

STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL
THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM,
ON THURSDAY 28th July 2005.**

Present:	John Graham	Chairman
	Michael Alldis	
	Jan Andrews	
	Eric Begbie	
	Simon Breasley	
	Graham Crompton-Howe	
	Carl Eriksson	
	Michael Evans	
	Lee Freeston	
	David Frost	
	Duncan Greaves	
	Ian Haddon	
	Andrew Macfarlane	
	Peter Pursglove	
	Ray Walters	
	Tom Wylie	

Ex-Officio Members	John Swift	Chief Executive
	Christopher Graffius	Director of Communications
	Philippa Marshall-Purves	Director of Business Management
	Simon Hamlyn	Director of Operations
	Glynn Cook	Director, Wales
	Colin Shedden	Director, Scotland
	Roger Pollen	Director, Northern Ireland
	Vivienne Jasper	IPS Secretary

In Part Time Attendance	Dr John Harradine	Director of Research (in attendance for agenda item B6)
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At the start of the meeting Council welcomed the three newly elected Council Members, Michael Alldis, Eric Begbie and Lee Freeston and introductions were made all round.

A1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Walter Cole, Robert Irvine and William Notton.

A2. Declaration of Interests

John Swift declared that in respect of agenda item B5, he was a WHT trustee; and in respect of agenda item B6 he was the Vice President of FACE.

Simon Hamlyn declared that in respect of agenda item B5, he was a WHT trustee.

A3. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19th May, 2005 and 11th June 2005.

The Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19th May, 2005 and 11th June 2005, were duly accepted as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

A4. To confirm the Minutes of the 19th May, 2005 and 11th June, 2005 for publication on website

It was agreed that the Chairman and the Director of Communications should decide what goes onto the website and should continue to do so for all future minutes.

A5. To take matters arising from the meeting held on 19th May, 2005.

A5.01 Firearms Appeals Procedure. A paper of the existing procedure was provided to Council Members. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Firearms and Air Weapons Committee would submit his comments on the paper to the Chief Executive with a view to them reaching an agreement and producing a final version for submission to the September Council meeting.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

- A5.02 Teachers Resource Pack. This is still on track to launch in September 2005.
To remain as an action point.
- A5.03 BASC as a Sporting Agency. It was agreed to bring this forward to the September meeting of Council.
To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.
- A5.04 Role and Operations Paper. Mike Evans, in editing the paper, had raised a number of issues and it was agreed that he and the Chief Executive would resolve these issues and that the paper would be submitted to the September meeting of Council.
To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.
- A5.05 The report to review the challenges and opportunities for the future of game shooting. It was noted that whilst progress had been made, there was still a lot of work to be carried out on this topic.
To remain as an agenda item for the October Meeting of Council.
- A5.06 Monitoring of UK shooting.
Item on main agenda.
- A5.07 To receive a report on the progress of the working party in respect of battery type cage laying systems.
Item on main agenda.
- A5.08 Redevelopment of Trochry
Item on main agenda
- A5.09 Sporting Rifle Course. It was noted that this had now been officially launched at the CLA and had been advertised in Shooting and Conservation. Concern was expressed with regard to the course being linked to a 'Certificate of Training' rather than a 'Certificate of Attendance' as previously agreed. It was agreed that this would be rectified and that the Director of Operations would take this forward.

It was noted that the trial run of the course had been cancelled and that the Council members scheduled to participate had not had the opportunity to assess the content and curriculum. It was agreed that this would be re-scheduled to take place before the course goes live in September ensuring that there would be enough time to iron out any concerns.

To remain as an action point.

- A5.10 Position statement on wind farms and coastal erosion. Awaiting a response from the Director of Conservation and Land Management. A request was made for a reminder to be issued.

To remain as an action point.

- A5.11 Provision of a scoping paper concerning the proposed extension to the Stanley Duncan building. It was noted that the concerns raised by the Environment Agency in relation to the flood risk are not now an issue. A further meeting was to be held with the Architect to progress the plans so that they may be submitted for planning consent. It was agreed that a small working party to include the Chief Executive, the senior Directors, the Chairman, Graham Crompton-Howe and Robert Irvine; would meet to discuss the plans and to then bring a detailed presentation to the September meeting of Council. It was agreed that after the working party had met, if there was a need to submit the planning application before the September meeting then consent to do so was given.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

- A5.12 Provision of an updated Register of Interests. It was noted that only two Council Members were left to submit their declarations, Ray Walters and Walter Cole. On receipt of their declarations the register will be complete.

