

# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

**Present:** Robert Irvine, Chairman  
Mike Sherman, Vice Chairman  
Alan Balfour  
Paul Culley  
John Dryden  
Lee Freeston  
David de Gernier  
Martyn Howat  
John Thornley OBE  
Alisdair Troup  
Ray Walters  
Claire Zambuni

|                            |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ex-Officio Members:</b> | John Swift<br>Philippa Bursey<br>Glynn Cook<br>Christopher Graffius<br>Tommy Mayne<br>Colin Shedden | <b>Chief Executive</b><br>Director of Business Management<br>Director, Wales<br>Director of Communications<br>Director, Northern Ireland<br>Director, Scotland |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                      |                                                   |                                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>In attendance</b> | David Ilsley<br>Mark Greenhough<br>Conor O’Gorman | Item B7<br>Item A5.2<br>Items B2, B3 & B4 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

**Minute Secretary** Diane McKenzie-Hodkinson

The Chairman regretted to inform Council that due to a change in work and family circumstances Robert Crofts felt that he was no longer able to devote the time to Council, and had tendered his resignation.

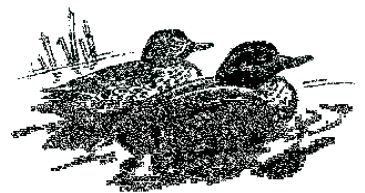
The Chairman said he would write to Robert thanking him for all the work he had put into the Association, including his family for all their support.

### **A.1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Robert Crofts, Helen Cormack, Peter Glenser, Neil Griffiths, Sir Roger Jones and Mike Smith.

### **A.2. To confirm Confidential agenda items**

It was agreed that Item C5 – Director of Business Management’s Report be treated as confidential.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

### A.3. Declarations of Interests

Alistair Troup declared an interest in an aspect of Item C3 – the Chief Executive's Report.

### A.4. To confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 July 2011 (incorporating amendments agreed by the Chairman)

*It was noted* that on Page 9, Any Other Business, reference to the work of the Firearms Department had not been included.

Subject to the above amendment the minutes were confirmed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### A.5. To take Matters Arising from the meeting held on 28 July 2011

#### A5.1 Role and Operations of BASC Ltd

It was noted that the Role and Operations of BASC Ltd paper (April 2011 version) requires amendment and will be brought to the October Council meeting for approval.

#### A5.2 To receive a progress report on the Humber issue

Mark Greenhough joined the meeting.

Mark gave a summary report on the Upper Humber Wildfowling Committee's AGM on 15 September which Paul Williamson and he had attended. The meeting had gone well, and demonstrated a clear willingness by the clubs represented on the committee to build bridges with BASC. Paul had been elected as Chairman and Mark as Secretary.

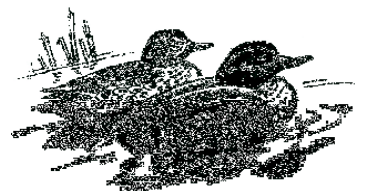
Mark paid tribute to Ken Arkley for his helpful and constructive contribution.

The Chairman thanked Mark for his encouraging report and congratulated him and Paul. Thanks were extended to John Thornley and Martyn Howat.

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

#### A.6.1 To receive a report on legal advice regarding possible change of corporate status of the Association

The Chief Executive reported on a teleconference with Farrar and Co. about the possibility of changing from being an Industrial and Provident Society to a company limited by guarantee. This had proved to be an impractical proposition and it had been decided to bring forward piecemeal modifications to the existing Constitution and Rules. This will be taken forward by the Executive & Finance Committee which will bring recommendations to Council in due course.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

### A6.2 Use of teleconferencing and video conferencing to reduce costs and enhance communications

The Director of Business Management reported that work continues but is hampered by the costs and time involved to upgrade communications for country and regional offices in rural locations. She expected that initiatives to improve rural broadband might assist.

### A6.3 Key Function Indicators

An Annual Report will be presented in July 2012.

### A6.4 WHT Progress Report and Development Plan

A report will be provided to Council by WHT Trustees in October 2011.

