

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 23 MAY 2013

Present:	Martyn Howat Alan Balfour Paul Culley John Dryden Lee Freeston David de Gernier Peter Glenser Neil Griffiths Mike Hardy Robert Irvine Alan Jarrett Mike Sherman Mike Smith John Thornley Alisdair Troup	Chairman
Ex-Officio Members:	Richard Ali Steve Bloomfield Philippa Bursey Christopher Graffius Meurig Rees Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Director, English Regions Director of Business Management Director of Communications Director, Wales Director, Scotland
In attendance:	Duncan Greaves Davy Stinson Conor O’Gorman David Ilsley Tim Russell	Item B8 Item B6 Item B7
Minute Secretary:	Amanda Taylor	

A.1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence had been received. The Chairman welcomed Davy Stinson and Duncan Greaves to the meeting. He said that Claire Zambuni had regrettably resigned from Council with immediate effect owing to pressure of work.

A.2. To confirm Confidential Items

It was agreed that Items B2, B4, B5, B9, B10 and C5 be treated as confidential.



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A.3 To identify suggested items of Any Other Business

Four matters of Any Other Business were suggested: codes of practice, retiring Council members, recruitment, and Council expense claims.

A.4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A.5 Minutes of 18 April 2013 Council meeting

It was agreed that under B4 the wording "partners such as the CA" be amended to read "other countryside and shooting organisations, including CA". Also that under B5 the word "attitude" be replaced with "advice". Under B8 it was agreed that after "Martyn Howat put forward his candidacy for Chairman of Council" the following sentence be added: "He advised Council that, if elected, 2013-14 would be his final year."

The minutes were approved.

A.6 Matters arising from earlier Council meetings.

Under A5, Paul Culley said the recent meeting with HSE about rodenticides had been positive and a further update would be forthcoming from the steering group.

A.7 Action Points outstanding from earlier Council meetings

A.7.1 Objects

The Sport and Recreation Alliance's Voluntary Code of Good Governance review has been completed and the Chief Executive will evaluate any further actions.

A.7.2 Chairman election process

An interim conclusion had been presented to Council.

A.7.3 Council meeting attendance figures

This is being taken forward as part of Council's review of governance.

A.7.4 Key Function Indicators

An annual report on key function indicators will be presented in July 2013.

A.7.5 Progress Report and Development Plan

WHT trustees to provide Council with a brief progress report in October 2013.



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A.7.6 Advisory Committees' Annual Reports

Chairmen of the country and advisory committees to provide Council with an annual report on their activities, which, following approval, will be placed on the website.

A.7.7 Risk Management Register

To be monitored by E&F and reported on at the November 2013 E&F meeting, and brought back to the January 2014 Council meeting for an annual review.

A.7.8 Land purchase

An update to be given under item B7.

A.7.9 Health and Safety

An annual review of health and safety to be brought to the meeting in October 2013.

B.1 Health and Safety

The Chief Executive's report was taken as read. He thanked staff for supplying the information promptly.

B.2 Governance matters

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a paper on governance matters.

B.3 Powers for removal of a Non-Executive Council member

Council agreed that a motion be put before the 2014 AGM to enable the removal of a Non-Executive Council member in breach of the BASC Codes of Conduct. The Chief Executive was asked to revise the wording to ensure that the two-thirds majority applied to the whole Council rather than just those present at a particular meeting. He was also asked to verify that an expelled Council member would not be eligible to stand again for election before the expiration of five years.

B.4 CEO Planning

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a suggested timetable of evolution for discussion and agreement of actions related to the strategic direction of BASC. Council approved the timetable.



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B.5 Statement of Intent

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a Statement of Intent for Council's approval. Council agreed on certain aspirational goals for the direction of the organisation, covering membership numbers, reserves policy, and net revenue performance, to be used by the Chief Executive to frame a strategy paper to come to Council in July.

B.6 Airgun Clubs

Council were asked by David Ilsley to consider a new price band for airgun club membership. Council approved the three recommendations put forward by him: (1) To research existing airgun members to determine if they are in a club and, if so, which; (2) to decide whether to affiliate clubs with large numbers of visitors, making it clear the usual occasional guest cover does not apply; (3) to research existing clubs to see if a discount package is attractive. He was asked to report back to Council when the results of the research are available.

Council thanked David for his hard work and very clear paper.

B.7 Land Purchase

Tim Russell presented two papers.

B.8 Country and Advisory committees

Conor O'Gorman presented the reports of the Country and Advisory committees to Council. It was decided against publishing to the general public. Council agreed there would in future be a default item at section C of Council meeting agendas to consider requests for advice from these committees.

B.9 South West Countrysports

(Confidential)

Council discussed the future of the project.

B.10 Staff Survey

(Confidential)

The results of the staff survey launched by the Chief Executive on taking up his role were presented to Council. There had been an 82 per cent response rate.

B.11 Reserves policy update (oral)

The Chairman of E&F Committee gave Council an oral update. The committee had had a meeting seeking advice from Baker Tilly on the Reserves Policy, which was deemed to be satisfactory in light of best



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practice and guidance, but needed to be looked at alongside the treasury and investment policies. The Chief Executive and his team had been asked to report back to the Committee in September.

B.12 Meeting with Countryside Alliance

The Chairman informed Council that the meeting with the CA had been friendly and positive and the two organisations would be working closely in future on a number of important topics, including lead shot and the Law Commission review of wildlife law. Council noted the meeting and approved the recommendations in the paper.

B.13 Secondments

Council approved the idea of staff secondments in principle and agreed that the budget would be debated at a later date.

C.1 Minutes and Reports

C.1.1 Executive & Finance Committee Minutes 20 March 2013

The minutes were approved.

C.1.2 Executive & Finance Committee Minutes 18 April 2013

The minutes were approved.

C.1.3 Scottish Committee Minutes 2 May 2013

The minutes were approved. The point for noting relating to the localised sale of greylag geese on two adaptive management pilot areas was discussed. It was agreed that while BASC was supportive of this localised and time-limited sale in the interests of wise use Council still supported the general prohibition of the sale of wild geese in the UK.

C.1.4 Northern Ireland Committee Minutes 30 April 2013

The minutes were approved.

C.2 Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report was accepted as presented.

C.3 Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive presented his report to update Council on BASC's activities and key areas of work since 18 April 2013. Following a presentation by the RSPB at the Standing



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Conference on Countryside Sports the Chief Executive has asked the BASC teams to do some strategic work on the social components of Favourable Conservation Status.

Council agreed that the encouraging of wildfowling club members' participation in wetland bird survey counts to improve the accuracy of data gathering would be suggested to the Wildfowling Liaison Committee.

C.4 Director of Communication's Report

The Director of Communication was thanked for a clear and comprehensive report, which was accepted as presented.

C.5 Director of Business Management's Report

(Confidential)

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

D.1 Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

(1) The Director of Communications was asked to look into the printing of BASC's codes of practice and how to distinguish the appearance of updated editions from older versions.

(2) Council agreed that the expenses of retiring Council members attending the AGM would be met by the Association.

(3) The Chief Executive was asked to consider the recruitment of a regional officer for the North West.

(4) The Chairman agreed to adjudicate in a dispute over a mileage claim by one Council member.

D.2 Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will take place on Saturday 8 June 2013.

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Chairman

Date

