

CONFIDENTIAL

**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING AND CONSERVATION
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT MARFORD MILL ROSSETT ON THURSDAY 23 MAY 2019 AT
9.30AM**

Attendance	Peter Glenser QC Eoghan Cameron Oliver McCullough Ian Coghill Ian Grindy Martyn Jones Robin Marshall-Ball Alasdair Mitchell Professor Ann Mortimer Cara Richardson Claire Sadler Paul Shaw John Thornley OBE Peter Watson Carl Woodall Sally-Ann Cockerill Sarah Turner	Chairman Vice-Chairman
Ex-Officio:	Ian Bell Angela Davies Caroline Bedell Steve Griffiths Dr Colin Shedden Dan Reynolds	Chief Executive Executive Director of Business Management Executive Director of Conservation Director Wales Director Scotland Director England
Minute Secretary	Sandra Forkin	
In Attendance	Garry Doolan	Deputy Director of Communications and Public Affairs (Representing Christopher Graffius)

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

The Chairman congratulated the CEO and all staff with regards to the General Licence fiasco, he stated that BASC performed the best he has ever seen. It has been impressive and to see everyone come together and work together.

The Chairman again expressed his thanks to everyone. Absolutely amazing and well done.

1 To receive apologies for absence and to note absentees

Apologies had been received from Lord Dear, Christopher Graffius & Tommy Mayne.

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2 **To confirm confidential items**

The Chairman confirmed that items item 9, 11, 12, and elements of items 16, 17, 18 & 22 were confidential.

3 **To identify suggested items of any other business**

There were no other items of business.

4 **Declarations of interest**

Peter Watson declared an interest in item 11 as he is a BGA board member.

5.1 **Minutes of the 28 March 2019 Council meeting**

The minutes of the 28 March 2019 Council meeting were considered. There were a couple of amendments necessary. With these amendments carried out, the minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5.2 **Minutes of the 28 March 2019 Executive and Finance Committee meeting**

The minutes of the 28 March 2019 Executive and Finance Committee meeting were signed as a true record of that meeting.

5.3 **Minutes of the 10th April 2019 Pension Committee**

The minutes of the 10th April were noted.

5.4 **Minutes of the 28 February 2019 Scottish Committee Meeting**

The minutes of the 28 March 2019 Scottish Committee Meeting were noted.

6 **Matters arising from earlier Council meetings**

There were no matters arising.

It was noted that the Political Committee did not happen and a meeting will be rearranged after the next Council Meeting.

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7 Health and Safety

Council noted the report as presented by the Executive Director of Business Management.

Concerns were raised with regards to the General Licences and social media with regards to how BASC are looking at the staff's mental wellbeing. The Chairman stated that we have a staff Councillor appointed. The CEO advised that himself and the rest of management team had some concerns over the phone calls and some unpleasantness. However, everyone is working together and all heads of department / Executive team are looking out for any impact on staff welfare. As of yet we have not seen any signs.

We are still waiting for Michael Gove's announcement, this may well cause additional work for some staff, this is being monitored. The most abusive calls were from people that didn't have an understanding of the GL's. The CEO is in communication with all head office staff and the regions with regards to the GL's and associated criticism of BASC.

8 Threat Analysis

A verbal update on the threat analysis (oral) was provided by the CEO.

Staff will work up a threat analysis. What the threats could be and look at the operational budget for what resources may be required. The CEO proposed that we look at how we deal with risk and the threats to shooting and the direction to take. A Council strategy day will focus on this topic.

It was agreed that the CEO will choose a date and all Council members will be invited to attend this session at Marford Mill. This will be an additional Council meeting.

9 Council Election *CONFIDENTIAL*****

CLOSED MEETING

10 General Licence and NE – CEO (Oral)

The CEO thanked the chairman for his thanks and congratulation to all staff. Staff have worked exceptionally over the weeks which has included weekends, we have received 10,000 in excess of our normal calls, the evidence pack we put together was the most detailed evidence pack of any, and included 29,600 responses to our survey.

The CEO stated that we were expecting Michael Gove to make his announcement last Monday. However, we are still waiting for this outcome to be announced. At present do not know how this is going to go.