### A6.5 Land purchase by BASC

This is a long term review to be undertaken in 2016, but the issue will continue to be monitored.

### A6.6 Canada Geese

It was decided the most appropriate time for an update on Canada Geese will be when more accurate information is available when the bird atlas is published in 2012.

### A6.7 Best Practice

The Chief Executive commented that he would keep Council informed as everyone needs to be involved.

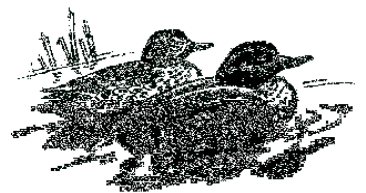
*It was decided* this item can now be removed from Action Points.

### **B.1. To receive the Sport and Recreation Alliance's Voluntary Code of Good Governance for the Sport and Recreation Sector**

The Chief Executive reported on the Sport and Recreation Alliance's Voluntary Code of Good Governance for the Sport and Recreation Sector which had been circulated to Council.

Council noted that public funding bodies expect to see good governance in organisations which receive substantial funding from them. Good governance was also the hallmark of organisations recognised as competent for self-governing their sport or recreation - thus reducing the risk of statutory regulation.

The Chief Executive suggested that the code be referred to the Executive & Finance Committee to carry out a bench-mark exercise.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

*It was agreed* that the Chief Executive reply to the Sport and Recreation Alliance, signing up to the process and confirming that BASC will conduct a review of its governance in the light of the code.

### **B.2. To consider the amendments to the template of Terms of Reference for Country and Advisory committees**

Council had agreed a template for Terms of Reference for its committees at the July Council meeting. Designated Chairmen were tasked to review and make recommendations. The suggestions from the Chairmen had been reviewed by the Working Group, Chaired by John Thornley.

*Council agreed* a revised Terms of Reference with amendments relevant to each of the committees (attached revised Terms of Reference).

### **B.3. To confirm the members of the Country and Advisory committees**

#### **B.3.1 Deer Stalking Committee membership**

*Council approved* the members proposed by the Chairman, John Thornley.

#### **B.3.2 Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee membership**

*Council agreed* that the Chairman, Robert Irvine, take the matter forward and report back his recommendations to the October Council meeting.

#### **B.3.3 Wildfowling Liaison Committee membership**

*Council approved* the members proposed by the Chairman, Lee Freeston.

#### **B.3.4 Northern Ireland Committee membership**

*Council approved* the members proposed by the Chairman, Robert Irvine.

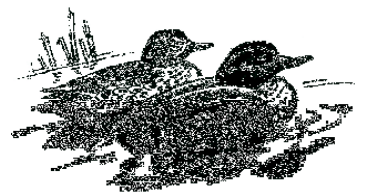
#### **B.3.5 Scottish Committee membership**

*Council approved* the members proposed by the Chairman, Alan Balfour.

#### **B3.6 Welsh Committee membership**

*Council approved* the members proposed by the Chairman, Mike Sherman.

*It was agreed* that the Chairman and Chief Executive are Ex-Officio members on all committees.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

### **B.4.    To confirm the Terms of Reference for the Country and Advisory Committees**

#### **B.4.1   Deer Stalking Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Deer Stalking Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

#### **B.4.2   Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

#### **B.4.3   Wildfowling Liaison Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Wildfowling Liaison Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

#### **B.4.4   Northern Ireland Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Northern Ireland Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

#### **B.4.5   Scottish Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Scottish Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

#### **B.4.6   Welsh Committee Terms of Reference**

*Council approved* the Welsh Committee Terms of Reference as per discussions under Item B2.

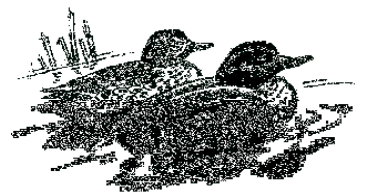
Conor O’Gorman reported that the Committees’ Forum would be going live that day and that he would amend the terms of reference as agreed and post them on the Forum.

He would send every Council member an email with their registration details and instructions for accessing the Forum.

He would send every committee member their registration details. Staff would be invited to register.

*It was agreed* that the Chairman would write to the members of the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee.