- A5.13 Provision of a paper reviewing the subscription rate for Gundog membership. It was noted that this paper was withdrawn from today's meeting to be brought to the September meeting instead.

To remain as an agenda item for the September Meeting of Council.

A5.14 Presentation of a scoping paper for the production of a NI Bulletin on a regular basis.

Item on main agenda.

A5.15 It was noted that an announcement regarding the Election of next President was dealt with at the AGM.

A5.16 Greylag geese. It was noted that there was no progress to report as yet regarding the recommendation to reduce the number of greylag shot per flight from 3 to 2. It would be raised as an issue for the goose guide code before the start of the season.

To remain as an action point.

A5.17 The provision of advice to membership on suitability of candidates for election to Council.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

A5.18 Publicising Code of Good Shooting Practice. It was noted that a range of ideas had been discussed with the Editor of Shooting and Conservation and that an Executive meeting was to be held to discuss how to promote codes to members.

A5.19 Operation Artemis. It was noted that contact had been made with English Nature; DEFRA and moorland owners on the status of Operation Artemis.

A5.20 Review of BASC support of WHT.

Item on main agenda.

A5.1 Verbal update on redevelopment at Trochry

Fundraising continues with potential sponsorship being sought from the Highland Field Sports Fair Committee.

The success of the Trevor Jeans firearms appeal has reduced the financial exposure for BASC as costs were awarded against the other side.

It was noted that 12,000 leaflets on Lead Shot in Scotland had been produced and funded by the Scottish Executive.

To remain as an action point.

A5.2 Verbal update on cage laying systems

It was reported that a letter had been sent to the GFA, CLA and NGO to progress the views of the working party set up following the May Council meeting. Amongst other things, the letter had provided a definition of partridge boxes, had raised transport issues and had promoted a buy British campaign.

Following discussion in Council, it was agreed that the cross party discussions must continue alongside discussions with parliamentary committees and DEFRA. Council agreed that BASC should continue with its strategy and that its policy should not be changed. A report on the progress of the working party should be brought back to the September meeting of Council.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

A5.3 To take matters arising from the meeting held on 11th June, 2005

Concern was expressed regarding the election procedure for Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Training Advisory Committee. It was noted that the procedure that was followed had been agreed by Council the month before.

A5.4 SWOT Analysis

Council were informed that staff had recently been through an exercise to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for BASC. Council were invited to spend 20 minutes to go through a similar exercise so that the results can be compared with those of staff.

SWOT analysis to be presented at September Council meeting.

B1 To receive a presentation on the preliminary budget review of subscription rates for 2006

An interactive presentation was made to Council with a view to establishing the suggested budget parameters for 2006 including subscription rates.

It was noted that there were bids received to date that totalled circa £280K and that a subscription rise of £2 was required just for BASC to “stand still”

It was noted that budget bid discussions would now take place to determine project priorities and that the results would be brought back to the September meeting of Council to firm up the above decision.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

B2 To receive a paper to review the subscription for Gundog membership

It was noted that this item was to be deferred until the September meeting of Council.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

B3 To receive a paper on the costings for the production of a N.I. bulletin

Council considered the above paper and discussed the implications and concerns associated with its recommendation. These included costs; alternative strategies to reach members and lapsed members; what initiatives other partners can bring in eg. Green Shoots; and whether Shooting and Conservation can be used to cut the cost of mailing. It was agreed that the paper should be re-worked to take account of the above and be brought back to the September meeting of Council.

To be placed on the agenda of the September Meeting of Council.

B4 To receive a paper on membership revenue department manning

Council considered the above paper and held a discussion. It was noted that all of the resource requested may not be recruited at the same time.

It was resolved that the request for further resource be granted.

B5 To receive papers in respect of BASC's support of WHT

The Chairman informed Council of a meeting he had held with 2 WHT Trustees and Tim Russell at the CLA. He had agreed to defer the issue to the October meeting to allow the Trustees to prepare a business plan.

To be placed on the agenda of the October Meeting of Council.

B6 To receive a paper on monitoring shooting in the UK

Dr John Harradine joined the meeting for this item and highlighted the main areas in his paper. Council accepted the update on progress.

B7 To receive a meeting programme for the AGM and council meetings 2006

Council were asked to note a change to the presented programme. The meeting scheduled for Thursday, 16th March 2006 will move to Thursday, 23rd March 2006, and the meeting scheduled for Thursday the 27th July 2006, would be brought forward to Thursday, 20th July 2006. The date for the AGM will be confirmed following discussion with Lord Home

C1 To take the Minutes of the AGM held on 11th June 2006

The minutes were accepted as presented with the request that the duplication of the word 'sadly' in the opening paragraph, be removed before the minutes are sent to the President for signature.

C2 To take the Minutes of Advisory Committees.

C2.1 Deer Advisory Committee 20.04.05

The recommendation that Council should implement a strategy to monitor the progress of critical consultation papers was noted.

The minutes of the Deer Advisory Committee were accepted as presented.

C2.2 Gameshooting Advisory Committee 10.05.05

It was noted that the recommendation for Council to consider Operation Artemis was taken at the last meeting.

The minutes of the Gameshooting Advisory Committee were accepted as presented.

C2.3 Northern Ireland Committee 07.06.05.

There was one recommendation to that BASC NI produces a pre-season issue of its local newsletter, *The Bulletin*, which will include a guide to filling out the new Firearms Certificate application form. It was suggested that an objective appraisal was needed before a campaign was pursued.

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

C3 To take the Chairman's Activities Report

The Chairman's Activities Report was accepted as presented. The Chairman undertook to expand on some of the detail in his next report.

C3.1 To ratify ex-budget expenditure

It was resolved to ratify ex-budget expenditure for the recently held ministerial briefing day.

C4 To take the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented.

It was noted that a letter had been received from the President thanking Council for the gift presented to him at the recent AGM.

It was noted that a recent review of the Strategy for Shooting and Conservation had been held amongst head office team leaders. A request was made for Council to be invited to attend such future meetings. It was agreed that this was a staff management exercise and that input from Council should be made through the Advisory Committees.

The Chief Executive advised Council of difficulties in obtaining a certificate of conviction following a recent high profile potential member disciplinary case. The matter now appears to be resolved and the relevant disciplinary hearing would take place in September.

C5 To take the Director of Communications' Report

The Director of Communications' Report was accepted as presented.

Thanks were expressed to the Director of Communications for his part in the ministerial briefing day which was deemed to be a great success. It was noted that it was intended to hold a similar day for the Conservatives when their new leader had been elected.

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

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

C7 To take the Director of Operations' Report

The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented.

Thanks were extended to those Council Members who had attended and given their support to the CLA game fair. Appreciation was extended to David Ilsley for organising the event.

It was noted that there was some improvement in standards for Gwent police force.

A query was raised regarding a question on the survey form used for the Joint Economic Study relating to how game on a shoot is 'disposed' of. This was causing some concern amongst members and clarification of its meaning was sought. It was noted that the definition was clinically described as 'beyond use'. The Director of Operations agreed to check this out.

A query was raised as to whether more Young Shots activity days could be organised as they were regularly oversubscribed. It was noted that the practicalities and lack of resource meant that it was not possible to do so at this time.

It was noted that Peter Fabian had achieved the target he had been set and had already got more donors and people involved in fundraising which now needed to be actioned.

D1 To take Any Other Business by Leave of the Chairman

It was noted that there was nothing more to report at this stage regarding the Affinity Card.

An agreement in principle, subject to figures and budget approval, was sought to produce a book for the centenary on the History of WAGBI and BASC. It was noted that a publisher and author had been secured.

It was resolved that an agreement in principal should be given.

Jan Andrews offered a set of silver WAGBI blazer buttons for centenary use.

It was noted that whilst it was early days yet, the costs for the game handling training course look as though they will be met through the provision of training.

It was confirmed that the FSA were happy for a derogation of new DMQ 1 certificate holders for large game. There was still an area in question relating to existing holders and whether they needed to update their certificate. The Director of Operations agreed to look into a request for training from a large club which was made at the game fair.

Congratulations were offered to the BASC team who won the Gun Makers Row competition at the CLA.

Andrew Macfarlane offered his apologies for the September meeting.

Council agreed to a suggestion for clay shoot and BBQ to be held on the night before the September Council meeting for staff and Council members.

D2 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be Thursday, 22nd September 2005, and would commence at 9am.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 4.10pm.

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Chairman

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Date