

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ROSSETT HALL HOTEL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM ON THURSDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2009

Present:	Robert Irvine Michael Alldis Simon Breasley Robert Crofts Helen Cormack John Dryden Lee Freeston Peter Pursglove Michael Sherman Mike Robinson John Thornley Ray Walters	Chairman
Ex-Officio Members:	John Swift Philippa Bursey Christopher Graffius Simon Hamlyn Glynn Cook Roger Pollen Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Director of Business Management Director of Communications Director of Operations Director, Wales Director, Northern Ireland Director, Scotland
In Attendance:	John Harradine Paul Williamson Tim Russell	Item B4 Item B5 Item B5
Minute Secretary:	Denise Ashbridge	

A1 Apologies for absence

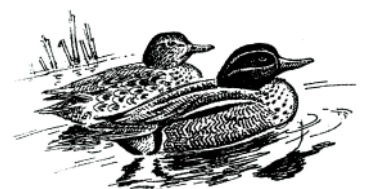
Apologies for absence were received from Alan Balfour, Peter Glenser and Mike Smith. Paul Culley had also been called away and was unable to attend.

A2 To confirm confidential items

It was noted that agenda items B6, C4.1 and C5 are to be regarded as confidential.

A3 Declaration of interests

Simon Breasley declared a conflict of interest in respect of item B1, and Colin Shedden declared his interest in item B3.



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A4 To confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 16th July 2009

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th July 2009 having been circulated were approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. It was clarified and noted that the [captioned] words/phrases recorded under agenda items B and C were key words/phrases used for subject/reference tracking purposes.

A5 To take matters arising from the meetings held on Thursday 16th July 2009

Item B9: The protocol for inserting key words into future sets of Council minutes. It was noted that key words had been included that can be used in conjunction with the search facility incorporated into the Extranet.

The Chairman provided an update on progress being made in respect of the building project which was approximately mid way through the contract term. While some technical difficulties had been experienced in relation to the interface between the old and new buildings, significant savings continued to be achieved through close scrutiny of the project works, which remain within the agreed budget. Fit out costs will be closely monitored to ensure value is achieved. A further interim progress report will be tabled at the November Council meeting for information.

[Key words: Communications Centre]

A6 Action Points outstanding from earlier Council Meetings

There were no action points arising from the Minutes themselves.

A6.1 WHT progress report and development plan

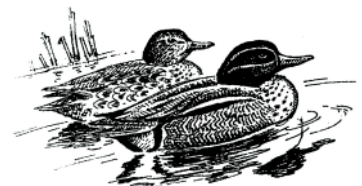
To remain as an action point; the report is to be presented to Council in October 2009.

A6.2 Review of BASC's objects

To remain as an action point; a report is to be presented to Council in February 2010.

A6.3 Structure, Role and Function of Principal Officers

To remain as an action point; a report is to be presented for Council's consideration in October 2009.



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A6.4 Devolution

To remain as an action point; it was reported that arrangements have been made for a second meeting of the working group on 4 November and an update can be provided later in 2009.

[Key word: Devolution]

A6.5 BASC extranet - policy section

BASC's policies had been posted to a dedicated section of the Extranet.

[Key words: Policy, Extranet]

A6.6 Travel costs for Council and committee meetings

Agenda item B1

A6.7 Use of teleconferencing and video conferencing

A review of the available options and their applicability is to be conducted once the Communications Centre has been completed.

[Key words: Teleconferencing, video conferencing]

A6.8 Phased Direct Debit

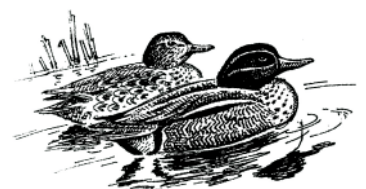
Further statistics in relation to phased direct debit payments are to be presented to the November Council meeting.

A6.9 Gamekeeping student members

A review of the effectiveness of the special membership category for student gamekeepers is to be presented to Council in October 2010.

