

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING and CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 15TH MAY, 2008

Present:	Robert Irvine Michael Alldis Walter Cole Robert Crofts Paul Culley Duncan Greaves Andrew Macfarlane Peter Pursglove Michael Sherman John Thornley Ray Walters Tom Wylie	Chairman
Ex-Officio Members	John Swift Philippa Bursey Glynn Cook Christopher Graffius Simon Hamlyn Roger Pollen	Chief Executive Officer Director of Business Management Director, Wales Director of Communications Director of Operations Director, Northern Ireland
In attendance	Connor O’Gorman	Agenda Item B4
Minute Secretary	Amanda Forshaw	

A.1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Jan Andrews, Eric Begbie, Simon Breasley, Carl Eriksson, Lee Freeston and Colin Shedden.

A.2 To confirm Confidential agenda items.

It was noted that Agenda Items A.5.1, B2, C.1.1 and C.5 should be regarded as confidential.

A.3. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

A.4 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th April, 2008.

It was agreed to accept the Minutes as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

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A.5. To take Matters Arising from the Council Meeting held on 17th April, 2008.

Confidential item

A.5.1 To receive an update on the VAT appeal.

Council expressed its appreciation to the Director of Business Management for her work on the appeal and to the Chief Executive and Director of Communications for their detailed witness evidence, both oral and written.

A6. To take action points

A.6.1. WHT New Development Plan

To remain as an action point with an annual progress report to be presented to the October 2008 meeting of Council.

A.6.2. Structure, Role and Function of Principal Officers, Council and Committees

It was noted that the Working Group has now identified five areas for consideration and review as follows:-

- Communications
- Policy and Practice
- Training and Education
- Organisation
- People

Discussions on each of the foregoing topic areas will result in papers being presented to Council the provisional time-table for which is:-

- Communications – July/September 2008
- Policy and Practice – September/October 2008
- Training and Education – October/November 2008
- Organisation – TBC
- People – No major issues to report on.

Council agreed that the working group could, if required, approach Mike Evans, a former member of Council, for assistance with the preparation of a first draft Disciplinary Procedure for Council Members.

Council agreed that Eric Begbie should continue as a member of the working group following his departure from Council at the close of the 2008 AGM.

A.6.3. VAT Appeal

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To remain as an action point with a final report to be presented to the July 2008 meeting of Council.

A.6.4. Confidential item

A.6.5. Access to email

It was noted that there are security concerns regarding Council members having email access during visits to Marford Mill. It was acknowledged that email access can be achieved using a mobile telephone and agreed that this presents an acceptable alternative.

To be removed from the Action Points.

A.6.6. BASC Forward Plan

Item on main agenda

A.6.7. BASC Raptor Policy

To remain as an action point with a report to be presented to the September 2008 meeting of Council.

A.6.8. Coastal Access

Item on main agenda.

B.1. To consider and prepare arrangements for the AGM on 14th June, 2008.

B.1.1. Arrangements for the Day

Council were advised that the AGM will take place in the marquee at the front of the John Anderton Building. Following the AGM there will be a meeting of Council which will take place in the Library, while the marquee is prepared for the Centenary Ball. Car parking on site will only be available for the President and disabled drivers; others will park on the field next door. Refreshments will be available from 9.30am with the AGM commencing at 10.30am. It is the intention to serve lunch at promptly 1.00pm.

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Professional security staff will patrol the car park and site from 10pm on Friday 13th June, 2008 until 8am on Sunday 15th June, 2008. There will be additional security on the Saturday evening.

B.1.2. Issues Arising on the Agenda

Council was informed that part of the AGM agenda had not been published in the May edition of *Shooting and Conservation* due to an error. Formal notice of the AGM and a complete, but outline, agenda had been circulated in the March edition and therefore the AGM is properly convened. Notifying all the members individually of the texts of the motions for resolution, whilst not strictly essential under the constitution or law, is however good practice. Notice that there will be motions for resolution had been properly given, the texts of the motions had been published on the website and attention had been drawn to them in *Shooting Times*; the full text will also be available on the day. Therefore Council decided that the motions will be moved, debated and put to the vote at the AGM. However, if approved, they will be taken forward to a Special General Meeting in September for ratification.

In moving the Council motions the Chief Executive will notify members of the shortcoming and make it clear that (unless the members reject the proposed changes, in which case Council may be minded to reconsider) approval of the motion will result in Council convening a Special General Meeting to be held at Marford Mill on the afternoon of 18 September 2008, after the Council meeting. Notice of the meeting will be given to all members in the July edition of *SandC*. The SGM will deal strictly with the resolutions so they can be submitted to Registrar and brought into effect prior to the next Council ballot round which will start in October.

