THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING and CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 21ST MAY, 2009

Present:	**Robert Irvine**	**Chairman**
	Michael Alldis	
	Simon Breasley	
	Walter Cole	
	Paul Culley	
	John Dryden	
	Lee Freeston	
	Andrew Macfarlane	
	Michael Sherman	
	Ray Walters	
	Tom Wylie	
Ex-Officio Members	**John Swift**	**Chief Executive**
	Philippa Bursey	**Director of Business Management**
	Glynn Cook	**Director, Wales.**
	Christopher Graffius	**Director of Communications**
	Peter Glenser (Candidate standing for election at 2009 AGM)	
In attendance	**Ian Danby**	**Agenda Item B.2.**
	Dave Harper	**Agenda Item B.2**
	Nick Glazebrook	**Agenda Item B.3**
	Peter Glenser	**Candidate for election to Council**
Minute Secretary	**Amanda Forshaw**	

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Peter Glenser, a candidate standing for election to Council at the 2009 AGM.

A.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Jan Andrews, Robert Crofts, Peter Pursglove, Mike Robinson, John Thornley, Simon Hamlyn, Roger Pollen and Colin Shedden.

A.2 To confirm Confidential agenda items.

Agenda Items B.1, B.3, and C.5 should be regarded as confidential.

A.3 Declaration of Interests

All Council Members declared an interest in Agenda Item B.4.

A.4 **<u>To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th April, 2009.</u>**

B.6. – Communications Centre - It was agreed that a sentence should be included to reflect the request that Council be provided with regular reports on fundraising and cash flow throughout the build period.
Subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the meeting having been circulated were approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

A.5 **<u>To take matters arising from the meeting held on 16th April, 2009</u>**.

Page 4 – B.6 - Communications Centre – It was noted that as a result of a value engineering exercise significant savings had been achieved with no adverse effect on the design or appearance of the new building. A further teleconference with the architect and QS was scheduled for later in the day; it was hoped that this would place BASC in a position to issue a letter of intent. The preferred contractor remained confident that a construction period of 26 weeks was achievable and had stated that they could commence on site in the middle of June. Council agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should continue to act as Project Managers; it was recognised that as busy professional people this work would necessarily have to be done on a commercial basis and also that conflicts of interest would arise that would have to be addressed when Council receives progress reports.

Page 5 – C.1.1. – Minutes of Wildfowling Liaison Committee – It was confirmed that the Wildfowling Liaison Committee should be informed that Council had accepted their recommendation that *Wildfowling* be incorporated into *Shooting & Conservation.*

A.6 **<u>To take the tabled action points from earlier Council Meetings.</u>**

A.6.1 <u>WHT Progress and Development Plan</u>

WHT Trustees to provide Council with a progress report and Business Plan for the forthcoming 3 – 5 year period in October 2009.

A.6.2 <u>Objects</u>

To present a review of the Objects of the organisation to Council for consideration following the outcome of the Government review of the status of public benefit organisations, along with a review of the BASC vision and mission statements.

A.6.3 Structure, Role and Function of Principal Officers, Council and Committees – Policy & Practice

To present a paper for consideration at the September 2009 Meeting of Council regarding the possibility of having an employed Chairman, engaged for a three year term.

A.6.4 Devolution

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Chairmen of the three country committees and the three Country Directors together with the Senior Management Team would continue to deliberate devolution and related matters and would report to Council later in the year.

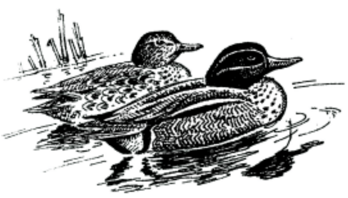
B.1. To receive a report on progress against Key Function Indicators

Council received a report from the Chief Executive on progress against Key Function Indicators. The report measured, by means of KFIs, the achievement of the strategic objectives that the Association judges to be essential for the sustainable wellbeing of sporting shooting in Britain.

The Chief Executive underlined that the report is preliminary, incomplete and capable of significant re-tuning. Feedback will modify information gathering and future reporting.

The Chief Executive concluded (preliminarily) that establishing a strong and unified voice for shooting (scoring 87% of maximum) is being "achieved with high probability"; achieving all party political support (scoring 62%) , ensuring balanced comment in the public media (67%), maintaining private ownership and use of legitimate firearms (71%), ensuring spatial access to shooting opportunity (67%), there being plentiful quarry and healthy habitats (75%) are all "being met but with areas of uncertainty". Whereas ensuring high standards across shooting sports (39%) is to be judged as "possibly falling short".

