

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 21st APRIL 2011

Present:

Robert Irvine, Chairman
Alan Balfour
Simon Breasley
Helen Cormack
Paul Culley
John Dryden
Lee Freeston
David De Gernier
Neil Griffiths
Michael Sherman
John Thornley
Alisdair Troup
Ray Walters

Ex-Officio Members	John Swift Philippa Bursey Glynn Cook Christopher Graffius Tommy Mayne	Chief Executive Director of Business Management Director, Wales Director of Communications Director, Northern Ireland
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In attendance	Conor O’Gorman Mike Eveleigh Bill Harriman Tim Russell	Agenda Item B.3 Agenda Item B.4 Agenda Item B.4 Agenda item B.5
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Minute Secretary **Amanda Forshaw**

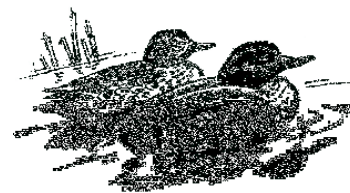
A warm welcome was extended to Tommy Mayne, Director of Northern Ireland, who was attending his first meeting of Council.

A.1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Robert Crofts, Peter Glenser, Martyn Howat, Sir Roger Jones, Mike Smith, Colin Shedden and Claire Zambuni.

A.2 To confirm Confidential agenda items

It was decided that Agenda Items B.1 and C.5 should be regarded as confidential.



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A.3. Declaration of Interests

Though none would personally benefit, Philippa Bursey, Glynn Cook and David De Gernier each declared interests in Agenda Item B.1 as they had submitted nominations for honours, awards and presentations for the AGM 2011

Neil Griffiths declared an interest in Agenda Item C.1.1 as the draft minutes included reference to disciplinary action involving members of one of his syndicates.

Simon Breasley declared an interest in Agenda Item B.5 consequent upon his professional relationship with 8 clubs of the Upper Humber Wildfowling Committee.

A.4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th March 2011

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

A.5. To take matters arising from the Council meeting held on 17th March 2011

Page 3. Agenda item A.6.5. - It was noted that a report on Natural England possibly disposing of National Nature Reserves will be presented to the July meeting of Council.

A.6. To take the tabled action points outstanding from earlier Council Meetings

A.6.1. Objects

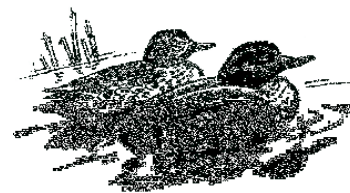
It was noted that the Executive & Finance Committee had met to further explore the advantages and disadvantages of changing the corporate status of the Association; noting that a cost would attach, it was agreed that appropriate professional advice should be sought before a recommendation is made to Council.

A.6.2. Use of teleconferencing and video conferencing to reduce costs and enhance communications.

The matter remains under active review and a report will be made to Council at an appropriate time.

A.6.3. Review of Council's Committees

Item on main agenda.



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A.6.4. Key Function Indicators

The annual report on key function indicators to be presented to Council in July 2011.

A.6.5. National Nature Reserves

Noting the government's change of policy with regard to the sale of the forest estate, a report on proposals by Natural England to withdraw from the management of a number of its National Nature Reserves to be presented to the July meeting of Council.

A.6.6. WHT

WHT Trustees to provide Council with a brief progress report in October 2011.

A.6.7 Land Purchase by BASC

A review of the availability of shooting across all disciplines to be undertaken by 2016.

A.6.8 Canada Geese

A brief to be provided to the May 2011 meeting of Council on the increase in Canada Geese population and requests for special licenses.

B.1. To consider honours, awards and presentations for the AGM 2011

Council had been presented with a paper detailing nominations for Honours, Awards and Special Presentations at the 2011 AGM.

Vice President

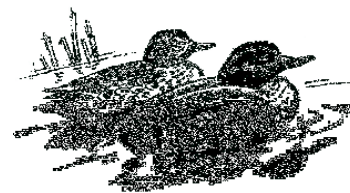
It was noted that there are no proposals for the award of Vice-President.

Honorary Life Membership

It was agreed that Peter Chomiak be proposed for the award of Honorary Life Membership.

It was agreed that Michael N. Jones be proposed for the award of Honorary Life Membership.

It was agreed that Eric Begbie be proposed for the award of Honorary Life Membership.



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Stanley Duncan Conservation Trophy

It was noted that no appropriate nominations had been received for the award of the Stanley Duncan Trophy.

Tim Sedgwick Trophy

It was agreed that Andrew Hitchmough be awarded the Tim Sedgwick trophy.

Ian Richardson Trophy

It was agreed that Peter Coe be awarded the Ian Richardson trophy.

