

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, ON THURSDAY, 19th MARCH 2015

Present:	Alan Jarrett, Chairman Mike Sherman (Vice-Chairman) Alan Balfour Lee Freeston Peter Glenser John Graham Duncan Greaves Neil Griffiths Ian Grindy Mike Hardy Martyn Howat Sir Roger Jones John Thornley	
Ex-Officio Members	Richard Ali Gary Ashton Steve Bloomfield Philippa Bursey Stephen Curtis Christopher Graffius Tommy Mayne Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Director, Wales Director, England Director of Business Management Director, HR and Operations Director of Communications Director, Northern Ireland Director, Scotland
In attendance	Tim Russell Nick Glazebrook David Ilsley	Agenda item B.4 Agenda item B.6 Agenda items B.6 & B.7
Guests: Candidates for election	Jono Garton Allen Musselwhite Nick Powell Oliver McCullough	
Minute Secretary	Amanda Forshaw	

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

Apologies for absence had been received from Alisdair Troup.

A warm welcome was extended to Jono Garton, Allen Musselwhite, Nick Powell and Oliver McCullough, candidates in the forthcoming Council elections, who were present to observe proceedings.



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A.2 To confirm confidential items.

It was agreed that items B12, B13, B14, B15, C1.5 and C5 should be regarded as confidential.

A.3 To identify suggested items of any other business

Four items of Any Other Business were identified: (1) To consider a proposal from Walter Cole regarding the creation of a long service award for employed shooting instructors (2) Retirement of Tony Laws (3) Help for Heroes Shooting Programme for Servicemen (4) BASC Wales Committee.

A.4. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared in respect of any agenda item.

A.5. Minutes of the Council meeting held on 29th January 2015

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

Report from Tim Russell re project in Poole Harbour - the report will be re-circulated to Council Members.

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

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

It was noted that a review of reputational risk is to be added to the action points table – a paper will be presented to the May meeting of Council.

B.1. Health & Safety

One incident was noted (Northern Ireland Office) in relation to a shattered rear window of a company vehicle.

B.2. Financial Statements year ended 31st December 2014

Council approved and adopted the financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2014.



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It was agreed that the financial statements would be signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on behalf of Council.

B.3. Communications departmental update

The Director of Communications presented a paper reviewing the work of the Communications Department against the strategic objectives and operational priorities contained in the current Operational Plan.

Council members acknowledged the excellent work over the last twelve months undertaken by the Communications Team.

B.4 Law Commission wildlife law review update

Tim Russell presented a paper briefing Council on the Law Commission's revised timetable for the review of wildlife legislation.

The revised publication date of the review is the second week in May 2015. Council will be provided with a verbal briefing at its May meeting covering BASC's areas of concern which include species' schedules and quarry lists, rearing and releasing game birds, the definition of wild birds, licences for shooting, seasons and poaching.

B.5 BASC/NE partnership agreement

Tim Russell provided an oral update on progress of the BASC/NE partnership agreement. Council Members noted that it is anticipated that the agreement will be finalised in time for the launch of the Wildfowling Conference scheduled for 28th March 2015.

B.6 Member appeals/fundraising

Nick Glazebrook and David Ilsley provided Council with a brief on the results of prior appeals, current operational practice and potential operational practice.

It was acknowledged that specific member appeals can be an important tool for income generation and that donors increasingly expect to know how funds have been used. There are risks of creating donor fatigue through regular and continued appeals for funding. It was agreed to run specific fundraising appeals when a clear need has been identified, and for feedback to be provided on how funds had been spent to be provided to donors.



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B.7 Airgun members – recruitment and retention

David Ilsley provided Council with a brief on the current growth in airgun membership and on new opportunities for growth.

It was noted that BASC airgun membership is growing and BASC already enjoys a comparatively high market share of active airgunners (including existing BASC shotgun and FAC members). There are opportunities to grow further in this market by developing and training BASC airgun coaches to become BASC airgun ambassadors who will actively promote BASC within the airgun club network. Council agreed to the pilot airgun programme as proposed.

B.8 Council Champions –bi-annual report to Council

B2.1 Communications: John Thornley presented an update to Council. This was noted

B2.2 Conservation: Michael Sherman presented an update to Council. This was noted.

B2.3 Firearms: Peter Glenser presented an update to Council. This was noted.