B.2 Confidential item

B.3 To receive an oral interim review of the policy out-turn from the BASC Forward Plan.

Council received an oral presentation by the Chief Executive on the interim review of the policy out-turn from the BASC Forward Plan.

It was noted that Directors and team leaders are now working on their key developments and meetings have been arranged to go through these to clarify what tasks are required to meet the key developments.

(It was noted that a list of services provided by the organisation was contained within the Chief Executive's witness statement in the VAT appeal and it was agreed that Council members would be circulated with a copy of this document.)

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B.4 To receive a report on progress and issues arising under the clearing house mechanism, and in particular BASC's response to the recently published paper on Coastal Access.

Council received an oral update on the progress of the consultation on coastal access.

It was noted that the since last year attitudes had changed and it has been recognised that the enabling of coastal access will have to be effected gradually, on a case by case basis and that consultation, including mapping, will be required. It is anticipated that the Draft Marine Bill will be issued in August 2009.

It was agreed that Dr. Connor O'Gorman and the Director of Communications should work together to draw up a BASC position statement on this issue.

C.1. To take the Minutes of Advisory Committees

C.1.1. To approve the Minutes of the Deer Advisory Committee Meeting held on 23rd January, 2008.

There were no recommendations to Council. BASC's involvement with the best practice steering group under the Defra action plan for Wild Boar was noted.

The Minutes of the Deer Advisory Committee were noted.

C.1.2. To note the Minutes of the Welsh Committee held on 9th March, 2008.

There were no recommendations to Council.

The Minutes of the Welsh Committee were noted.

C.1.3. To note the Minutes of the Gamekeepers Advisory Committee held on 20th February, 2008.

There were two action points noted within the Minutes.

1. *The Custodian* – Jeffrey Olstead was going to provide some mock up pages for consideration by the next meeting of the Advisory Committee but these had not been made available for the meeting held on 7th May, 2008.
2. The Committee was to submit names of suitable people to be included on the editorial panel of the magazine. It was noted that these have been submitted.

The Minutes of the Gamekeepers Advisory Committee were noted.

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C.1.4. Game Shooting Advisory Committee held on 24th April, 2008

There were two recommendations to Council:-

1. To consider the need to publicise the fact that failure to comply with lead shot regulations could result in the loss of single farm payments under cross compliance rules.
2. That BASC explores with ACPO ways to send the Code of Good Shooting Practice to all shotgun users (new applicants and renewals).

The recommendations were noted by Council and it was agreed that a public statement be made by the organisation in respect of Recommendation 1, and that the Executive Team will explore methods of better promulgating the Code of Good Shooting Practice to all game shots.

The Minutes of the Game Shooting Advisory Committee were noted.

C.2. To take the Chairman's Activities Report.

The Chairman presented his monthly report to Council, along with an end of year report.

The Chairman's reports were accepted as presented.

C.4 To take the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented.

C.4. To take the Director of Communications ' Report

The Director of Communications presented his report to Council.

The Director of Communication's Report was accepted as presented.

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

The Director of Business Management presented her report to Council.

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

C6. To take the Director of Operations' Report

The Director of Operations presented his report to Council.

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It was noted that the outcome of the Rural Development Plan funding is awaited prior to the appointment of Country Sports Tourism Officer for the Yorkshire Dales and Moors Tourism Partnership.

The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented.

D1. To take Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

It was noted that Susan Bull had requested funding for an additional 1,500 caps for the young people involved in the school visits programme. This was felt to be inappropriate as the programme had already been set out and the budgets agreed.

Tom Wylie gave his apologies for the AGM and Council Meeting in June 2008.

Thanks were extended to all Council members who had attended the Northern Ireland Game Fair.

It was suggested that arrangements be made for Council Members to receive a presentation on health and safety and risk assessments in respect of shows.

It was noted that the fair at Cardross, on 10th and 11th May, 2008 had been very successful.

Members were reminded to make payment for their tickets for the Centenary Ball as soon as possible.

It was noted that this meeting of Council was the last official duty for Duncan Greaves as a Council member. Council members expressed their appreciation of his hard work and dedication to BASC and the Chairman presented him with a bottle of Irish whiskey. Thanks were also extended to Duncan for his nine years of service on the Gamekeepers' Advisory Committee.

D.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be on Saturday 14th June, 2008, immediately following the AGM.

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HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM,
ON THURSDAY 15TH MAY, 2008**

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