

# **THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION**

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM,  
ON THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2005.**



## **Minutes from the Council meeting on Thursday 17th March 2005**

### **Present:**

**John Graham  
Jan Andrews  
Simon Breasley  
Walter Cole  
Graham Crompton-Howe  
Michael Evans  
David Frost  
Duncan Greaves  
Ian Haddon  
Robert Irvine  
Andrew Macfarlane  
William Notton  
Stewart Ogden  
Peter Pursglove  
Ray Walters  
Tom Wylie**

### **Chairman**

### **Ex-Officio Members**

**John Swift  
Christopher Graffius  
Philippa Marshall-Purves  
Roger Pollen  
Simon Hamlyn  
Vivienne Jasper**

**Chief Executive  
Director of Communications  
Director of Business Management  
Director, Northern Ireland  
Director of Operations  
IPS Secretary**

### **In Part Time Attendance**

**Paul Hammans  
Dr. Peter Marshall  
Alan McCormick**

**Director of Training (in attendance  
for agenda item B.1 and B.3)  
Research Department (in  
attendance for agenda item B.2)  
Deer Officer (in attendance for  
Agenda item B.3)**

### **Secretary:**

**Amanda Forshaw**

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**The meeting began at 10.30 a.m.**

**A1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Carl Eriksson, Sir Malcolm Guthrie, Glynn Cook and Colin Shedden.

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### **A2. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005.**

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005, were duly accepted as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

### **A3. To take matters arising from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005.**

A3.01 Provision of a procedure for the election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Advisory Committee Chairmen in time for the next AGM.

*Chief Executive to present a paper to the April or May Meeting of Council.*

A3.02 Provision of a proposal concerning a Communications Centre.

*Item on main agenda.*

A3.03 Discussion paper to be drafted by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Firearms and Air Weapons Committee outlining the procedure to be followed in appeals cases. It was noted that the paper is now written and ready for discussion between the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the FAWAC.

*To be placed on the agenda of the April Meeting of Council.*

A3.04 Teachers Resource Pack. This is currently being developed but has not yet been completed.

*To remain as an action point.*

A3.05 Provision of Deer and Gamekeeping Advisory Committee Meeting dates and venues. Noted that the Deer Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2005. The date of the next meeting of the Gamekeeping Committee is still awaited.

*Director of Operations to obtain and distribute the date as soon as possible.*

A3.06 Consideration to be given to the practicalities of launching a Sporting Rifle Course in April 2005.

*Item on main agenda*

A3.07 More trials on shot loads for fox shooting.

*Item on main agenda*

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A3.08 Production of curve analysis based on variables of range, load and shot sizes.

*Item on main agenda*

A3.09 A presentation on the proposed “COMPETENT Person” legislation.

*Item on main agenda*

A3.10 Report to Council after the end of the season on the wounding study at a North Wales Shoot.

*To be placed on the agenda of the April Meeting of Council.*

A3.11 Provision of an updated paper on guests attending Council meetings.

*Item on main agenda*

A3.12 An oral report on the meeting held on battery type cage laying systems to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005. It was noted that the meeting was very useful. A small working group, to include representation from some of the other organisations, has now been identified to liaise with the Chief Executive on his paper to be presented to the May Meeting of Council.

It was also noted that all members of the group had agreed on a consensual line to be taken when making media and public statements.

*It was resolved that the text of the report will be given to the Chairmen of the relevant Advisory Committees and to Heads of Department for their input before May.*

*Chief Executive to present a paper to the May Meeting of Council.*

A3.13 To discuss policy statements on wind farms and coastal erosion.

*Item on main agenda.*

A3.14 Redevelopment of Trochry

*Item on main agenda*

A3.15 Provision of a draft Register of Interests

*Item on main agenda*

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A3.16 Provision of updated papers on Governance Issues. It was noted that the Chief Executive is working on this. Comments have been received from a small number of members. Further comments are invited.

***To be placed on the agenda of the April Meeting of Council.***

A3.17 It was noted that the WHT trustees for this year's AGM were to be appointed by members, not Council.

A3.18 Terrier Code Press Release. It was noted that there has been no further action on this matter.

A3.19 BASC as a Sporting Agency

***To remain as an agenda item for a future Meeting of Council.***

A3.20 Game Shooting and Game Management issues. It was noted that it is intended that a representative from the Gamekeeping Advisory Committee will attend the Game Shooting Advisory Committee Meeting in May. Stewart Scull is to consider the possibility of consolidating the animal aid rebuttal work into the report from the Game Shooting and Gamekeeping Advisory Committees.

