

# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

## CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2011

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

<b>Ex-Officio Members:</b>	John Swift Philippa Bursey Glynn Cook Christopher Graffius Tommy Mayne Colin Shedden	<b>Chief Executive</b> Director of Business Management Director, Wales Director of Communications Director, Northern Ireland Director, Scotland
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<b>In attendance</b>	John Harradine Alan McCormick Simon Clarke	Item B4 Item D.1.1 Item D.1.2
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**Minute Secretary** Diane McKenzie-Hodkinson

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

Apologies had been received from Alan Balfour, Helen Cormack, Peter Glenser, Sir Roger Jones, Mike Smith and Claire Zambuni.

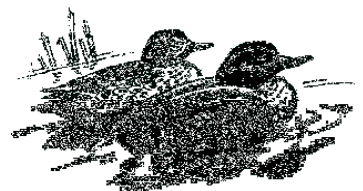
### **A.2. To confirm Confidential agenda items**

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

### **A.3. Declarations of Interests**

Lee Freeston declared an interest in Agenda Item B1 – Wildlife Habitat Trusts Progress Report.

Glynn Cook, Paul Culley and Mike Sherman declared an interest in relation to the matter of the Dyfi clubs addressed under Agenda Item C3 – The Chief Executive’s Report.



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### **A.4. To confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 September 2011 (incorporating amendments agreed by the Chairman)**

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 22 September 2011**

There were no matters arising.

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

#### **A.6.1 Objects**

A report will be provided to Council by the Executive & Finance Committee in due course.

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

The Director of Business Management reported that the options were still under review; progress in finding a solution was hampered by the poor quality of rural broadband and the cost of alternative solutions.

#### **A.6.3 Key Function Indicators**

An annual report will be presented in 2012.

#### **A.6.4 WHT Progress Report and Development Plan**

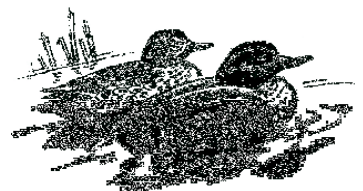
The report is tabled under Agenda Item B1.

#### **A.6.5 Land purchase by BASC**

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

#### **A.6.6 Canada Geese**

When the bird atlas has been published in 2012, an update on Canada Geese will be provided.



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### A.6.7 Sport and Recreation Alliance's Voluntary Code of Good Governance for the Sport and Recreation Sector

Once completed, a report will be provided to Council by the Executive & Finance Committee.

### B.1. To receive a progress report on the Wildlife Habitat Trusts

Council received a review, produced on behalf of the Trustees, on the WHT's progress over the past 12 months and its financial plans for the future (in which some minor arithmetical errors were noted).

*It was agreed* that the recommendations contained in the document should be accepted.

### B.2. To approve the document "Roles and Operation of BASC Ltd" (with proposed amendments to the annotated version)

The Chief Executive tabled The Role, Governance and Operation of BASC, a 'living' document, which is updated and amended when necessary.

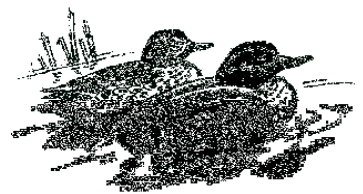
The terms of reference of each of country and advisory committees had been incorporated and some minor editorial changes made; the Chief Executive paid tribute to Sheila Potter, Conor O'Gorman and Philippa Bursey for their work on the document.

*Council approved* the revised document and *it was further agreed* that it should be placed on the Extranet.

### B.3. To decide the Chairmanship of the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee

Paul Culley was elected Chairman of the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee.

*Paul was asked to submit a list of proposed committee members for approval at the November Council meeting.*



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### **B.4. To receive a presentation from the Director of Research 'Severe weather 2010/11'**

Dr. John Harradine gave a detailed presentation on the arrangements in place for dealing with severe weather and BASC's involvement in their implementation in each of the home countries.

Information had been circulated to members and non-members using all available communication mechanisms - the web site, email, press releases, mailings to clubs and syndicates and recorded messages at Head Office and in the countries and regions. Since the correct terminology for the species affected is 'waterfowl', the consequent need to keep game syndicates informed was noted.

Council thanked John for his presentation.

### **B.5. To receive a progress report on the Chief Executive recruitment process**

A progress report on the process for recruiting a successor to the Chief Executive was tabled; it incorporated recommendations as to the key competencies to be looked for, split between those deemed essential and those that were considered desirable.

*Council approved* the key competencies as listed.

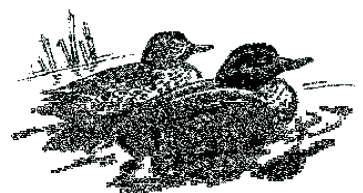
### **C.1. To receive the minutes of Council's Committees**

#### **C1.1 To approve the minutes of the Executive & Finance committee meeting held 28 July 2011**

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

#### **C1.2 To note the minutes of the Executive & Finance committee meeting held on 22 September 2011**

*The Minutes of the Executive and Finance Committee of 22 September 2011 were noted.*



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### C1.3 To receive the minutes of the Welsh Committee held 2 October 2011

The recommendation that the minutes be posted on the BASC Wales web-site was considered. *It was agreed that*, in common with the other country and advisory committees, the committee's annual report, due in May 2012, should be posted to the web-site.

*The Minutes of the Welsh Committee of 2 October 2011 were noted as presented.*

### C1.4 To receive the minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee meeting held 17 May 2011

*The Minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee of 17 May 2011 were noted 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 highlighted very successful Party Conferences and thanked Christopher Graffius and his team.

The Chief Executive noted the 'Situation Review' prepared in connection with the new five year plan and thanked Council members and staff for their input. A report on its findings would be presented to the November meeting of Council.

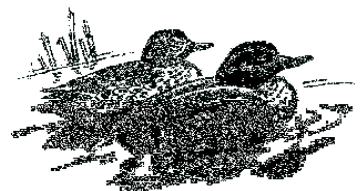
Council was updated on the dispute between the Dyfi clubs and the RSBP; progress had been made which indicated that a favourable settlement would be reached.

*Council agreed that BASC continue to support and fund the case.*

The Chief Executive's Report was accepted as presented.

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

The Director of Communication's Report was accepted as presented.



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

*It was agreed* the best use of the £100,000 legacy will be discussed at the November Council meeting when budgets are decided.

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

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

**D.1.1. Aran stalking scheme**

The Head of Deer Management attended to discuss progress with the Aran Stalking scheme.

**D.1.2. Social networking**

Certain Facebook postings, critical of BASC were noted; the Head of Media, who had joined the meeting, confirmed that the remarks were being monitored but in the world of open communication BASC had to be prepared to take such comments "on the chin"; using BASC's power as moderator to censor them could prove more damaging.

**D.2. Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will take place on Thursday, 24 November 2011, commencing 9.00 a.m.

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Chairman

Date .....