A constructive meeting took place with the CEO, Sir Geoffrey Clifton Brown and Michael Gove. He has taken his own legal advice.

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The CEO confirmed we need a robust general licence when we go into full consultation in the summer. Ahead of the summer, BASC needs to focus resources and prepare ourselves for the consultations. Our line throughout is the general licences are not illegal, it's how they have been applied which is illegal. We are hoping a system comes into place with Michael Gove's interaction.

11 BGA Update *CONFIDENTIAL*****

Peter Watson updated the meeting on BGA matters.

12 Investigation update (oral) *CONFIDENTIAL*****

John Thornley updated the meeting on investigation matters:

13 This item has been deferred to July's Council meeting

CRM Presentation.

14 Centre of Excellence *CONFIDENTIAL*****

Sally-Anne Cockerill verbally updated Council on the Estates Committee and discussions took place with regards to a Centre of Excellence.

15 Council timetable 2020

Council noted the dates and locations of the Council, E&F and AGM meetings.

16 Expressions of interest for BASC Chairman and Vice-Chairman, oral *Confidential*****

The CEO advised that that expressions of interest had not changed since the last meeting.

17 Chairman's Report (oral) *Confidential*****

The Chairman delivered an oral report at the meeting.

The Chairman attended:

- Northern Shooting Show – the Chairman expressed that he was extremely impressed
- Gun Makers Evening
- APPG Meeting on Shooting
- Field Fisher
- Shoot Liaison Committee

18 Chief Executive's Report *Confidential*** (Oral)**

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The CEO referred to the BASC annual report that has been issued to all in the meeting.

The CEO has attended:

- Wales Open Evening
- FACE
- GWCT
- The Angling Trust
- Carlton Club Shooting Evening
- The Field
- APPG
- Countryside Forum
- BGA

19 Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs' Report

The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs report was noted.

On behalf of the Executive Director Communications and Public Affairs, Garry Doolan was present and made comment with regards to the following:

- General licences as within the report.
- Medical Licencing are currently being challenged.
- Political Initiatives are on-going as detailed in the report.
- Deputy Head of Publications has commenced his employment with BASC.
- Digital Content Editor has commenced her employment with BASC.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Garry Doolan for chairing in the absence of The Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs.

The CEO expressed his thanks to Garry Doolan on chairing the GL Meetings.

Professor Ann Mortimer thanked Council members for contributing to the S&C magazine and requested this to be continued.

20 Executive Director of Shooting and Operations' Report

The Executive Director of Shooting and Operations report was noted.

Council also noted that:

A review of all shows and events is currently taking place with the Executive Director of Shooting and Operations and Director England.

2020 year of the Game Keeper Welfare Trust will be launched at the Game Fair this will take place in the Game Fair hospitality area working closely with The Game Fair, invites will be sent out within the next couple of weeks, BASC is leading on this event. This is a big profile and fund raiser for 2020.

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Council noted that the new form of reporting on the England monthly report is very good, and that it would be good if this form of reporting was to be rolled out to other regions. The Executive Director of Shooting and Operations agreed to implement this with the other regions.

21 Executive Director of Conservation's Report (Oral)

The Executive Director of Conservation stated that her team have been extremely focussed over the last few weeks on the recent GL issues and expressed her thanks to all her team for their hard work.

The focus will move over the next couple of weeks to prepare for the consultation. The Conservation department will work with other teams within BASC to move forward.

A strategy day has been arranged on how we can take the Conservation department forward. Once the mission and vision is in place a paper will be issued to Council for review.

It was also noted that:

- TOG Officer commenced his employment with BASC 1st May 2019
- Two strategy days for TOG arranged commencing 4th June
- First external Uplands committee meeting is arranged for week commencing 26th May

22 Executive Director of Business Management's report *Confidential*****

The Executive Director of Business Management report was noted.

23 Any other business by leave of the Chairman

Team photograph to be chased up by the Deputy Director of Communications and Public Affairs

24 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Saturday 15th June 2019 – Celtic Manor Resort, Newport, South Wales

Signed:

Date:

Chairman