***To remain as an action point.***

A3.21 To take the Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committees

***Item on main agenda.***

A3.22 It was noted that to provide a detailed note on Monitoring of UK Shooting was proving to be a much bigger project than first anticipated. It was recognised that this was a very big and important subject and that Council should discuss this further.

***It was agreed that the Director of Operations will liaise with the Director of Research and the Chief Executive to ascertain the timescales and to organise an initial scoping meeting.***

A3.23 Card to Peggy Carter. It was noted that the Director of Operations has sent a card to Peggy Carter and a response has been received.

A3.24 It was noted that a letter of condolence had been sent to Nicky Reynolds.

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A3.25 Jan Andrews to check her papers re Regional Directors attending Council. It was noted that this matter has been on-going for some time and agreed that the item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting and concluded at that meeting.

*To be placed on the agenda of the April Meeting of Council.*

A3.26 Rebuttal paper re. Animal Aid. It was noted that work has commenced on this and it is intended to present a paper possibly to the May Meeting of Council.

*To be placed on the agenda of the May Meeting of Council.*

### **A3.1 Verbal update on redevelopment at Trochry**

It was noted that engineers have carried out further testing and no further drainage work is required on site. Invitations for up to six tenders will be despatched next week to those companies who have expressed an interest in undertaking the work. The QS will verify the tenders and make a recommendation as to which firm we should use. A request was made for the QS to ensure that a 90 day period for the tender amount to stay open be built into the tender documentation so that time could be allowed for Council to consider and decide upon the best option.

*It was resolved that a report be brought to the May Council meeting.*

It was noted that a Clay Shoot held in Aberdeenshire had raised over £2,200.

The closing date for the position of Country Sports and Tourism Project Officer has now passed and details of the new appointment will hopefully be reported to the April Meeting of Council.

*To remain as an action point.*

### **B1 To receive a proposal to launch a Sporting Rifle Course in April 2005.**

A presentation was made to Council by Paul Hammans, the Director of Training. It was agreed that more work should be done to address the concerns raised by Council members, in particular with regard to the quality control of providers and consultation with other organisations.

*Subject to the above, it was resolved that a Statement of Intent should be made at the forthcoming Gamekeepers fair.*

### **B2 To receive a presentation on the proposed second phase of the fox-shooting study.**

B2.01 More trials on lead shot

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### B2.02 Production of curve analysis based on variables of range, load and shot sizes

A presentation was made by Peter Marshall. It was noted that the cost of additional trials would be in the region of £3,500. There was already an allowance in the budget for this, however not enough to cover this amount.

*It was resolved that an additional £1,500 be made available to conduct the further study.*

### **B3 To receive a proposal for the introduction of a training programme for game meat handling.**

Council debated a paper received on the proposal for the introduction of a training programme for game meat handling. It was recognised that the regulations will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2006, and the lead up time is short. The intention is for BASC to be in a position to offer this training from end of July 2005 through an in-house delivery programme.

*It was resolved that approval is given to implement the course and for BASC to appoint 2 trainers and 1 administrator to support this.*

### **B4 To receive an up-dated paper on guests attending Council Meetings**

The above paper outlined the relevant sections of the current constitution with regard to inviting guests to Council meetings. After some discussion, it was agreed that a pilot should be undertaken by inviting guests to the May meeting with a later review to assess its success. The May meeting was considered to be ideal because a report on cage laying systems will be presented to Council which will no doubt be of interest to kindred organisations.

*It was resolved that the Chairman will decide who to invite and whether the invite will be extended for the whole of the May meeting or just the cage laying part.*

### **B5 To discuss position statements on wind farms and coastal erosion**

A discussion took place regarding the above.

*With regard to wind farms, it was resolved that Tim Russell would be asked to liaise with the RSPB and other organisations to seek their views on this issue and to present a report with the feedback to a future Council meeting.*

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*With regard to coastal erosion, it was resolved that William Notton should pass all information onto Tim Russell and that a paper on the scope of the problem including a full SWOT analysis should be presented to a future Council meeting.*

**B6 To receive draft guidelines on Register of Interests**

Council debated a draft pro-forma for Register of Interests.

*It was resolved that Council members should forward their suggestions and amendments to Vivienne Jasper within 10 days of the Council meeting and that a new draft, approved by the auditors, will be provided at the April Council meeting.*

**B7 To receive a discovery paper concerning the Communications Centre**

Council received a discovery paper on the new Communications Centre.