Council supported the approach taken as an essential form of internal appraisal as regards the status of shooting, and looked forward to receiving future reports.



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B.2. <u>'Green Shoots presentation' as given to receptions for Parliamentarians at Westminster and Welsh Assembly Government, Cardiff</u>

Council was shown a film on "BASC Green Shoots" that had been presented at receptions in the House of Lords and the Welsh Assembly Government. It was a comprehensive, professional production and an excellent example of the type of material that would be produced once the new Communications Centre facilities are in place.

B.3 <u>'Fundraising – future direction' a presentation by the Head of Fundraising and Sponsorship.</u>

Council received a presentation by Nick Glazebrook, Head of Fundraising and Sponsorship in which he focussed on the future direction of fundraising and sponsorship for BASC. It was noted that building upon the strength of the BASC brand, corporate sponsorship has the potential to be a major growth area.

B.4 <u>Travel costs claimable for attending BASC Committee Meetings and events.</u>

Council received a paper and interactive presentation outlining how car hire might be used to better manage the cost of travel by Council and Committee Members and other volunteers.

Council agreed the objective of reducing costs and resolved that the topic should be considered again at the July 2009 Meeting of Council; and that additional cost-saving mechanisms might also be explored with a view to reaching firm conclusions.

B.5 <u>Lead in ammunition</u>

This matter was added to the agenda by the permission of the meeting.

In light of the findings of the Idaho Conference (May 2008), a published recommendation by the CIC General Assembly in May 2009, and established practice in a number of countries, particularly in Scandinavia, the Chief Executive sought, and was granted, a mandate for staff to engage in active dialogue with all other stakeholders with a view to BASC's currently published position on lead being reviewed by Council in the light of clear recommendations in September. For the time being, the matter of lead must be handled sensitively and BASC must seek to work with partners to increase understanding of the issues, develop the use of alternative technologies and identify effective solutions.

C.1 <u>To receive the Minutes of Advisory Committees</u>

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C.1.1 <u>To note the Minutes of the Deer Advisory Committee Meeting held on 20th March, 2009</u>

The Minutes of the Deer Advisory Committee were noted.

C.1.2. <u>To note the Minutes of the Gundog Advisory Committee Meeting held on 25th March, 2009.</u>

Item 9 – Electric collars – reference to Eland Jones is incorrect and sentence should be removed.

Subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the Gundog Advisory Committee were noted.

C.1.3 <u>To note the Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee Meeting held on 4th March, 2009</u>

It was noted that the list of attendees had not been included on the Minutes.

Subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee were noted.

C.2 <u>To take the Chairman's Activities Report</u>

The Chairman's activity report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.3 <u>To take the Chief Executive's Report</u>

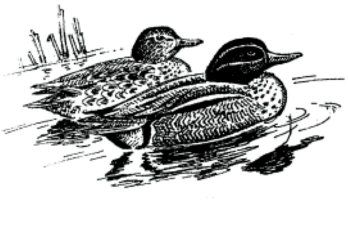
The Chief Executive's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

It was agreed that the Chairman will write to the South Essex Wildfowlers Club to congratulate them on their 50th anniversary.

C.4 <u>To take the Director of Communications' Report</u>

The Director of Communications' report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented. Council was advised that a formal complaint has been submitted to the BBC regarding their coverage of an airgun incident in Norfolk; a full written apology had been issued and an interview with Bill Harriman had been conducted providing a more balanced view.

It was noted that it is intended that a section on policies be included on the Intranet by July 2009. This action point is to be reviewed in September 2009.



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

The Director of Business Management's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.6 **To take the Director of Operations' Report**

The Director of Operations' report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

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

(i) Council was advised of the deaths of Mike Townsend and John Quinn. They would be remembered at the AGM.

(ii) Council re-confirmed the policy that expenses claimed more than three months after the event to which they related would not be paid.

(iii) It was noted that Jan Andrews, Walter Cole, Andy Macfarlane and Tom Wylie were about to leave Council; the Chairman thanked them all for their valued contributions to the Association.

D.2 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be on Saturday 13th June, 2009, following the AGM.

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