CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 26th May 2011

Present: Robert Irvine, Chairman

Mike Sherman, Vice Chairman

Alan Balfour
Simon Breasley
Robert Crofts
Helen Cormack
Paul Culley
John Dryden
Lee Freeston
David De Gernier
Neil Griffiths
Martyn Howat
Sir Roger Jones
John Thornley
Ray Walters

Ex-Officio John Swift Chief Executive

Members: Philippa Bursey Director of Business Management

Glynn Cook Director, Wales Christopher Graffius Director of Communications Colin Shedden Director, Scotland

Guests Alan Jarrett

Richard Garner Williams

In attendance Nick Glazebrook Agenda Item B3

Conor O'Gorman Agenda Item B2

Minute Secretary Amanda Forshaw

Diane McKenzie (Shadow)

Alan Jarrett and Richard Garner Williams, both candidates standing for election to Council, were welcomed and introduced to all present.

Diane McKenzie was introduced to the meeting; she will be assuming responsibility for taking the minutes.



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A.1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Peter Glenser, Tommy Mayne, Mike Smith, Alistair Troup and Claire Zambuni.

A.2. To confirm Confidential agenda items

It was agreed that C5 Business Management would be the only confidential item.

A.3. <u>Declaration of interests</u>

Simon Breasley declared an interest in matters relating to wildfowling on the Upper Humber to be raised under Agenda Item A5 - Matters Arising.

A.4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st April 2011

It was agreed that under item B5, 4th paragraph, 4th line the words "have Council's full support in taking" should be removed and replaced with "should take".

It was also agreed that the final sentence, commencing "Council was clear" through to ".... its affiliated clubs." should be omitted.

It was noted that the meeting date on some of the distributed copies of the draft minutes was wrong. It was confirmed that the correct date should be 21st April, 2011.

Subject to the above amendments, the Minutes were confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting.

A.5. To take matters arising from the Council meeting held on 21st April 2011

A5.1 To receive an update on the wildfowling permit scheme operating under the auspices of BASC and the Upper Humber Wildfowling Committee

Having declared an interest, Simon Breasley withdrew from the meeting.

John Thornley and Martyn Howat reported on two meetings held on 24 May 2011 with members of the Upper Humber Wildfowling Committee (UHWC) that they had attended together with Tim Russell.

It was agreed that following liaison with interested parties, BASC should recommend to ABP that the licence should be issued to the trustees of the re-formed UHWC, constituted to properly represent all the interested clubs, the chairmanship of which should be acceptable to all parties involved and that Council's views and concerns are conveyed to ABP together with our agreement to impose whatever

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safeguards or conditions ABP consider appropriate given the history of the matter to date.

It was further agreed that the Chief Executive would be provided with a copy of the recording of a meeting of the UHWC on 7 March and would write a letter of apology to the members of the UHWC in relation to any misleading information they were found to have been given by BASC staff.

In consultation with John Thornley and Martyn Howat, who had been directly involved, the Chairman would also write a letter to Ken Arkley communicating the recommendations of Council in this matter.

Simon Breasley rejoined the meeting.

A5.2 Canada Geese - population trends and licensing

A paper on trends in UK populations of Canada Geese and requests for their management under special license had been circulated. In presenting this, the Director of Communications emphasised that though these geese are increasing in number and range, current population estimates are uncertain; more will be known in 2012 when the bird atlas is produced.

In discussing the statistics and issues involved in relation to the management of Canada Geese, the increase in their numbers in "no water" habitats was noted; as a result of this trend, the change in population was not being observed by wildfowlers; it also served to explain the regular enquiries BASC receives pertaining to the control of Canada Geese for the protection of crops.

Noting trends in Scotland that placed in question the need to put Canada Geese on the open general licence, it was agreed that a further report be presented to the September 2011 meeting of Council.

A.6. To take the Action Points outstanding from earlier Council meetings

A.6.1. Objects

The Executive and Finance Committee had met to consider this matter; noting that a cost would attach, professional advice would be sought before any recommendation is made to Council.

A.6.2 <u>Use of teleconferencing and video conferencing to reduce costs and enhance</u> communications

This matter remains under review; a report will be made to Council at an appropriate time.

A.6.3 Review of Council's Committees



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Agenda Item B2.

A.6.4 Key Function Indicators

An annual update to be presented to Council by the Chief Executive in July 2011.

A.6.5 National Nature Reserves

The Chief Executive to present a report to Council in July 2011 on proposals by Natural England to withdraw from the management of some National Nature Reserves.

A.6.6 WHT Progress Report and Development Plan

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

Agenda item A5.2.

B.1. To receive BASC's Reserves & Treasury policy

The Director of Business Management had circulated a document containing proposals in relation to both Reserves and Treasury policies as these were matters that were considered to be closely connected.

