STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL
THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22nd September 2005.

Present:	**John Graham**	**Chairman**
	Michael Alldis	
	Eric Begbie	
	Simon Breasley	
	Walter Cole	
	Graham Crompton-Howe	
	Michael Evans	
	Lee Freeston	
	David Frost	
	Duncan Greaves	
	Ian Haddon	
	Robert Irvine	
	William Notton	
	Peter Pursglove	
	Ray Walters	
	Tom Wylie	
Ex-Officio Members	**John Swift**	**Chief Executive**
	Christopher Graffius	**Director of Communications**
	Simon Hamlyn	**Director of Operations**
	Colin Shedden	**Director, Scotland**
	Roger Pollen	**Director, Northern Ireland**
	Vivienne Jasper	**IPS Secretary**
In Part Time Attendance		
	Stewart Scull	**Head of Gamekeeping (in attendance for agenda item A4.2)**
	Jamie Stewart	**Gamekeeping Officer (in attendance for agenda item A4.2)**
	Simon Clarke	**Head of Press Relations (in attendance for agenda item A4.2)**
	Tim Russell	**Director of Conservation and Land Management (in attendance for item B8)**

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CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM,
ON THURSDAY 22nd September 2005.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that Agenda Item B.6 had been deferred due to the absence of Jan Andrews.

A1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Jan Andrews, Carl Eriksson, Andy Macfarlane, Glynn Cook and Philippa Marshall-Purves.

A2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th July 2005

Noted that in respect of A.5.1. reference should be made to the Trevor Jeans Firearms appeal. Spelling error noted on page 8, D.1. should read "principle". . Subject to the above amendments the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th July, 2005, were duly accepted as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

A4. To take matters arising from the meeting held on 28th July 2005.

A4.01 Firearms Appeals Procedure.
Item on main agenda.

A4.02 Teachers Resource Pack. Details will be on the BASC website by the end of September 2005. Paul Hammans to liaise with Colin Shedden regarding pack for Scotland.
To remain as an action point.

A4.03 BASC as a Sporting Agency.
Item on main agenda.

A4.04 Role and Operations Paper.
Item on main agenda.

A4.05 Review of challenges and opportunities to the future of gameshooting.
To remain as an agenda item for the October Meeting of Council.

A4.06 To receive a report on the progress of the working party in respect of battery type cage laying systems.
Item on main agenda.

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22nd September 2005.

A4.07 Redevelopment of Trochry
Item on main agenda

A4.08 Sporting Rifle Course. Mike Evans and Ray Walters met with Paul Hammans and Simon Hamlyn to review the content of the course and were satisfied with what they heard. Disappointment was expressed as they had not met with RifleCraft. It was confirmed that there was a lot of interest in the course and that it was intended to bring on five other training providers in due course. It was confirmed that course attendees receive a certificate of attendance.

A4.9 Position statement on wind farms and coastal erosion.
Item on main agenda.

A4.10 Provision of a scoping paper concerning the proposed extension to the Stanley Duncan building.
Item on main agenda.

A4.11 Provision of a paper reviewing the subscription rate for Gundog membership. Jan Andrews was not present at the meeting to present this paper.
To remain as an agenda item.

A4.12 Presentation of a scoping paper for the production of a NI Bulletin on a regular basis.
To remain as an agenda item for the October meeting of Council.

A4.13 Greylag geese.
Item on main agenda.

A4.14 The provision of advice to membership on suitability of candidates for election to Council.
Item on main agenda.

A4.15 Publicising Code of Good Shooting Practice. It was noted that arrangements are being made to include an article on the Code of Good Shooting Practice and also BASC's Disciplinary procedure in a future edition of Shooting and Conservation.

A4.16 Review of BASC support of WHT.
To remain as an agenda item for the morning session of the October meeting of Council.

A4.17 SWOT analysis.
Item on main agenda.

A4.18 Confirmation of budget decisions. It was noted that the August figures brought the annual budget back onto schedule which confirmed that the budget decision made in July was sound. It was noted that the membership should be informed as soon as possible. It was agreed that a meeting be held between the Chief Executive, the Director of Operations, the Director of Communications and David Ilsley, Head of Membership Marketing to decide on the strategy for communicating the subscription increase to members.

A4.19 Confirmation of June 2006 AGM.
Item on main agenda.

A4.1 Verbal update on redevelopment at Trochry

It was confirmed that work had now commenced and that the building was now watertight and the services were in place. It was anticipated that completion would be in November/early December. The first phase invoice was being checked by the Quantity Surveyor and was to be submitted to the Director of Business Management for payment.

Fundraising continues with shoot evenings being organised for October and November.
To remain as an action point.

Greylag Geese

Since the Director Scotland had written to Goose Guides regarding the limits on the shooting of Greylag geese, a survey had suggested that Greylag had enjoyed significantly improved breeding success in Iceland. Council were in agreement that as the Goose Guides were prepared to accept the reduction of the number of Greylags from 3 to 2, Council should ratify the earlier decision but review the situation annually. It should be made clear that this relates to commercial inland shooting only and not individual wildfowlers.
It was resolved that the Code of Practice for inland Goose Shooting should be re-printed showing the modification of greylags from 3 to 2.

A4.2 Verbal update on cage laying systems
Council went into private session.

A4.3 To approve a paper on the procedures in firearms appeal cases
The paper was accepted as presented.

A4.4 To confirm the meeting programme for 2006
Council were informed that the March date had been revised since the last meeting and that the AGM was now confirmed for the 10 June 2006. The paper was accepted as presented.