*It was resolved that the Director of Business Management should provide the next stage, a scoping paper, which will include indicative costs.*

**B8 To approve the Financial Statements for 2004**

Council received the Financial Statements for the year ended December 2004. Amendments were noted.

*It was resolved that Council approved the Financial Statements for 2004.*

**B9 To approve Honours and Awards at the AGM 2005**

Council received initial nominations for the 2005 AGM Honours and Awards.

*It was resolved that the date for submission of nominations for trophies, honorary life members and vice presidents should be extended to April 2005, and for special presentations to May 2005. The former will be discussed at the April Council meeting. Nominations should be forwarded to Vivienne Jasper.*

**C1. To take the minutes of Executive and Finance Committees**

**C1.1 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2005.**

*The minutes were accepted as presented.*

**C1.2 17th February, 2005**

*The minutes were accepted as presented.*

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### **C2    To take the Minutes of Advisory Committees.**

#### **C2.1   Northern Ireland Committee 23.01.05.**

The minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee were accepted as presented.

A bulletin was circulated to Council members who were informed that this was being circulated to all NI members.

***Council members were asked to read the bulletin in readiness for the next Council meeting***

#### **C2.2   Gamekeepers Advisory Committee 08.02.05.**

It was noted that there are two recommendations. The Committee recommended the adoption of the Terrier Code and that Council support the Shoot Assurance Scheme.

***Council agreed to accept both recommendations.***

#### **C2.3   Game Shooting Advisory Committee 16.02.05.**

The minutes of the Game Shooting Advisory Committee were delivered on the day and so there was no time for consideration. A request was made that the recommendations from the meeting be considered.

***It was resolved that Roy Green be invited to join the Committee.***

***It was further resolved that the editor of Shooting and Conservation should be consulted with regard to the inclusion of articles relating to the Code of Good Shooting Practice.***

#### **C2.4   The Scottish Advisory Committee 24.02.05.**

With regard to the advance notification of a budget request for a press officer in the Scottish office, it was noted that it was up to the Director of Scotland to put his case forward at the right time.

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### C2.5 Welsh Committee 27.02.05.

The Minutes of the Welsh Advisory Committee were accepted as presented.

*It was noted that the editor of Shooting and Conservation be consulted with regard to an article on Open General Licences.*

### C2.6 Gundog Advisory Committee 02.03.05.

The Minutes of the Gundog Advisory Committee were accepted as presented.

*It was resolved that a paper on the review of the subscription rate for the Gundog membership category will be brought to the July Council meeting.*

Some discussion took place on the second recommendation regarding electronic collars.

*It was resolved that an amendment be made to BASC's policy with regard to electronic collars to read: "Electronic collars including those incorporating fenceless dog protection, anti bark and sound emitting collars, do have a place in the hands of responsible and experienced dog handlers.*

*It was noted that the editor of Shooting and Conservation be consulted with the request to include a dedicated page in the magazine for Gundog issues.*

*It was agreed that the Chief Executive and the Director of Operations would look into the management structure and resources available to assist with processing the Gundog Survey results.*

### C3 To take the Chairman's Activities Report

The Chairman's Activities Report was accepted as presented.

### C4 To take the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented.

### C5 To take the Director of Communications' Report

The Director of Communications' Report was accepted as presented.

### C6 To take the Director of Business Management's Summary Report

The Director of Business Management's Summary Report was accepted as presented.

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### **C7     To take the Director of Operations' Report**

The Director of Operations wished to place on record his thanks to Jan Andrews, John Dryden and the South West team for their hard work at Crufts, and Mike Evans for his input on preparations for the centenary celebrations. The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented.

### **D1     To take Any Other Business by Leave of the Chairman**

It was noted that in future there will be a requirement that new members of Council provide the auditor with evidence of identity in order to comply with the Money Laundering Regulations.

The issue of Council Members' non-attendance at three successive meetings of Council was briefly discussed.

***It was agreed that this will be considered at a future meeting of Council.***

Andy Macfarlane gave advance apologies for the April meeting of Council, and advised of the availability of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

A query was raised regarding spare time being allowed in Council meetings for general discussion. This wasn't thought feasible as papers would have to be produced for topics for discussion, so should be included as an agenda item.

Council was advised that after submitting photographs of deer stalking to Tesco for development, a BASC member was visited by Police and questioned about his activities.

It was noted that the Norwich & District Wildfowlers have given notice that they no longer wish to lease the Grint land which BASC holds on trust. There is to be a meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March to explore the options available.

***It was agreed that Tim Russell be authorised to locate another tenant for this land.***

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**D2     Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2005, commencing at 10.30 am.

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 4.45pm.**