It was agreed that those proposals that related to treasury matters¹ should be adopted but that the prohibition on investments exceeding 24 months² should be restricted to those accounts which do not permit early withdrawal of the funds and also that the three banks³ should be "unconnected" as well as being separately registered with the FSA.

B.2. To consider the Terms of Reference for the new advisory committees and a draft letter from the Chairman to all members of the current advisory committees

Conor O'Gorman joined the meeting for this item.

Council had been provided with draft Terms of Reference for the new advisory committees and a draft of a letter to be sent to existing advisory committee members.

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Reserves and Treasury Policies report dated 10 May 2011, page 10, section 8, numbered item 6



¹ Reserves and Treasury Policies report dated 10 May 2011, page 10, section 8, numbered items 3 to 8

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Reserves and Treasury Policies report dated 10 May 2011, page 10, section 8, numbered item 5

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The meeting was assured that in becoming known as the "Wildfowling Committee" its ability to act as a liaison group would be in no way restricted.

In reviewing the proposed terms of reference it was agreed that committee meeting minutes should be produced as soon as possible and that the three month term specified in the draft document should be reduced to two.

It was also confirmed that although voting membership of committees is constitutionally restricted to BASC members, non members with specialist expertise could be invited to participate as observers.

Subject to the above, to the correction of minor typographical errors and to changes pertaining to the procedure for authorising the payment of expenses, the terms of reference were approved as presented.

With regard to the draft letter, it was agreed that as some recipients did not have email, it should include an option to respond by post.

Current committee chairman were asked to ensure that telephone contact was made as soon as possible with their committee members in order to apprise them of the planned changes.

B.3. To receive a presentation from the Head of Fundraising and Sponsorship 'Fundraising 2011 Young people & Shooting Sports'

Nick Glazebrook joined the meeting and distributed a paper on a proposed appeal for 'Young People and Shooting' to be launched in September. This will focus on encouraging young people into shooting sports and on increasing the understanding of shooting and conservation on the part of young people principally from urban backgrounds.

Council thanked Nick Glazebrook for his presentation.

B.4. To receive and introduction to the work programme for completing a Forward Plan 2013 - 2017

Council received a paper and Gannt chart prepared by the Chief Executive identifying the work required if BASC is to have a forward plan for 2013 – 2017.

It was agreed that a Forward Plan was required and that work on it should proceed as outlined. Members of Council were reminded of the need for them to respond when their input is requested.

B.5. To receive a paper regarding BASC land management and acquisition. Asset or liability.



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A paper had been circulated to Council by Lee Freeston.

Noting the change that was about to be made in order to reduce the number of committees reporting to Council and also the need for input from a number of members of BASC's staff, *it was agreed that* the Chairman, Chief Executive and Lee Freeston should meet to further explore the mechanism for undertaking the proposed review; their recommendations would be presented to the July 2011 meeting of Council.

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

C.1.1. <u>To note the minutes of the Executive and Finance Committee meeting held on 20th April 2011</u>

The Minutes were noted as presented.

C1.2. <u>To receive the minutes of the Shooting Standards Advisory Committee meeting held on 14th April 2011</u>

Council noted the recommendation that a full time officer post be created within the Shooting Standards Department for the purpose of developing a BASC best Practice framework. This is a budgetary matter.

The highlighted points for noting included a request that a paper on and demonstration of the Moodle software be prepared for the July 2011 Council meeting.

The Minutes were noted as presented.

C.1.3. To receive the minutes of the Scottish Committee meeting held on 28th April 2011

There were no recommendations to Council.

The Minutes were noted as presented.

C.1.4 To receive the minutes of the Wildfowling Liaison Committee held on 5th April 2011

There were no recommendations for Council.

The Minutes were noted as presented.

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

The Chairman's Activity Report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.



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

Sir Roger Jones felt that in relation to the protein binding characteristics of ingested lead, the Lead Ammunition Group had lost opportunities and was in danger of losing an initiative. He requested that his concerns be minuted.

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented

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

In presenting his report which had been circulated to Council, the Director of Communication's advised the meeting that advertising revenues had not materialised at the anticipated rate and accordingly a decision had been taken to reduce the number of editions of *Shooting and Conservation* to be published in 2011 from eight back to the traditional six.

The report was accepted as presented.

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

The Director of Business Management's Report had been circulated to Council and was approved as presented

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

No matters were raised.

Presentations were made to Simon Breasley who had completed ten years' service on Council and to Amanda Forshaw who for a number of years had prepared the minutes.

D.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed the next meeting of Council would take place following the AGM on Saturday 11th June 2011 at Chester Racecourse, Chester.

Chairman
Date

