

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 19 APRIL 2007

Present:	Robert Irvine Jan Andrews Simon Breasley Walter Cole Paul Culley Carl Eriksson Lee Freeston Duncan Greaves Andrew Macfarlane Peter Pursglove Mike Sherman Ray Walters	Chairman
Ex-Officio Members	John Swift Philippa Bursey Simon Hamlyn Vivienne Jasper Roger Pollen Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Director of Business Management Director of Operations IPS Secretary Director, Northern Ireland Director, Scotland
Secretary:	Amanda Forshaw	Minute Secretary
In attendance	John Harradine Mark Greenough Conor O’Gorman	Director of Research (item B1 only) Cheshire Biodiversity Project Officer (item B3.2 only) Conservation Officer (item B3.2 only)

A1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Mike Alldis, Eric Begbie, Glynn Cook, Mike Evans, Christopher Graffius and Tom Wylie,

A.2 To confirm Confidential agenda items.

It was noted that items B3, B5, and C5 should be regarded as confidential.

This was agreed.

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A.3. Declaration of Interests

The Chairman, Paul Culley, Lee Freeston, the Director of Business Management and the Director of Operations declared an interest in Agenda Item B3.

The Director of Operations and the IPS Secretary declared an interest in Agenda Item B6.

A.4 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 March 2007.

Page 7, Item C2.2 – It was noted that the amendment was to be made at the next meeting of the Scottish Committee. It was agreed that there was no further action needed.

The Minutes were duly accepted as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

A.5. To take Matters Arising from the meeting held on 15 March 2007.

- a) It was noted that there are around 20 premises in the UK used for rearing grey partridges for food production. It was reported that there would be consultation on the Game Acts in Scotland either this year or next. It is the intention of this consultation to consider the game licence and it was felt that it was only a matter of time for this to be abolished in Scotland. However, the game licence is likely to remain a legal requirement in Scotland over the 2007/08 season.

A5.1 Oral Report on Proposed Communications Centre.

It was reported that the Director of Business Management had met with the Architect and representatives from the local authority. It had been noted at the meeting that the proposed new road through the wood would still leave enough tree cover to act as a screen at the entrance to the village. In light of this a topographical survey and borehole investigation would now be carried out. In conjunction with this a tree survey and risk assessment would also need to be completed. These surveys would be combined with a management plan for the wood, and further ecological and botanical surveys in support of an impact assessment in support of a planning application which, it was hoped, could be submitted by the 1st June 2007. It was reported that more detailed costs would be available once the topographical survey had been conducted.

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A5.2 Respect for quarry DVD

It was reported that three companies were interested in producing the content for the DVD and that the necessary funds for this would need to be raised. Council were asked to endorse moving to the next step in the process which is to produce a draft technical script.

It was agreed that a draft of the technical content and script be produced and brought to the July meeting of Council.

A5.3 On-line voting – legal advice

It was noted that legal advice had not yet been received due to the Solicitor being on annual leave. This item would be taken at the next meeting of Council.

A5.4 To review Action Points from the meeting of 15 March 2007

A5.4.1 WHT New Development Plan

To remain as an action point with a paper to be brought to the October 2007 meeting of Council.

A5.4.2 Regenerating Ownership, Partnership and Commitment

To remain as an action point with the Director of Operations providing an up-date in his May report to Council.

A5.4.3 Structure, role and function of principal officers, Council and Committees

To remain as an action point with the Chairman of the working group providing an up-date at the May meeting of Council.

A5.4.4 SWOT Analysis

It was reported that the Chief Executive and the Director of Communications were to meet on Friday, 20 April 2007, and would be looking at commercial development opportunities, incorporating the website and the magazine, resources and structure of the organisation. A report would be presented to the May meeting of Council.

A5.4.5 Respect for Quarry DVD

This had been discussed earlier in the meeting. A draft script would be brought to the July 2007 meeting of Council.

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A5.4.6 Membership category for overseas visitors

To remain as an action point with a paper to be brought to the May 2007 meeting of Council.

A5.4.7 Membership retention

To remain as an action point with a paper to be brought to the September 2007 meeting of Council.

A5.4.8 Sponsorship for top level air gun young shot for the 2012 Olympics

It was reported that the Chief Executive had met with the manager of the GB Shooting Olympic team who had reported that money was not an issue. The Chief Executive had been in touch with other people including David Penn from the BSSC who had explained that there was a desire amongst the shooting community to support competitors in 2008, 2012, 2016 and 2020. David Penn was working on the idea to use the BSSC as an umbrella to organise such support. It was noted therefore that there was no need for BASC to deal with this independently as the BSSC is dealing with this issue on a wider project basis. Council considered whether BASC should do something separately in any event, it was agreed that this should be left with the senior management team and that the item should be removed as an action point.

A5.4.9 Quality Assurance and Complaints Procedure

To remain as an action point with a paper to be brought to the May 2007 meeting of Council.

A5.4.10 Lead shot issues and contamination of game meat

Item on main agenda under B1.

A5.4.11 Re-write of the Five Year Plan

To remain as an action point with a paper to be brought to the November 2007 meeting of Council, with a review update before.

A5.4.12 Honours, Awards and Presentations 2007

Item on main agenda under B6.

