

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE GUN BARREL PROOF HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM, ON THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2014

Present:

Martyn Howat	Chairman
Alan Balfour	
Paul Culley	
Lee Freeston	
Peter Glenser	
Duncan Greaves	
Neil Griffiths	
Mike Hardy	
Alan Jarrett	
Sir Roger Jones	
Mike Sherman	
Mike Smith	
David Stinson	
John Thornley	
Alisdair Troup	

Ex-Officio	Richard Ali	Chief Executive
Members:	Steve Bloomfield	Director, English Regions
	Philippa Bursey	Director of Business Management
	Stephen Curtis	Director, HR and Operations
	Christopher Graffius	Director of Communications

Minute Secretary: Amanda Taylor

A.1. To receive apologies for absence and to note absentees

There was a brief discussion about the Members' Meeting held at the Hotel La Tour, Birmingham, on the evening before the Council meeting. It was agreed it had been a success and could be repeated in the future, subject to an analysis of the costs involved. The Chief Executive will prepare a paper for debate at the March Council meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from John Graham, Tommy Mayne, Meurig Rees and Colin Shedden.

A.2. To confirm confidential items

It was agreed that Items B4, B5, C6 and E1 be treated as confidential.



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A.3 To identify suggested items of any other business

Five items of Any Other Business were identified: (1) clay shoot on 9 August (2) approval of an additional member for the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee, (3) a plaudit, (4) a health and safety matter, and (5) Forestry Commission Scotland.

A.4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A.5 Minutes of the 23 January 2014 Council meeting

The minutes were approved.

A.6 Matters arising from earlier Council meetings

There were no matters arising.

A.7 Action points outstanding from earlier Council meetings

Action point 9, the Langholm Project, will be removed if no proposal has been received by the time of the March meeting.

B.1 Monthly health and safety report

There had been no accidents or near misses reported in January. Following discussion Council recognised the importance of having this as a standing item on the agenda.

B.2 Corporate structure

The Director of Business Management presented a paper on corporate structure.

It is recommended that given the current uncertainties, this item be treated as confidential



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B.3 To decide matters concerning the Annual General Meeting and the Council ballot

Council was presented with a draft agenda for the AGM.

Council members were invited to put forward nominations for honours and awards, to be received no later than the end of the first week in March so they can be considered at the March Council meeting.

The candidates for the Council elections were announced. There being five candidates for the two national vacancies, a postal ballot will be conducted. There only being one candidate for the country vacancy in Scotland, his election will be proposed at the AGM.

Council approved the arrangements for the AGM and Council ballot.

B.4 Commercial activity

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a paper outlining recommendations on commercial activity.

B.5 Favourable conservation status

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a White Paper on favourable conservation status.

C.1 Update from John Swift

John Swift updated Council on the proceedings of the Lead Ammunition Group. He said that the Primary Evidence and Risk Assessment Sub-Group would present a statement on the conclusions of the wildlife risk assessments to the 10th LAG meeting on 24 February. A report will also be presented to that meeting by Dr Ruth Cromie of the WWT on compliance with the ban on shooting ducks with lead ammunition. John Swift will provide a further update at an appropriate time.

Secretarial note: this presentation was received after Council's consideration of the Director of Communication's report.

C.2 Chairman's report

Council received an update on the Chairman's activity from 13 January to 10 February 2014.

C.3 Chief Executive's report



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The Chief Executive presented a report of his activities and key areas of work since the January 2014 Council meeting.

C.4 Director of Communications' report

The Director of Communications presented his report. He drew Council's attention to the current situation with the Fees Working Group on firearms licensing and the possibility of GP involvement in the grant and renewal of certificates. The lead ammunition compliance campaign was debated and a paper was requested to facilitate further discussion at the March Council meeting.

C.5 Director of HR and Operations' report

The Director of HR and Operations presented his report.

C.6 Director of Business Management's report

(Confidential)

The Director of Business Management presented her report.

C.7 To consider requests for advice from Country and Advisory Committees

Wildfowling Liaison Committee and Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee to be asked to look at compliance in relation to lead shot.

C.8 To receive the minutes of the Northern Ireland Committee meeting 9 December 2013

The minutes were approved.

D.1 Any other business by leave of the Chairman

The Chief Executive confirmed that there would be a charity clay shoot on 9 August, and it was hoped to have two BASC teams comprised of a combination of staff and Council members. Duncan Greaves to organise.

Paul Culley proposed, seconded by John Thornley, that Ian Grindy become a member of the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee. Approved.



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Lee Freeston, as a trustee of the Wildlife Habitat Charitable Trust, thanked the Association for its donation of £35,000.

Mike Hardy informed Council that at a recent shoot someone had tragically lost the sight in one eye as a result of a falling bird shot by a neighbouring gun hitting him. Council agreed that appropriate advice should be given at all events and safety glasses made available.

Alan Balfour reported to Council on a recent meeting with the Forestry Commission Scotland about non-lead ammunition.

John Thornley complimented staff on the excellent standard of the BASC stand at the recent British Shooting Show.

D.2 Date of next meeting – 20 March 2014

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 20 March 2014.

E.1 Confidential item

A confidential matter was discussed.

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Chairman

Date

