

Minutes of a Quarterly Board Meeting of the
Forth District Salmon Fishery Board
28th October 2013

Present:

Roy Robertson
Ali Dickson
Mike Baillie-Hamilton (Chairman)
Tony Cameron
Dennis Toon
Bill Cunningham (Superintendent)
Patrick Fotheringham (Clerk)

In attendance:

Allan Wells ASFB
Bob Younger Fish Legal
Toby Metcalfe Crown Estate

The meeting was held in open session as previously advertised on the Board's website on 14th October 2013:

No members of the public were in attendance.

- 1) Apologies: J. McGarvie, Fen Howieson. Mrs. F. Simpson
- 2) The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.
- 3) There were no matters arising.
- 4) After discussion, the 2012 Accounts and Annual Report were approved unanimously.
- 5) The Superintendent presented his report which was accepted by the meeting.
 - The Board approved and adopted a formal policy with regard to permissions for the clearance of branches and rubbish at weirs/fishpasses.
 - It was agreed that the Superintendent's night vision equipment should be upgraded with a new tube.
 - The Superintendent left the meeting.
- 6) After discussion it was agreed that the Board would seek the assistance of the RFFT in taking part in the SANA-lead winter piscivorous bird count.
- 7) It was agreed that the Board's conservation recommendations were effective in reducing pressure on stocks across the District and that they should remain unaltered for the forthcoming season.

- 8) It was reported that the Board's Health and Safety Policy had gone through its annual review by the appointed Health and Safety Officer and that copies were available on request for Board members.

It was reported that two incidents had occurred since the last meeting relevant to H&S. In one case a volunteer Bailiff had had his tyres slashed and in the other a different volunteer Bailiff had had his notebook taken from his hands and had it flung into the river. Injury had not occurred in either case but it was recognised that threatening behaviour of this kind should be taken into account for risk assessment.

It was agreed that the Bailiff whose tyres had been slashed should receive compensation for his loss to a value of £150. However, it was noted that such situations should be assessed on a case-by-case basis and that the Board's decision should not set a precedent for future situations.

- 9) It was agreed that the Board should request that the RFFT make presentations on their activities at each of the Boards quarterly meetings. The Board noted that the presentations that had been made to the AGM were excellent and informative.
- 10) The Board was formally informed that the Director had handed in his notice and was currently serving his notice period which ended on 12th Dec.
- 11) The Chairman informed the Board that he too would be stepping down at such time as a replacement could be found.
- 12) After discussion it was agreed that two committees should be formed; one to handle the mediation process with Stirling Council and the other to handle the Director's handover. It was agreed that they should be formed as follows:

Mediation Committee: Tony Cameron and Fen Howieson (to be assisted by Allan Wells and Bob Younger).

Handover Committee: Roy Robertson and Ali Dickson.
- 13) It was noted that the Board now had a legal requirement for a complaints procedure. It was agreed that this should be prepared.
- 14) It was agreed that the position of Clerk should pass to Tom McKenzie at the end of the meeting. It was noted that he had agreed to this on an interim basis but that he was not prepared to do this beyond the end of April. It was agreed that he should receive reasonable expenses and a honorarium for doing this with terms to be decided.
- 15) There being no other business the meeting was closed.