B2.4 Marketing and Business Development: a written update prepared by Alisdair Troup had been circulated to Council Members and was noted.

B2.5 Sporting Services: Duncan Greaves presented an update to Council. It was noted that a review of the proposed new Shotgun Coach training programme is underway.

B.9 Honours and Awards

Council had been presented with a paper detailing nominations of suitable recipients for Honours, Awards and Special Presentations at the 2015 AGM.

B.10 Plaudits and Complaints

The Chief Executive presented a summary of complaints and plaudits. It was noted that over the last twelve months a total of eighteen plaudits were received. In contrast there were two complaints that resulted in a management response and four complaints were investigated and resolved.

B.11 Nominations for BASC Vice-Chairman (2015-2016)

(Michael Sherman withdrew from the meeting for this agenda item)



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The Chief Executive invited candidates for the position Vice-Chairman for 2015 - 2016 to declare themselves. Michael Sherman had declared his willingness to stand for re-election as Vice-Chairman of Council. It was noted that none of the candidates standing for election to Council had indicated an intention to stand for election as Vice-Chairman.

B.12 Strategic Indicators

(Confidential)

The Chief Executive presented a progress update on BASC's strategic indicators.

B.13 Corporate Structure

(Confidential)

The Director of Business Management presented an oral update to Council. Communications with the Financial Conduct Authority remain ongoing. Council also considered a number of proposed constitutional changes within the current body of the Association to be considered at the 2015 Annual General Meeting. Following legal clearance these would be circulated electronically to Council for final approval.

B.14 Lead Update

(Confidential)

Council was provided with an oral update on matters pertaining to the Lead Ammunition Group.

B.15 Discussion Paper – Organisational Links

(Confidential)

A discussion took place on a paper presented to Council by the Chief Executive relating to possible organisational links.

C.1 Approval of Minutes

C.1.1 Executive & Finance Committee minutes 22nd October 2014

The minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee meeting held on 22nd October 2014 were approved.



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C.1.2 Executive & Finance Committee minutes 18th November 2014

The minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee meeting held on 18th November 2014 were approved.

C.1.3 Executive & Finance Committee minutes 26th February 2015

The minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee meeting held on 26th February 2015 were approved.

C.1.4 Deer Stalking Committee minutes 25th February 2015

The minutes were noted subject to amendment of agenda item 7.

Council Members voted in favour (one against) of the formation of a working group to consider a joint scheme with the BDS on trophy measuring. Council delegated authority to the Chairman of the Deer Stalking Committee to agree terms of a joint scheme.

C.1.5 England Committee Meeting minutes 18th February 2015

The minutes were noted.

Council asked for future minutes to be more expansive to facilitate greater awareness of the Committee's work.

C.2. Chairman's report

The Chairman's report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.

C.3 Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive presented a report of his activities and key areas of work since the January 2015 Council Meeting. This was accepted as presented.

C.4. Director of Communication's Report

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

The Director of Communications provided an oral update on the Fees Order which is scheduled to come into effect from 6th April, and on the nominations process for the position of President of FACE as from September 2015.



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C.5. 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.6 Director of HR & Operations Report

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

It was noted that Dr. Matt Ellis has been appointed to the position of Scientific Advisor within the Association and will commence in his new post on 1st April 2015.

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

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

D.1 Any Other Business

(1) Presentations were made to BASC staff, John Harradine and Andrea Porter in recognition of their forthcoming retirements from the Association. Council Members extended thanks to both for their contribution to the Association and to Council.

(2) It was noted that Help for Heroes is launching a shooting programme for serviceman. Neil Griffiths will provide details to enable the Association to establish whether BASC volunteer support would be of assistance.

(3) A letter dated 15th March 2015 from Walter Cole had been tabled. This was enquiring whether BASC would consider creating a long service award for bona fide, full-time employed shooting instructors (with the same provisions as similar awards). It was noted that BASC are able to do so within its existing Honours and Awards scheme if it so chooses.

(4) It was agreed that some minor changes to the Terms of Reference of the BASC Wales Committee need to be made in order to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

(5) Council was informed that Tony Laws, a former long-standing employee of BASC, is suffering with poor health at the moment and has recently taken early retirement. His family and friends are fund-raising for the Prostate Cancer charity and Council Members agreed that the Association would make a donation of £100 to the fund-raising appeal.



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E.2. Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council will be held at 08.30hrs on 21st May 2015.

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