John Thornley thanked Conor O’Gorman’s enthusiasm during this review.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

### **B.5. To decide the venue for the AGM in 2012**

The Director of Business Management reported progress regarding the June 2012 AGM.

*Council agreed* that the AGM remain in the Marford Mill area to reduce cost and requested that the Director of Business Management report back when the venue had been decided.

### **B.6. To review the Code of Best Practice for Snare Users in Northern Ireland and the use of BASC logo**

*Council approved* the Code of Best Practice for Snare Users in Northern Ireland.

### **B.7. To receive a presentation on BASC 's 'Smart' membership card**

David Ilsley gave a detailed presentation on the new BASC 'Smart' membership card.

### **B.8. To consider the renewal application submitted by Edward Tibbs**

Council considered Edward Tibbs's application for re-admission to membership, which was approved.

### **C.1. To receive the minutes of Council's Committees**

#### **C.1.1 To approve the Minutes of the Executive & Finance committee meeting held on 26 May 2011**

*The Minutes of the Executive and Finance Committee of 26 May 2011 were approved.*

#### **C.1.2 To note the Minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee meeting held on 28 July 2011**

*The Minutes of the Executive and Finance Committee of 28 July 2011 were noted.*

#### **C.1.3 To receive the Minutes of the Scottish Committee meeting held on 18 August 2011**

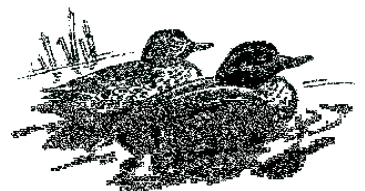
*The Minutes of the Scottish Committee meeting of 18 August 2011 were accepted as presented.*

### **C.2. To receive the Chairman's Activities Report**

The Chairman's Activity Report was accepted as presented.

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

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

*Council noted* the Chief Executive's report on the progress of the Lead Ammunition Group. Following Rob Gray's departure from the group there is a vacancy for a high level person from the shooting sector. There is no date for the next Group meeting. Defra has said they want the committee to continue and a letter to that effect is awaiting the Minister's signature.

### C3.1 New charity

The Chief Executive reported that the Director of Communications had met and discussed a charitable vehicle linked to BASC with Farrar & Co.

*The Director of Communications confirmed* that he will produce a paper for the October Executive & Finance committee meeting.

### C3.2 Bush Wear

The Chief Executive apologised for not bringing this matter to the July meeting of Council which had been the result of oversight.

Alisdair Troup declared a possible conflict of interest and left the room.

*Council noted* the paper and correspondence provided by the Chief Executive.

Council members took the view that this was a matter of taste. A letter from Richard Garner Williams had been published in *Shooting and Conservation*, and no further action was required.

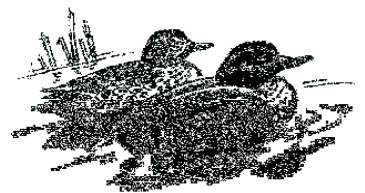
### C.4. To receive the Director of Communication's Report

Christopher Graffius gave an oral report.

#### *Council noted:*

- The Home Office response to the Home Affairs Select Committee on firearms issues was to be published imminently.
- The Scotland Bill included provision for devolving airgun law to Scotland. The second reading had taken place in the Lords. Peers had been briefed, and speeches had been made against the measure. Assurances were given that amendments would be tabled at committee stage.
- The conference season had begun well with a reception at the Liberal Democrat Conference.

*Council noted* the campaign to save the Gun Quarter in Birmingham had been successful. The Gun Quarter's preservation, demarcation and general tourist attractiveness will now be included in the Birmingham City Council's strategic plan.



# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

A payment of £100,000 had been received in respect of a legacy from Catherine Wiley from the Island of Bute in memory of her late husband.

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

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

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

#### **D1.1    Chief Executive succession planning**

The Chairman undertook to ensure that all members of Council would be contacted by Mr Scott Black of FWB.

#### **D1.2    Wildfowling**

Paul Culley congratulated the Conservation and Land Management team for the work with Halton WA on the Mersey.

### **D.2.    Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will take place on Thursday 20 October 2011, commencing 9.00 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

Date .....

