 2018 which has been sent round to all Council Members for information. There is nothing officially published on this subject yet.

Council discussed the policy and it was agreed that further discussion on the policy needs to be undertaken and the policy needed to be reviewed in more detail.

GKWT

The Executive Director of Shooting and Operations gave Council an overview on the Gamekeepers Welfare Trust. 2020 is the year of the gamekeeper and the aim for 2020 is to raise funds and secure survival of this charity. The Official launch of the Year of the Gamekeeper will be tomorrow afternoon at 3pm at the Game Fair.

21 Date of next meeting

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The next meeting will take place on 26th September 2019.

Staff / Council Clay Shoot and BBQ will take place on 25th September 2019.

22 Game Fair Brief

Dan Reynolds gave a brief overview on the Game Fair.

Signed:

Date:

Chairman