

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

Present: Alan Jarrett, Chairman
Lee Freeston
Peter Glenser
John Graham
Ian Grindy
Duncan Greaves
Mike Sherman
David Stinson

Ex-Officio Members	Richard Ali Steve Bloomfield Philippa Bursey Stephen Curtis Christopher Graffius Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Director, England Director of Business Management Director, HR and Operations Director of Communications Director, Scotland
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Minute Secretary Amanda Forshaw

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

Apologies for absence had been received from Gary Ashton, Alan Balfour, Paul Culley, Neil Griffiths, Mike Hardy, Martyn Howat, Sir Roger Jones, Tommy Mayne, John Thornley and Alisdair Troup.

A.2 To confirm confidential items.

Items B7, B14, B15, C6, D1 and two matters under E1, relating to Northern Ireland and to the Lead Ammunition Group, were confirmed as being confidential. Ex-Officio members would withdraw from the meeting for agenda item E1.

It was noted that in respect of agenda item B6.1 the Chairman would withdraw from the meeting and the Chairman of the Executive & Finance Committee would chair the meeting. The Chairman of the Executive & Finance Committee would also chair agenda item B.6.2 while the Vice-Chairman withdrew from the meeting.

In addition, the Vice-Chairman would chair agenda item B.7.

A.3 To identify suggested items of any other business

One further item of Any Other Business was identified: BASC sign at the Game Fair offering legal advice.

A.4. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared in respect of any agenda item.



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CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

A.5 Minutes of previous meetings

A.5.1. Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd May 2014

Agenda Item D.1.2 - Subject to an amendment, the minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

A5.2. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th June 2014

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

A.6. Matters arising from earlier Council meetings

D.1.2. It was further noted that the Chairman and Chief Executive had spent some time with Angela Smith, Labour Spokesperson on Shooting. This was considered to be a positive meeting.

D.1.3. General licences – Greylag Geese. It was reiterated that Council has made a decision on this matter and will review the matter in due course.

A.7. Action points outstanding from earlier Council Meetings.

All action points set for the July meeting had been included on the main agenda.

B.1. Health & Safety

It was noted that incidents involving company vehicles would now be included in Health & Safety reports to Council as driving on business falls within Health & Safety Law.

A number of minor incidents, mainly relating to the fall of shot clays, had been reported in May and June.

B.2. Executive & Finance Committee Members

Council confirmed the Executive and Finance Committee Chairman's recommendations for membership of the committee for the year 2014 - 2015 as follows: Lee Freeston (Chairman), John Graham, Neil Griffiths, Ian Grindy, Alan Jarrett, Mike Sherman, John Thornley, and Alisdair Troup.

B.3. Disciplinary Appeals Committee

Council confirmed the Disciplinary Appeals Committee Chairman's recommendations for membership of the committee for the year 2014 - 2015 as follows: Graham Suggett (Chairman), Graham Crompton-Howe, Mark Eldridge and Graham Downing.

B.4. Election of Country and Advisory Chairmen

B.4.1. England Committee



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

Martyn Howat was elected as Chairman of the England Committee.

B.4.2. Northern Ireland Committee

David Stinson was re-elected as Chairman of the Northern Ireland Committee.

B.4.3. Scottish Committee

Alan Balfour was re-elected as Chairman of the Scottish Committee.

B.4.4. Welsh Committee

Mike Sherman was re-elected as Chairman of the Welsh Committee.

B.4.5. Deer Stalking Committee

Mike Sherman was elected as Chairman of the Deer Stalking Committee.

B.4.6. Gameshooting & Gamekeeping Committee

Ian Grindy was elected as Chairman of the Gameshooting and Gamekeeping Committee.

B.4.7. Wildfowling Liaison Committee

Lee Freeston was re-elected as Chairman of the Wildfowling Liaison Committee.

B.5 AGM and Council meeting dates 2015

Council approved the timetable of Council meetings for the remainder of 2014 as follows: 18th September, 23rd October and 20th November.

Council also agreed that the AGM be held on Saturday 13th June 2015. It was noted that, because hotels have the catering infrastructure in place, it is more cost effective to use a hotel rather than Marford Mill as the AGM venue; however, it was agreed that, as it seeks to do every five years, BASC would hold the 2015 AGM in Scotland.

Council members had been requested by email to consider the possibility of a different meeting cycle for 2015.

It was agreed that the number of meetings (including that following the AGM) be reduced from ten to eight and that at least one, or possibly two, be held at an alternative venue to Marford Mill.

Consideration was given to the possibility of holding some Council meetings on Saturdays; it was agreed not to proceed with this suggestion at present.

Proposed dates and venues for 2015 meetings will be presented to the September meeting of Council.



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

It was agreed that presentations to Council on the eve of its meetings are useful and informative and should continue. Appropriate guest speakers to be identified.

Council also wished to place on record its thanks to Kate Ives for her excellent presentation on the Value of Shooting report delivered to Council members on the previous evening.

B.6.1 Chairman's remuneration

The Chairman withdrew from the meeting; ex-officio members withdrew for this and the next agenda item.

B.6.2 Vice-Chairman's remuneration

The Chairman re-joined the meeting; the Vice-Chairman withdrew from the meeting for this agenda item.

