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## NESS DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Time:** 17:01

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016

**Location:** Telford Suite, Inverness Caledonian Thistle Football Club

**Present:**

Michael Martin: Dochfour, Mandate (MM) *Chair*  
Alexander Patience: Netsman, Co Option (AP)  
Annie Girvan: River Moriston, Mandate (AG)  
Cllr Ken Gowans: Highland Council, Mandate (KG)  
David Sutherland: Ness Castle, Proprietor (DS)  
Graham MacKenzie: Co-Option (GM)  
Neil Cameron: Ness & Beaully Fisheries Trust (NBFT), Co-option (NC)  
Ryan Rutherford: Ness Side, Mandate (RR)  
Bob Morgan: River Gary, Mandate/Alternate (BM)

**In Attendance:**

Alastair Stephen: SSE (ASt)  
April Conroy: Board Secretary  
Chris Conroy: Chief Executive/Clerk (CC)  
John MacColl: Head Bailiff (JM)  
Nick Barker: N&BFT, (NB)

**Observing:**

Gordon Armstrong: Ness Castle Fishery Manager

**Apologies:**

Eric Craig: Angling Club, Co Option (EC)  
Andrew Duncan: Ness Castle, Mandate (AD)  
Angus MacGruer: Co-Option (AM)  
Ben Leyshon: Scottish Natural Heritage (BL)

### 1. AGENDA

In Lieu of an elected chairman, and as the Clerk of the board, CC called the first meeting of the newly elected Ness DSFB. CC confirmed that non-Board members were welcome to stay as all Board meetings are now held in public. CC stated the Agenda:

- 1) Co-opt representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen in the district
- 2) Elect new Convenor/Chairman
- 3) Suggest any other representatives
- 4) Date of next meeting

## **2. CO-OPTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SALMON ANGLERS AND TENANT NETSMEN IN THE DISTRICT**

CC advised that as soon after their election as is practicable, the elected representatives of qualified proprietors shall duly co-opt representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen in the district.

He confirmed that following wider consultation, the proposed candidates for election as co-opted representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen for the Ness District were as follows:

**Co-optees**                    Alexander Patience (Netsmen)  
                                      Graham Mackenzie (Ness District Anglers)  
                                      Eric Craig (Inverness Angling Club)  
                                      Vacant (Loch Ness Anglers)

*In addition to this:*

Neil Cameron (Ness and Beaully Fisheries Trust)

CC noted that there is the option to co-opt further representatives at a later date, such as representation from the Loch Ness anglers. He asked whether there were any further nominations for consideration. No nominations were put forward.

CC asked whether all qualified proprietors present collectively and unanimously vote in favour of all the proposed nominees. BM proposed and AG seconded. Representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen were duly elected.

## **3. ELECTION OF CONVENOR/CHAIRMAN**

CC advised that as soon as is practicable, the elected representatives of qualified proprietors together with the cop-opted representatives shall elect, from among the representatives of qualified proprietors, a convener.

CC noted that only one individual had formally expressed an interest in being elected as Chairman of the Board. This was Michael Martin who has a mandate for Dochfour. CC asked whether there were any further nominations for consideration. No nominations were put forward.

CC asked the elected representatives of qualified proprietors and co-opted representatives present whether they vote in favour of the proposed nominee. DS proposed and KG seconded. CC confirmed that the new Chairman of the Board is Michael Martin and advised that the new board was at this point full constituted.

## **4. OTHER REPRESENTATION**

CC advised the board to consider whether they wish to invite any further representation onto the board as in a non-voting capacity. This is not a legal requirement however the ASFB advise that DSFBs consider representation from other agencies such as, but not limited to, SNH, SEPA, local fisheries interests, their local authority and national park authority.

CC confirmed that the current proposed candidates were as follows:

**Non-voting attendees**            Alastair Stephen (SSE)  
   Kenneth Knott (Forestry Commission Scotland)  
   Ben Leyshon (Scottish Natural Heritage)  
   Nick Barker (Ness and Beaully Fisheries Trust)  
   John MacColl (Ness DSFB)

CC invited further proposals and the following suggestions were considered:

SEPA representation such as Antony Watkins, Richard Fife or Alastair Galloway  
Melanie Smith, Head of Research at UHI

GM proposed approval and NC seconded.

## **5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Board Meeting and annual meeting of qualified proprietors was scheduled for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016.

With there being no further business to discuss THE MEETING CLOSED AT 17.06