

CONFIDENTIAL

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT MARFORD MILL ROSSETT
ON THURSDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 9.30AM**

Present:	Lord Dear Eoghan Cameron John Thornley OBE Martyn Jones Robin Marshall-Ball Oliver McCullough Paul Shaw Peter Watson Claire Sadler Cara Richardson Professor Ann Mortimer Peter Watson Sarah Turner Ian Grindy Ian Coghill Alasdair Mitchell Carl Woodall Sally-Anne Cockerill	President Vice-Chairman
Ex-Officio:	Ian Bell Angela Davies Christopher Graffius Steve Bloomfield Caroline Bedell Dan Reynolds Steve Griffiths Dr Colin Shedden	Chief Executive Executive Director of Business Management Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Executive Director of Shooting and Operations Executive Director of Conservation Director England Director Wales Director Scotland
In Attendance:	Andy McAveety Tania Pennill	ICT Support Engineer (only in attendance for Presentation on mobile and flexible working) HR Director (Item 10)
Minute Secretary:	Jayne Danby	

Vice-Chairman's Welcome

The Vice-Chairman welcomed all to the meeting including the President, Lord Dear and the newly appointed Executive Director of Conservation.

Andy McAveety gave a presentation about the new ways of working (iPad and shared folders).

Andy McAveety left the meeting.

1 To receive apologies for absence and to note absentees

Apologies had been received from the Chairman, Peter Glenser QC and Tommy Mayne.

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2 To confirm confidential items

The Vice-Chairman confirmed that items 10, 11, 12, some of the CEO's report, parts of 18, the Executive and Finance Committee minutes (moved to Confidential Items and considered in absence of all staff including Ian Bell) and John Dryden's resignation were confidential.

3 To identify suggested items of any other business

The following were identified as additional items of business:

- Timing of January Council meeting
- An update on expenses.

4 Declarations of interest

All staff, Peter Watson, John Thornley and Sally-Anne Cockerill declared an interest in item 10; however, as the item concerns universal benefits, those eligible to vote may still do so. Ian Bell and John Thornley declared an interest in item 11.

Ian Coghill reminded Council that he is still on the GWCT's Membership and Marketing Committee and is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Moorland Community Trust; Ian is to complete a declaration of interest form.

5.1 Minutes of the 25 October 2018 Council meeting

The minutes of the 25 October 2018 Council meeting were considered.

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

5.3 Minutes of the 1 November 2018 Scottish Committee meeting

The minutes of the 1 November 2018 Scottish Committee meeting were signed as a true record of that meeting.

It was noted that work continues with SNH on the possible extension of the current licence. This allows the sale of native greylag geese that are shot under the adaptive management pilots on Orkney, Lewis, Harris and Uists.

Professor Ann Mortimer, offered to provide help on the development of advice to families and friends of certificate holders who may be affected by mental health issues.

6 Matters arising from earlier Council meetings

There were no matters arising.

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CLOSED MEETING *CONFIDENTIAL*****

5.2 Minutes of the 25 October 2018 Executive and Finance Committee meeting

Only elected and co-opted Council members were present for this part of the meeting. All staff and the Minutes Secretary left the meeting.

The CEO, Executive Directors and Minute Secretary returned to the meeting.

The Chairman confirmed the minutes of the 25 October 2018 Executive and Finance Committee meeting were signed as a true record of that meeting.

7 Investigation update (oral)

Only elected and co-opted Council members, the CEO and the Executive Directors were present for this part of the meeting.

John Thornley updated the meeting on investigation matters:

10 2019 Budget and reserve policy *Confidential*****

The HR Director entered the meeting

The CEO provided an overview to Council on the process,

Council approved the Operational and Capital Budgets for 2019, approval of a political budget, items to be allocated to the legacy fund and the 2019 Reserve Policy.

12 BGA Update * Confidential*****

Council considered the paper circulated before the meeting regarding an update on the position of The BGA.

8 Committee Memberships

The CEO presented the Committee Membership paper.

The CEO proposed that a Political Committee should be established. Council approved the establishment and voted unanimously to elect Martyn Jones as Chair and the Executive Director for Communications and Public Affairs as lead member of staff. Other members are to be appointed in due course.

Following John Dryden's resignation, a new Wildfowling Committee Chair is required. Alasdair Mitchell, was unanimously voted to be the Chair of the Wildfowling committee.

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It was also noted that Andy Owens is to be added to the Northern Ireland Committee and Sally-Anne Cockerill is the chair of the Estates Committee.

All Committee memberships, as per the paper, were approved. Specific objectives are to be set in due course.

Council agreed that a Deer or Stalking Committee should be established. John Thornley was asked to put forward a proposed membership.

The Uplands Committee, led by Ian Coghill with Ian Grindy as Vice-Chair, is to meet on 25 January 2019. Going forward the Committee will engage with senior representatives from other bodies (GWCT, the Moorland Association and the NGO).