The Registrar's approval of the requisite constitutional change having been received, following consideration, it was agreed that the Vice-Chairman should be awarded an honorarium.

B.7 (Confidential)

B.8 Budget Work – Executive & Finance Committee

Council agreed that the budget preparation process be undertaken as recommended, with the executive team working with the Executive & Finance Committee in a series of meetings to be held on the eve of Council meetings.

B.9 IT Investment Review

Council received a paper outlining the current status of BASC's IT systems and plans for their future development.

It was noted that within the 2015 budget round an investment is to be proposed with a view to reducing revenue costs and also, in due course, decisions will have to be made with regard to facilitating better telecommunications in Scotland.

B.10 Communications Department Update

Council received a paper providing a review of progress by the Communications Department against the Operational Plan. The paper covered the work of the Public Affairs, Press and Publications Teams.

B.11 Sporting Services Update



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

The Direction of HR & Operations provided an oral update on the Sporting Services Department. It was noted that a Training Board has been set up to review training delivered across the organisation, and there are plans to set up an IT Board and a Commercial Board.

B.12 Council Champions

Council received a paper seeking decisions and guidance regarding the scope and role of Champions.

Council noted the changes in staff responsibilities reflecting the new structures, management and responsibilities within the organisation and the effect of such changes on the Champions. It was agreed that a BASC structure chart be sent to all Council members. Council confirmed its approval of the core business areas for Champions for the coming year.

Council agreed that, aligning their reporting with that on strategic indicators, Champions should report twice-yearly with effect from March 2015.

Council agreed that Champions should help guide and support production of the strategic policy library. A further report on this matter and on the relationship between Council Champions and Advisory Committees will be presented to the September meeting of Council, when Council will be reviewing the number and role of Champions.

B.13 Scotland Update

The Director Scotland provided an oral update on the situation in respect of the forthcoming Scottish independence referendum.

It was noted that the Scottish Committee is seeking to ensure that the membership is fully aware of the implications for the sport of an independent Scotland while ensuring that no advice on voting is given to members.

B.14 Marketing & Recruitment

(Confidential)

Council received a paper and PowerPoint presentation on the conclusions and recommendations of the task and finish group on marketing and recruitment.

B.15 Corporate Structure Update

Council received a report on corporate structure.

B.16 Press Release Protocol

The Chief Executive presented a report to Council outlining a proposed press release protocol and associated spokesperson for each of the English regions.



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

It was agreed that it is important that members, non-members and stakeholders appreciate both the democratic nature of Council and its role as the Association's strategy and policy-making body. It was further agreed that increasing the visibility of Council members is a key component in this.

Council agreed the press release protocol and the Council spokespersons for the English regions.

C.1. Committee Minutes

C.1.1. Executive & Finance Committee Meeting minutes 19th March 2014

The minutes were approved.

C.1.2. Executive & Finance Committee Meeting minutes 22nd May 2014

The minutes were noted.

C.1.3. Scottish Committee Meeting minutes 12th June 2014

The minutes were noted.

C.2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 14th June 2014

The minutes were approved.

C.3.1 Chairman's Report

Council received an update on the Chairman's activity from 14th June 2014 to 21st July 2014.

It was noted that the Chairman and Chief Executive had met with Barney White-Spunner of the Countryside Alliance on 2nd July 2014.

The Chairman advised that he had written to Owen Paterson, MP regarding the delays/shifting work of the LAG.

C.3.2. Outgoing Chairman's Report

Council received an update on the Outgoing Chairman's activity from 22nd May 2014 to 14th June 2014.

C.4. Chief Executive's Report

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

It was noted that the Game Fair had been a success for BASC and also commended Kate Ives for her work on the Value of Shooting report.



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY 24th JULY 2014

Council were informed that the Membership Team is now reporting to Sandra Loton-Jones, Head of Business Services, in order to ease the heavy workload of the IT and Database Manager.

C5. Director of Communications' Report

The Director of Communications' report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C6. Director of Business Management's Report

(Confidential)

The Director of Business Management's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.7 Director of HR & Operations Report

The Director of HR and Operations' report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.8 To consider requests for advice from Country & Advisory Committees

There had been no requests for advice from Country & Advisory Committees.

D.1 Application for Membership

Council considered and rejected an application for membership.

E.1. Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

(1) It had been noted that a BASC sign at the Game Fair offered "legal" advice in relation to firearms; although there was a barrister working in this area, the sign was inappropriate as the provision of legal advice is a regulated activity.

(2) The Director of HR & Operations provided an oral update on a matter affecting staff in Northern Ireland.

(3) Attendance Allowance for Council members – The Registrar's approval of the requisite constitutional change having been received, following consideration, it was agreed that an attendance allowance should be payable to those members of Council who wished to claim it. Having been awarded an honorarium, neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman would be entitled to claim attendance allowance. Payment for other Council members could only be claimed in respect of attending Council meetings. Claims for the reimbursement of expenses would be unaffected.



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**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
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JULY 2014**

An email would be circulated to Council members explaining how to submit a claim should they so wish.

(4) A further confidential matter was discussed.

E.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be held at 08.30 hrs. on Thursday 18th September 2014 at Marford Mill.

Signed.....Date.....
Chairman

