



**NESS DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD**  
**Minutes from Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors**

**Time:** 14:00

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**Location:** Telford Board Room, Inverness Caledonian Thistle Football Club

**Present:**

Michael Martin: Dochfour, Mandate (MM) Chairman

Alexander Patience: Netsman, Co Option (AP) – **late arrival**

Angus MacGruer: River Oich, Proprietor (AM)

Bob Morgan: River Gary, Mandate/Alternate (BM)

Gordon Armstrong: Ness Castle, Mandate/Alternate (GA)

Graham Mackenzie: Co-Option (GM)

Neil Cameron: Ness & Beaulieu Fisheries Trust (NBFT), Co-option (NC)

**In Attendance:**

Alastair Stephen: SSE (AS)

April Conroy: Board Secretary (AC)

Chris Conroy: Chief Executive/Clerk (CC)

Iain McMinn: SSE (IM)

John MacColl: Head Bailiff (JM)

Nick Barker: NBFT, (NB)

**Apologies:**

Andrew Steel: SEPA (AS)

Ben Leyshon: Scottish Natural Heritage (BL)

David Sutherland: Ness Castle Lodges, Proprietor (DS)

Eric Craig: Angling Club, Co Option (EC)

Helen Gray: River Moriston, Mandate (HG)

Janet Campbell: Highland Council, Mandate (JC)

Kenneth Knott: Forestry Commission (KK)

Melanie Smith: UHI Rivers and Lochs Institute (MS)

Ryan Rutherford: Ness Castle, Mandate (RR)

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Michael Martin (MM) introduced the meeting and noted apologies as above.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 were reviewed and no changes were required. Approval of the minutes was proposed by GM and seconded by AS.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

CC presented the 2017 Annual Report and invited comments and/or questions.

He confirmed that all proprietors had been sent a link to a draft version of the report, with no comments received to date. He noted that the wording in the Foreword had been updated. A few other minor corrections have been made to spelling and grammar, but no material changes had been made since the draft was circulated.

CC confirmed that three quarters of the printing costs have been covered by the generous support of the sponsors, namely Strutt & Parker, Ness Castle Lodges and CBEC. All three had supported the printing of previous years reports.

The number of copies required was discussed. The proposed number of 150 copies was agreed.

The circulation list for printed copies was discussed. CC confirmed that in addition to proprietors and other local fisheries interests, printed copies have previously been sent to local and national politicians, together with civil servants from a range of Government Agencies. All supported this approach.

MM asked whether the board formally approved the Annual Report. ASt commented that the report was a fantastic piece of work. All members present formally approved the final draft for printing and distribution.

### **5. ACCOUNTS TO YEAR ENDING 15 MAY 2017**

CC presented the accounts to the year ending 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017. MM invited comments. MM asked for approval. This was proposed by GA and seconded by BM and GM.

### **6. AOCB**

AOCB was invited. CC confirmed that the Annual Report would be presented at the forthcoming Annual Public Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018. No further items were raised.

The meeting closed at 14:15