A6.10 Subscription Rate Structure

Agenda item B2



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B1 Travel related costs for those attending BASC Council meetings and events

Council received proposals presented by the Director of Business Management intended to achieve a reduction in the cost of travel claims by Council and Committee members and other volunteers attending BASC meetings and events. In considering the range of proposals, Council members recognised the need to achieve savings wherever possible, but majority decided to make no immediate change to the current policy.

[Key words: travel, expenses, cost saving]

B2 Recommendations on the introduction of a formally linked subscription structure

Council received proposals presented by the Director of Business Management.

Council approved the proposals for the introduction of a formally linked subscription structure.

[Key Words: Subscription rates, policy, decision]

B3 Competence Testing and DCS

Noting his position as deer commissioner, Colin Shedden presented a paper. Strong opposition to the DCS proposals had been re-iterated by BASC during the consultation process. In the event that competence testing becomes a reality in any form, BASC will continue to play an integral role to ensure the future of shooting sports. Council members will be kept fully informed with assistance in respect of strategy being sought as appropriate.

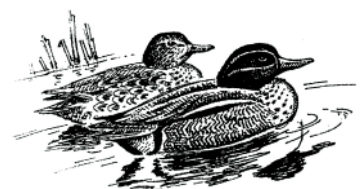
The Director of BASC Scotland will provide Council with regular updates on progress

[Key words: Competence testing; policy]

B4 Lead update

John Harradine made a presentation on lead shot and other sporting ammunition. A recent survey had revealed that some 85% of the game meat sampled exceeded the EU recommended limit, with the Food Standards Agency actively seeking a reduction in lead in game meat. Council considered and approved a number of changes to the wording of the BASC Policy on Lead Shot and Other Sporting Ammunition.

[Key words: Lead, policy, decision]



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Action: Policy to be updated as agreed and posted to the website

B5 Briefing on the current role of the WHT and BASC in land purchase

Paul Williamson and Tim Russell presented a briefing on the current role of BASC and the WHT in facilitating land purchase by members, examining the variety of reasons for acquiring land, options for funding its purchase and the long-term stewardship implications. In 2009 a total of 21 clubs had been visited and some 20 enquiries received resulting in 6 applications for WHT assistance. Council endorsed the work being undertaken in this respect, being fully supportive of the initiative and the achievements of the team in delivering enhanced sporting opportunities for members.

[Key words: Wildlife Habitat Trust; WHT; policy; land purchase]

B6 Presentation on managed retreat, and ratification of BASC's tender in respect of the Steart Peninsula

Declaring his interest in this item, Simon Breasley withdrew from the meeting.

Paul Williamson presented a briefing on managed retreat in general together with details of the tender BASC had tender submitted for the management of the Steart Peninsular Managed Retreat. The scheme, involving a realignment of approximately 400 hectares and requiring the support of a project manager until 2012, had the potential to generate significant income in subsequent years as well as positive public exposure.

Council approved the submission of the tender.

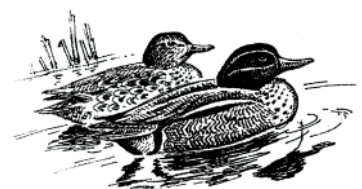
[Key words: Managed retreat; decision; policy; Steart]

B7 Approval of the use of the Association Seal

The Director of Business Management sought formal confirmation of Council's consent to apply the Association seal to the bond document for Wrexham County Borough Council with regard to the bridge widening works; this had been previously approved by Council in e-mail correspondence.

Council approved the use of the seal.

[Key words: Seal; decision; bond]



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B8 To ratify the members of the Country and Advisory Committees

B8.1 Conservation and Land Management Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Conservation and Land Management Advisory Committee was approved as presented.

B8.2 Deer Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Deer Advisory Committee was approved as presented.

B8.3 Firearms & Air Weapons Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Firearms and Air Weapons Advisory Committee was approved as presented.

B8.4 Gamekeepers' Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Gamekeepers' Advisory Committee was approved as presented; it was noted that the meeting scheduled to have taken place in the week commencing 14th September 2009 had been cancelled.

