

## **NESS DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD MINUTES FROM ANNUAL MEETING OF QUALIFIED PROPRIETORS**

**Time:** 14:00

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016

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

**Present:**

Alexander Patience: Netsman, Co Option (AP)  
Angus MacGruer: River Oich, Mandate (AM)  
Annie Girvan: River Moriston, Mandate (AG)  
Eric Craig: Angling Club, Co Option (EC)  
Graham MacKenzie: Co-Option (GM)  
Ryan Rutherford: Ness Side, Mandate (RR)  
Gordon Armstrong: Ness Castle, Mandate (GA)

**In Attendance:**

Alastair Stephen: SSE (ASt)  
Chris Conroy: Chief Executive/Clerk (CC)  
Chris Daphne: NBFT (CD)  
John MacColl: Head Bailiff (JM)  
Nick Barker: NBFT, (NB)  
Melanie Smith: UHI Rivers and Lochs Institute (MS)

**Observing:**

None

**Apologies:**

April Conroy: Board Secretary (AC)  
Ben Leyshon: Scottish Natural Heritage (BL)  
Bob Morgan: River Gary, Mandate/Alternate (BM)  
David Sutherland: Ness Castle, Proprietor (DS)  
Cllr Ken Gowans: Highland Council, Mandate (KG)  
Kenneth Knott: Forestry Commission (KK)  
Michael Martin: Dochfour, Mandate (MM) *Chairman*  
Neil Cameron: Ness & Beaully Fisheries Trust (NBFT), Co-option (NC)

### **1. APOLOGIES**

As clerk to the board, CC chaired the meeting in MM's absence (he was delayed in traffic). Apologies were noted as above.

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

Minutes from previous proprietors meeting were presented and no comments were received. Approval of minutes was proposed by GM and seconded by GA.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

No matters arising

### **4. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

CC presented the 2016 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 reported that since then, some of the 'Key 2016 Annual Statistics' and 'Latest Catch Statistics' had been updated in light of the latest information.

GM asked about sponsorship for printing of the report. CC reported that all sponsors from 2015 had again contributed to the total cost of printing. On behalf of the board he expressed thanks to Ness Castle Lodges, CBEC Eco-engineering and Strutt and Parker in Inverness for their continued support.

CC requested formal approval of report. Proposed by GM and seconded by EC.

### **5. ACCOUNTS TO YEAR ENDING 15 MAY 2015**

CC presented accounts to year ending 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and invited comments. No comments were received.

CC explained that the £15k surplus at year-end was due to an under spend on the 'Upper Garry Restoration Project', specifically relating to genetic analysis component. He explained that moneys for this project were 'ring fenced' and so would be carried over into the next financial year.

ASt enquired whether a proposal for completion of the genetic analysis had been received from UHI Rivers and Lochs Institute and when the work was scheduled to be completed. CC explained that a proposal had not been received to date, but this would be discussed in further detail at the next board meeting.

CC asked for the accounts to be formally approved. Proposed by GM and seconded by AMcG.

### **6. AOCB**

AOCB was invited. No further items were raised.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 14:15**