Special Presentations

It was agreed that special presentations should be made to Reg & Shirley Grainger, Paul Bendel, Bill Sanders, Paul Sadler and Terence Hopkins.

B.2. To receive a summary of plaudits and complaints

Council received a paper prepared by the Chief Executive summarising the Plaudits and Complaints recorded from April 2010 to March 2011. Council extended particular thanks to Sharon Duncan, Mike Eveleigh, Anne Hubbard and Kenny Willmitt for their exemplary member service.

B3. To receive the introductory plans for the reform of BASC committees

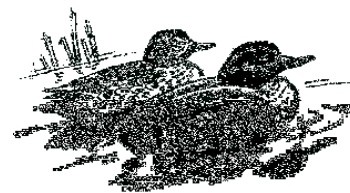
Council received a scoping paper on the restructuring of Council's Committees, along with a document containing consequential revisions to the BASC Roles and Operations paper.

Council agreed the proposed timetable and confirmed that the restructuring should proceed as planned.

B.4 To receive a presentation from the Senior Firearms Officer 'firearms licensing statistics'

Council received a presentation on the headline trends in firearms and shotgun certificate numbers over the years. The statistics were from the Home Office and Council urged the firearms team to investigate, if possible, the trends in use of licensed shotguns and rifles that make up the headline figures.

Council thanked Mike Eveleigh for his presentation



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B.5 To receive a report on the wildfowling permit scheme operating under the auspices of BASC and the Upper Humber Wildfowling committee

Having declared an interest in this item, Simon Breasley was present for the initial update from Tim Russell but withdrew immediately thereafter.

Council received an oral update from Tim Russell on the wildfowling permit scheme on the upper Humber and the problems arising from the alleged unlawful exclusion last year of two BASC affiliated clubs by the South Humber Joint Council. This had meant that the members of the two clubs could not obtain wildfowling permits granted by the Upper Humber Wildfowling Committee which operates the permit scheme under the auspices of BASC. The UHWC is responsible for a wildfowling licence from Associated British Ports due for review in 2011. Tim Russell reported on his contacts with the clubs involved and with ABP in the light of litigation by the excluded clubs. He had sought to reassure ABP and secure a guarantee that the licence will be renewed; and that permits are made available once again to all our affiliated clubs' members. One way to ensure this would be for BASC to take responsibility for the licence, administration and distribution of permits to all the 10 clubs. He confirmed that the UHWC should continue to act as the steering committee but that all ten clubs should be offered the chance to have representatives.

Some members of Council reported that they had also received a document on the matter prepared by Simon Breasley. This was circulated and noted.

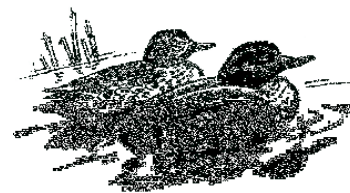
Council was disappointed that this matter had been brought to Council at the last moment and without prior circulation of briefing papers, but understood the complexity of the situation; and confirmed that the Chief Executive and Director of Conservation should take this forward as an operational matter.

It was agreed that John Thornley, assisted as necessary by Martyn Howat who has considerable expertise in these issues, should support the Director of Conservation to take the matter forward, identify obstacles and make sure that arrangements are put in place that are fair and sustainable.

B.6. To agree in principal the appointment of Chairman 2011/2012

The Chief Executive took the chair.

Only one nomination was made and Council agreed that Robert Irvine be re-appointed at the post-AGM Council meeting as Chairman for 2011/2012.



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C.1. To receive the Minutes of Advisory Committees

C.1.1. To approve the minutes of the Executive and Finance Committee meeting held on 24th February 2011

The Minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee were approved.

C.1.2. To receive the Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee meeting held 15th February 2011.

Council received an update on the legislative changes relating to firearms recently voted upon by the NI Assembly.

The Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee were noted as presented.

C.1.3. To note the Minutes of the Welsh Committee held 6th March 2011

There being no recommendations, the Minutes were noted as presented.

C2. To receive the Chairman's Activities Report

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

C3. To receive the Chief Executive's Report

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

C4. To receive the Director of Communication's Report

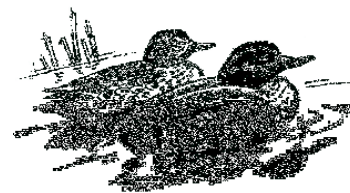
The Director of Communication's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

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

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

D.1 To take Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

(1) It was noted that Diane McKenzie will shadow the Minute Secretary at the May meeting of Council with a view to her taking over the role with effect from the AGM in June.



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(2) Council was provided with an update on the WHT trip to Lithuania to visit grant recipients and to observe how funds are being used.

D.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be held at 09.30 hrs on Thursday 26th May 2011 at Marford Mill.

There will be a pre-meeting of elected members only at 09.00hrs.

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