B8.5 Gameshooting Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Gameshooting Advisory Committee was approved as presented, noting that Michael Smith is a BASC Council member

B8.6 Gundog Committee:

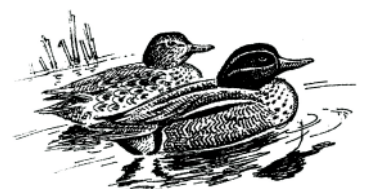
Membership of the Gundog Committee was approved as presented. It was noted that electronic communications were being employed to facilitate the business of the committee.

B8.7 Northern Ireland Committee:

Membership of the Northern Ireland Committee was approved as presented.

B8.8 Research Advisory Committee:

It was noted that only one BASC Council member was on the Committee, a position that is to be rectified at the earliest opportunity; subject to this, membership of the Research Advisory Committee was approved as presented.



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B8.9 Scottish Committee:

Membership of the Scottish Committee was approved as presented, noting that a meeting of the Committee would take place on Thursday 24th September. Lee Freeston voiced the concern of some members that wildfowlers were under-represented on the Committee, a claim that was rejected as 4 wildfowlers were identified amongst its numbers. It was noted there had been a request for the East of Scotland to be represented on the Scottish Committee

B8.10 Shooting Standards Advisory Committee:

Membership of the Shooting Standards Advisory Committee was approved as presented, noting the addition of Richard Taylor as a member

B8.11 Welsh Committee:

Membership of the Welsh Committee was approved as presented.

B8.12 Wildfowling Liaison Committee:

Membership of the Committee was approved as presented, there being no changes from the previous Committee.

[Key words: Country and advisory committees; decision]

C1 To receive the Minutes of the Advisory Committees

C1.1 Northern Ireland Committee

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

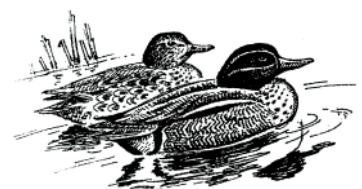
C2 Chairman's Activities Report

The Chairman's Activities Report was accepted as presented.

C3 Chief Executive's Report

In opening his report, the Chief Executive extended a vote of thanks to Sheila Potter, Philippa Bursey and Jane Harris for their work during his recent holiday absence. The Chief Executive's thanks were extended to Robert Irvine and Michael Sherman for their oversight of the building project.

It was pleasing to note that a line had been drawn under the 3-year dispute over wildfowling on the north shore of the



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Humber. This had been achieved by the timely and professional intervention of Tim Russell and Phil Pugh.

[Key words: Humber, consents, wildfowling]

Coastal access remains an issue of high importance for the organisation, with representation from BASC seeking the placement of an obligation for Natural England to recognise the interests of sporting tenants being written into the regulations underpinning the Marine and Coastal Access Bill.

[Key words: Coastal access, Natural England, NE]

In respect of the use of lead in ammunition, BASC would continue raising awareness of the issue, resolving problems, developing solutions and promoting the use of alternatives.

[Key words: lead]

It was noted that the Game Rearing Code was still awaited, with BASC continuing to lobby ministers against the use of restricted cages.

[Key words: Laying cages, policy, game rearing code]

C4 Director of Communications' Report

The Director of Communications' Report was accepted as presented.

The Director advised that the Animal Welfare Minister, Jim Fitzpatrick, was proposing to issue a statement in respect of the consultation on the use of battery cages. Prior to its issue, every effort is being made through discussions with the Minister's office to ensure that any statement released is in line with BASC's views.

C5 Director of Business Management's Report

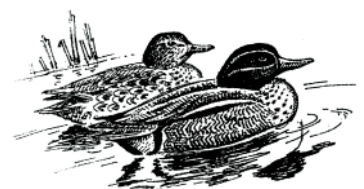
The Summary Business Management Report and Accounts for August 2009 were accepted as presented.

C6 Director of Operations' Report

The Director of Operations' Report was accepted as presented, with the Director taking the opportunity to thank those involved with the CLA Game Fair 2009, in particular Steve Bloomfield and his regional team.

D1 Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

No further business was discussed.



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CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT ROSSETT HALL HOTEL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM
ON THURSDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2009

D2 Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, 15 October 2009 commencing at 09.30hrs. It would be preceded at 09.00hrs by a meeting of the elected members only. The venue would again be the Rossett Hall Hotel.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:55 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date

