

CONFIDENTIAL

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BISLEY PAVILLION ROOM ON
THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2016**

Present: John Thornley OBE Vice-Chairman
Sally-Anne Cockerill
John Dryden
Duncan Greaves
Ian Grindy
Mike Hardy
Martyn Jones
Robin Marshall-Ball
Oliver McCullough
Cara Richardson
Sarah Turner

Ex-Officio: Christopher Graffius Acting Chief Executive/Director of
Communications
Angela Davies Director of Business Management
Steve Bloomfield Director, England

Minutes Secretary: Jayne Danby

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

Apologies had been received from Peter Glenser, Dr Colin Shedden, Professor Ann Mortimer and Tommy Mayne.

A.2 To confirm confidential items

The Chairman confirmed the confidential items on the agenda as items B.6, B.7, B.1.A and C4.

A.3 To identify suggested items of any other business

Crufts, grouse shooting, Northern Ireland legal officer and conflicts of interest were identified as other items of business.

A.4 Minutes of the 22 September 2016 Council meeting

The minutes of the open meeting, having been circulated, were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings subject to the following amendments:

C5 Coach of the Year to go to one of their shotgun *coaches*.

C5 Final paragraph should be under item D1 not C5

A.5 Matters arising from earlier Council meetings

There were no matters arising from the previous Council meeting.



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A.6 Action points outstanding from earlier Council meeting

The action points, which had been circulated before the meeting, were noted.

- Action points 1, 3 and 5 are on the agenda.
- Action point 8 was postponed until November
- Action point 6 to be removed

A.7 Declarations of interest

Oliver McCullough and Ian Grindy declared an interest in B.1A.

Declarations of interests to be moved to A.2 for future meetings.

B.1 Health and Safety

B.1.1 Monthly Health and Safety Report

The Director of Business Management presented the report, covering the period 01 to 30 September 2016.

No reports of any incidents.

B.1.2 Annual Health and Safety Report

The Director of Business Management presented the report prepared by Brendan Curtin.

Council asked about the health and safety risks associated with volunteers. The Director of Business Management confirmed that she has been asked to develop a new investment bid in response to the risks associated with some 270 volunteers registered with the Association as the investment bid for a volunteer co-ordinator, in its initial form had been rejected by the Executive and Finance Committee. The Director of England raised that South East regional position which was currently vacant could be a possible solution as the role could include volunteers data protection, health and safety, employment rights etc.

Council agreed that the Director of Business Management and the Director of England should produce a proposal to be presented at Executive and Finance Committee in November.

B.1A Update on the Investigation *Confidential*****

B.2 Number of Elected Council Members

Council are required at this meeting to agree the size of Council following the AGM in June 2017. This will dictate the number of seats that will be available for election.



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Council considered best practice and governance guidance. Following a debate and discussion John Dryden proposed that the number of elected Council members should be 14; this was seconded by Sarah Turner; Council voted unanimously in favour.

The Director of Business Management confirmed that as a result there would be 1 Wales seat, 1 Scotland seat and 1 national seat up for election at the 2017 AGM.

Council asked about the current review of the constitution. The Director of Business Management confirmed that following approval at last month's Council a review of the current constitution had begun. However, this would not result in any constitutional changes until after the AGM in 2018 and following FCA approval.

Council agreed that they would all review the current constitution ahead of a discussion at November's Council meeting. The outcomes from November's discussion would then be provided to those engaged in undertaking the constitutional review.

B.3 WHT Annual Report

The WHT Annual Report from Tim Russell circulated prior to the meeting was noted by those present.

B.4 WHT Loan facility and donation

A paper covering the WHT Loan facility and annual donation was presented by the Director of Business Management,

The WHT has asked the Association to consider two items.

- A request to consider increasing the loan facility already approved by Council
- If the Association would consider giving the annual donation of £40,000 to the WHT instead of the WH(c)T

Council agreed unanimously that as WHT had not yet drawn down any of the £200k loan facility or made any repayments it was not in a position to consider increasing the loan. The Council also agreed that giving their annual donation to WHT instead of WH(c)T would have adverse tax implications. Therefore the Association will continue to give any donation to WH(c)T.

Council was informed that the next donation to WH(c)T would be considered at the January Council when the end of year management accounts are presented to Council for review.

B.5 Governance review update

The Chairman of Executive and Finance provided a verbal update to Council.



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Not all council members had been able to attend governance training which was unfortunate. Conor O'Gorman has been asked and has agreed to take on the role of secretary and co-ordinator for the governance review. An update from Conor had been recently circulated to Council members.

B.6 Budget update *Confidential*****

The Director of Business Management provided a verbal update on the development of the budget for 2017.

B.7 Regulatory update *Confidential*****

The Director of Business Management presented the regulatory update.

C1 Executive & Finance Committee minutes 21 September 2016

Council noted and approved the minutes of the Executive & Finance Committee meeting held on 21 September 2016.

C.2 Chairman's report – oral

In the Chairman's absence, the Vice-chairman gave a verbal chairman's report from the Chairman.

Congratulations were extended to the Chairman for passing his DSC Level 1.

C.3 Acting Chief Executive's and Director of Communications report

The Acting Chief Executive and Director of Communication's report was presented orally and accepted as presented. It was noted:

- There is to be a debate about Grouse shooting on 31 October
- The Acting Chief Executive is to meet Brandon Lewis in the Home Office to discuss medical issues.
- The Press team has temporarily brought in a self-employed press officer 3 days a week until the end of December to support the Press team.
- Office morale is on the rise.

C.4 Director of Business Management's report *Confidential*****

The Director of Business Management's provided a verbal update.

C.5 Operations report and reports from country directors

The operations report had been circulated to Council and was accepted as presented.



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Council asked for further information regarding the The Burrard Academy. The Acting Chief Executive explained that The Burrard Academy have put in place plans to establish gunmaking apprenticeships. The Association have been involved in these plans

Country reports were given verbally at the meeting.

C.6 To consider requests for advice from Country and Advisory Committees

There were no requests for advice from County and Advisory Committees.

D.1 Any other business by leave of the Chairman

Crufts – Ian Grindy asked Council for their support in encouraging the Association to promote the gamekeeper classes at Crufts. These classes create much interest from non-shooters as well as international media opportunities to promote gundog classes. Council agreed they would encourage gamekeepers they know to go to Crufts. Council raised the strategic importance of gundogs to the Association.

It was agreed that Council should debate the Associations strategy and the resources allocated to support members with regard to gundogs.

Conflicts of interest. The Director of Business Management reminded Council members to return their declaration of interest forms to Brendan Curtin, Head of Administration, by the end of October.

Northern Ireland Legal Officer - Oliver McCullough proposed that Council approve the appointment of Raymond Gilmore as Northern Ireland Legal officer. Raymond's speciality is property law and he runs a family shoot. He works out of Belfast and Dublin and has been practising for 20 years. The proposal was seconded by Duncan Greaves and carried unanimously.

D.2 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 24 November 2016 at The Inn at Whitewell, Clitheroe, Lancashire, commencing at 9.30hrs.

Signed:
Chairman

Date:

