

Minutes

BIDWELLS

Client: Beauly District Fishery Board
Project: Meeting of Qualified Proprietors
Venue: Lovat Arms Hotel, Beauly
Date: 7 June 2012
Present: F Spencer-Nairn, S Swift, J Miller, P Pacey, M Bennett, M Fraser,
J Whitbread, D McAndrew, N McAndrew, M Spencer-Nairn
In attendance: K Williams (Ness & Beauly Fisheries Trust),
A Campbell (Clerk)

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Distribution: All Proprietors and Board Members

Description	Action
1 Apologies	
1.1 Apologies were received from Ben Leyshon, SNH.	
2 Minutes of Qualified Proprietors 22 June 2011	
2.1 The minutes of the above meeting were approved by those present.	
3 Chairman's Report 2011/2012	
3.1 Copies of the Chairman's Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.	
3.2 The Chairman commented on the increasing amount of time being spent in responding on behalf of the Board to various consultations as detailed within the Report. A discussion took place concerning the consultation by SEPA on Scottish Water's application for derogation from the existing outfall limits within their CAR Licence for the Cannich Septic Tank. The Board agreed that it would sustain an objection to this proposal. The Clerk was asked to submit this to SEPA. It was suggested that this objection should be copied to the local councillor for the Cannich area.	Clerk
3.3 It was confirmed that the Licences received from SNH for control of sawbill birds had been so minimal that authorisation had been given to the ghillies on the Lower Beauly only. Keith Williams was asked to continue pursuing the further study of numbers of birds within the river system and the Beauly Firth in order to obtain better data to counter the prevailing view from SNH regarding licence numbers.	
4 Annual Accounts – Year to 31 December 2011	
4.1 The Board confirmed their view that the financial reserves should be kept at a level of around six months' expenditure.	
4.2 The Board confirmed that they would be willing to consider a contribution towards the cost of removal of man-made barriers on the Culburnie Burn Keith Williams was asked to liaise with the Clerk regarding potential costs.	
4.3 Alastair Campbell confirmed that the re-stocking costs shown on the final	

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<p>page of the Accounts as incurred by the Lower Beauly Syndicate related to the purchase of second hand tanks which are being stored in case of potential future need.</p>	
<p>4.4 The Clerk confirmed that part of the annual levy for the Angling Club waters was still outstanding. Mr Pacey reported that the Angling Club believed the inclusion of a contribution to Ness & Beauly Fisheries Trust within the annual levy was ultra vires and that they had therefore withheld this sum, but made a direct contribution to the Trust instead. The Clerk was asked to obtain a written statement from ASFB on their advice regarding this question. In the meantime, a credit note is to be raised for the debt.</p>	Clerk
<p>4.5 The Accounts were approved subject to the credit note being raised and the noted debtors being adjusted</p>	Clerk
<p>5 Ness and Beauly Fisheries Trust Report</p>	
<p>5.1 A summary report had been circulated by Keith Williams prior to the meeting.</p>	
<p>5.2 Keith Williams confirmed that electro fishing of the Belladrum, Bruiach and Cougie Burns would be carried out once again in 2012, following which advice would be given concerning the benefits of re-opening the hatchery to stock these burns artificially.</p>	
<p>5.3 New techniques for genetic analysis are currently being trialled by some of the bigger River Boards and if these trials prove successful, these techniques could be used to give further analysis of Beauly fish. Initial analysis has been inconclusive in determining whether Beauly fish could be identified to a specific area. In the meantime, a precautionary approach should be adopted to any re-stocking programmes.</p>	
<p>5.4 Keith Williams continues to liaise with SEPA regarding the project for clearance of man-made obstacles on various burns. It is anticipated that works may commence in September on the Culburnie and Black Burn, but that works on the Bridgend Burn are likely to be in 2013.</p>	
<p>5.5 Keith Williams is keen to increase efforts to monitor and, if necessary, trap mink on the Lower and Middle Beauly and will be contacting ghillies in this regard.</p>	
<p>5.6 A reminder was given to all proprietors to ask their ghillies and fishermen to check for fish with clipped adipose fins following the monitoring project set up from the Lower Beauly hatchery in 2010.</p>	
<p>6 SSE Liaison Committee</p>	
<p>6.1 The draft Minutes of the most recent Liaison Committee Meeting had been circulated prior to this meeting.</p>	
<p>6.2 The Chairman confirmed that, contrary to the reports in the draft Minutes, the proposed outages of the Kilmorack and Aigas Dams were not now</p>	

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going to proceed this year.

- 6.3** The Clerk confirmed that he had been in touch with SSE Estates Department who had confirmed that a gate could be erected adjacent to the river immediately below Aigas Dam where concerns had been expressed regarding poaching. Donald Fraser had kindly offered to co-ordinate this work. The Clerk to liaise with Donald Fraser.

Clerk

7 Triennial Election of Fishery Board

- 7.1** It was agreed that the newly elected Board should comprise eight members, including a Chairman and a co-opted representative of tenant anglers.

- 7.2** The following Board Members were appointed:

Michael Spencer-Nairn
Frank Spencer-Nairn
Susie Swift (Mandatory for Upper Beauly Fishing Syndicate)
Jock Miller
Michael Bennett
Kim Fraser
Jane Whitbread

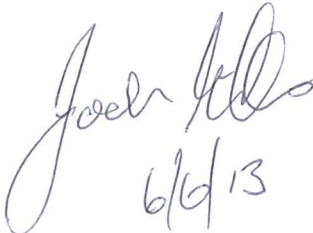
Co-opted Member – Paul Pacey (Beauly Angling Club)

Jock Miller was elected Chairman.

- 7.3** Jock Miller proposed a vote of thanks to Nick and Diane McAndrew for their considerable years' service to the Beauly District Fishery Board.

8 Date of Next Meeting

- 8.1** It was proposed that the next Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors should take place on **6 June 2013**.


6/6/13