9 Strategy update

Council noted that the CEO has led strategy and budget sessions.

Considering the paper, Council resolved that in *Vision* it should say 'environment, economy and culture'. In *Mission* it should say 'United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and overseas' and 'Game and Wildlife management' i.e. deleting the reference to deer.

The Vision, Mission, Priorities and Strategic Outcomes were unanimously approved. This will now be promulgated to staff and go on the website. Feedback in terms of principle is to be given by Council members over the next week.

11 WHT and WHCST – proposal

The CEO and the Executive Director of Business Management presented their paper regarding the proposal from the WHT and the WHCST that the Association takes over their activities and responsibilities. The paper outlines the benefits, costs and risks to the Association.

Council agreed the proposal as outlined in the report.

It was noted that a term of reference will be developed based on the proposal, for approval by the Trustees, ahead of implementing it.

It was also noted that the current Trustees of the WHCT also need to be reviewed and updated. The CEO is taking this forward as an ex-officio trustee.

13 Chairman's Report

The Chairman was not present at the meeting.

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14 Chief Executive's Report (oral)

The Chief Executive presented an oral update. Council noted the following:

- A FACE meeting in Sweden – progressing the review of how FACE works.
- A members' evening in Scotland was attended.
- The Northern Ireland Committee was met.
- FACE staff were interviewed in Brussels as part of the review into how FACE works.
- Celtic Manor ran a game week concluding with a Gala Evening.
- A DI partner meeting was hosted at Marford Mill.
- A WHT, WHCST and WHCT trustee meeting was held.

15 Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs' Report (oral)

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs' presented an oral update.

Offensive weapons bill – The ban on high muzzle energy weapons was taken out of the bill by a significant majority in the commons.

Council thanked the Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs and his team for their work on the offensive weapons bill.

Medical involvement in licensing –The department of health has asked for a briefing. The applicant and the police have statutory duties but the doctor does not. A way needs to be found to place an obligation on the doctor. Party support is also needed for these initiatives.

NRW judicial review – A letter before action has been sent.

16 Executive Director of Shooting and Operations' Report

Council noted the Executive Director of Shooting and Operations' report as presented, noting additionally that:

A candidate has been offered the post of Head of Deer following interviews. Further details will follow.

Final interviews for the Pathways to Shooting position will take place in December. An update will follow.

Evidence that planning regulations are being used to restrict game shooting is being seen. Meetings are planned; questions and guidance can be directed to the Director Wales. Legal advice may be needed.

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17 Executive Director of Conservation's Report

The Executive Director of Conservation's report was taken as read.

Further, Council noted that successful events have been held, including Taste of Game and other promotions, in the regions and thanks go to the staff involved.

Matt Ellis has been in America regarding adaptive harvest management – Matt is to attend the next Council meeting to give a briefing.

The Greenland white-fronted goose will be taken off the quarry list in Wales.

18 Executive Director of Business Management's report

The Executive Director of Business Management's report was noted. Further, Council noted the following updates:

Further to section 3.8 in the report, which raised the issue regarding FCA new regulations and using volunteers to recruit members, a solution has now been found. The solution is to use several iPads at game fairs, new members would then sign up using these. Volunteers would then be present to support the new member technologically, but not to answer any questions regarding insurance elements of our membership package. If a new member had questions regarding insurance the volunteer would need to find a FCA trained member of staff.

A meeting was held with the events manager at Celtic Manor to organise next year's AGM. The suggested arrangements for June 2019 AGM are an evening meal on the Friday evening following by the AGM, a sit down buffet lunch and the Council meeting on the Saturday. Council agreed the amendments to the usual AGM schedule.

Auditors – It was agreed at E&F that since we have not tested the market for new accountancy and auditors that a re-procurement should be done next year ahead of the AGM.

Council FCA CPD Requirement – Council discussed and agreed that all insurance decisions should be delegated to the Executive and Finance Committee with immediate effect. Therefore, only members of the Executive and Finance Committee will be required to undertake the new CPD and training and competence regime implemented by the FCA in October 2018. The Executive Director of Business Management confirmed that all Committee members will be sent a pack which would include 4 hours of CPD material to be completed by the end of December 2018.

19 Council forward plan

Council noted the report.

In addition, Council agreed that the January meeting be moved to 7 February 2019 with the Executive and Finance Committee meeting to follow in the afternoon. The Executive Director of Business Management will circulate the new date.

****Note – since the Council meeting has now been changed to the 13th February 2019*****

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20 Monthly Health and Safety report

Council noted the report.

21 Any other business by leave of the Chairman

Expenses – the current system is being reviewed. Fuel cards and floats for staff, among other things are being looked at. Options will be considered by the Executive Directors Group.

22 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 13 February 2019 at Marford Mill.

Signed:

Date:

Chairman