B1 To receive a presentation on the proposed Communications Centre
Council received a paper written by the Director of Business Management which outlined details relating to the above so that they could make a decision as to which option was most suitable and give the go ahead for planning permission to be sought. Following a lengthy discussion:

It was resolved that:

1. ***The Architect should be given the go ahead to submit an application for detailed planning permission for the 2 storey option on an enlarged footprint.***
2. ***The Director of Operations should proceed in approaching potential funders for the project.***
3. ***A cost benefit analysis should be prepared on all options including relocation to another area.***

B2 To receive a paper on BASC – A Sporting Agency
Council considered the above paper and discussed the potential for implementation. It was agreed that this idea would provide a useful membership benefit and a more detailed study should be instigated which should include market research and produce a business case and business plan. The Chief Executive will refer this to the next Executive meeting to decide on the best approach to do this.
To remain as an action point.

B3 To receive consolidation of papers on Governance issues
Subject to a few amendments, this paper was accepted as presented. It was noted that this was a living document and that it would be returned to from time to time.
The Chief Executive agreed to produce an addendum showing the changes and to circulate this to Council. The master copy would be amended and placed on public file.

B4 To receive a discussion paper on Advisory Committees
Council considered the above paper. It was noted that it would be more cost effective and more efficient to reduce the number of meetings per year and to

conduct more business by e-mail where it was prudent to do so. Council were asked to bear this in mind for the future.

B5 To receive a SWOT analysis

The Chief Executive gave an overview of the different recent SWOT exercises that had been recently conducted by the staff management team; by Council; by the regional staff teams; and most recently with FACE. It was noted that whilst there were some consistencies these were difficult to compare as each word could have a different context. It was confirmed however, that some of the aspects would be taken in account in the 5 year plan revision exercise due to be conducted in October/November.

B6 To receive a paper to review the subscription rate for Gundog membership

Due to the absence of the Council member, to be presented at a later date.

B7 To receive a paper on the provision of advice to membership on suitability of candidates for election to Council

Council considered the above paper. A number of points arose and suggestions were made including the use of a bulletin board by candidates so that members could put their questions directly to the candidate; increasing the number of proposers and seconders; providing training beforehand so that the candidates know what they are letting themselves in for; and setting up an independent group to encourage and nurture members, particularly younger members, to become future candidates.

It was agreed that these ideas warranted further discussion in the future.
Chief Executive to present paper at future Council meeting on possible ways of encouraging members to come forward for election.

B8 To receive an update on the position statement on wind farms and coastal erosion

Council considered the above paper and discussed each topic separately. With regard to wind farms it was noted that the loss of shooting rights needed to be addressed, whilst recognising their part in future energy policies.
It was agreed that an advice note would be written and circulated electronically to Council before the next meeting.

With regard to coastal erosion, it was agreed that an expert in the field of climate change should be invited to present to Council so that they can start to think about the future issues that should be being addressed.
It was agreed that the Director of Conservation and Land Management would organise this for early next year.

B9 To approve membership of the advisory committees

Subject to a few amendments to individual committees and to the Chairman of each committee verifying the membership status of each committee member – if they are not a BASC member, they should be noted as observers – the committee lists were accepted as presented.

C1 To take the Minutes of Advisory Committees.

C1.1 Northern Ireland Committee 23.08.05
The recommendation that Council was removed.

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

C2 To take the Chairman's Activities Report
The Chairman's Activities Report was accepted as presented.

C3 To take the Chief Executive's Report
The Chief Executive's Report was presented orally and was accepted as presented.

Council were asked to commend John Walkman for the restoration work he has completed on the mill wheel. Council offered their congratulations to John on a job well done.

It was noted that a number of discussions had taken place regarding the replacement of the Director of Training. Changes had been made to the job description which reflected the need for BASC to be the standard setter rather than provider of training. A plan was in hand to find a replacement with the job now being advertised on our website and mentioned in the editorial of the next edition of Shooting and Conservation. If Council members know of anyone who may be interested, they should refer them to the website for further information.
It was agreed that the Chief Executive would make a presentation to the October meeting of Council on the role of Director of Shooting Standards

It was noted that Dr Conor O'Gorman and Dr Peter Marshall had acquitted themselves very well at a recent Game Biologists FACE workshop held in Germany.

C4 To take the Director of Communications' Report
The Director of Communications' Report was accepted as presented.

It was noted that DEFRA were taking up BASC's offer to help regarding Avian 'flu' and were enlisting the support of wildfowlers in certain areas.

C5 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 Midland game fair. Appreciation was extended to Carl Cox for organising the event.

D1 To take Any Other Business by Leave of the Chairman

A request from an expelled member to be re-instated was considered by Council. The request was rejected with the recommendation that he re-applies for membership in 2006.

It was noted that the next meeting would be busy and that it was hoped that the WHT paper and all other Council business be conducted in the morning so that the afternoon could be dedicated to the challenges and opportunities to the future of game shooting.

The Chairman retired from the meeting to allow the discussion on the Chairman's Honorarium, the meeting was then chaired by the Vice Chairman.

D1.1 Chairman's Honorarium

Council were asked to consider the payment of an honorarium to the Chairman to compensate for loss of earning opportunity.

It was suggested that this is something that should be looked at before the election of the Chairman as the uncertainty may preclude some Council members from applying to become Chairman.

It was agreed that this would be looked into for the future.

D2 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be Thursday, 20 October 2005, and would commence at 9am.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 4.20pm.

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Chairman

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Date