A5.4.13 Relationship between courses, certification, accreditation and qualifications

It was reported that active discussions were taking place and that a presentation would be made at the May 2007 meeting of Council.

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B.1 To receive a paper on suggested changes to BASC's policy on lead shot

Following an up-date from Dr. John Harradine, Council considered the tabled paper on proposed changes to BASC's policy on lead shot and agreed the following changes:

Paragraph 5 – to remove the words 'In general' and 'as appropriate' so that the first line begins – 'To extend the effectiveness of

Paragraph 6 – to add the word 'also' in the first sentence to read, 'BASC is also aware...'.
'

Paragraph 11 – remove the word 'large' at the end of the first sentence to read '... contamination of game meat.'

Paragraph 12 – remove the word 'sporting' in the first and second sentences. First sentence to read, ' ... and lead rifle ammunition, and....'; second sentence to read, '...over the future of all ammunition, with....'.

Subject to the above amendments, it was agreed to accept the BASC policy on lead shot as presented.

It was noted that the policy would now be shared with other organisations, placed on the website and any other areas where it is felt it should be displayed.

B.2. To receive an oral report on the structure, role and function of principal officers, council and committees

This item will now be taken at the May 2007 meeting of Council.

B.3. To consider Honours, Awards and Presentations at the AGM 2007

It was noted that following the circulation of the paper to Council, detailed wording had since been provided for item B3.2 and that an additional nomination had been received for consideration at item B3.2.

B.4 To receive an oral report on the sponsorship for top level air gun shot for the 2012 Olympics.

This item had been reported on under action point A5.4.8 earlier in the meeting.

B.5 To receive a report on the Shoot Assurance Scheme

The Director of Operations presented his report on the progress of the Game Shoot Assurance Scheme. It was also noted that discussions regarding the Game

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Shoot Assurance Scheme had been held with the Game Conservancy Trust and was to be discussed at the forthcoming Shoot Summit meeting. A report was requested from the providers of the scheme, CMi, to provide an update including barriers to entry and solutions. At this stage it was considered that support for the scheme should be continued for a further year providing the costs were not prohibitive.

B.6 To receive a report from the Trustees of the BASC Pension Schemes

Council noted the content of the reported presented and thanked the Trustees for their work.

C.1 To take the Minutes of the Advisory Committees

C.1.1 To take the minutes of the Firearms and Air Weapons Advisory Committee – 1 March 2007

The Minutes of the Firearms and Air Weapons Advisory Committee were accepted as presented.

C.1.2 To take the minutes of the Wildfowling Liaison Committee – 3 March 2007

There was one recommendation to Council – ‘The WLC seeks an assurance that BASC Council will oppose any attempt to restrict wildfowling on Sundays where it is currently permitted’. The recommendation was accepted, not least on the basis that it is covered by Rule 2(d) of the Constitution and Objects.

The Minutes of the Wildfowling Liaison Committee were accepted as presented.

C.1.3 To take the minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee – 21 March 2007

Subject to the correction of a typing error on page 8 of the minutes, the minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee were accepted as presented.

C.2. To receive the Chairman’s Activities Report

The Chairman’s Activities Report was accepted as presented.

C.3. To receive the Chief Executive’s Report

The Chief Executive reminded Council that he would need to set some time aside to work on the forward plan and notified Council that his free time would be limited as a result of this.

It was reported that Mark Greenhough had been appointed to the post of Wildfowling Officer and would commence in his new role at the beginning of

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August. Council should be aware that Mark will not be attending to the tasks of Wildfowling Officer until then.

The Chief Executive drew Council's attention to the possibility of secondments as reported on page 2 of his report. Council agreed that the proposal should be explored further with a firm proposal circulated to Council prior to a secondment actually being put into operation.

Council was also asked to consider a proposal for the holding of clay shoot and barbecue on the eve of the July meeting as a mark of appreciation for all concerned and as an opportunity for staff and the new Council to get to know each other.. It was noted that the invitation would be extended to all Council members and staff along with their "other halves". Expenses would be met for the accommodation and other appropriate costs of the Council members and Regional and Country staff. Council members and staff would be expected to pay the expenses of their partners. The cost of laying on such an event would probably be in the region of £4,000 – 5,000. Council agreed that this was a good idea. The invitation would be sent by the Chairman.

The Chief Executive's report was accepted as presented.

C.4. To receive the Director of Communications' report

The Director of Communications' report was accepted as presented.

C.5. To take the Director of Business Management's Report

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

C.6 To take the Director of Operations' Report

The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented.

D.1 Any Other Business by Leave of the Chairman.

It was reported that a number of members have not received their voting papers in the *Shooting and Conservation* magazine. It was agreed that the Director of Business Management would arrange for this to be taken this up with Archant.

It was confirmed that BASC was supporting the National Shooting Week campaign.

A query was raised as to whether the Director of Communications had raised the issue of an increase in road tax for 4x4 vehicles with his contact at DEFRA. The Director of Communications would be asked to report.

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It was noted that Vivienne Jasper was to leave the Association at the end of August to pursue an alternative career plan. Council expressed thanks to Vivienne for the work she has done to date.

D.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 17 May 2007, at 9.30 am.

This will be preceded by a meeting of elected Council members only at 9.00am.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1.00 pm.

Signed.....Date.....
Chairman