

MINUTES

Of the Board Meeting
of the River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board
Held at The Belted Galloway, Newton Stewart
On Wednesday, August 16th 2022 at 6.00pm

Present

(A) Board Members/Mandatorys

Jamie Hyslop – in the Chair

Murdo Crosbie

Rory Crosbie

Terence Flanagan ✓

Norrie Ferguson M C I W T O S N

Gene Fryatt

Iain Service

(B) Attendee

Matthew Pumphrey (Clerk and Treasurer)

(1) Apologies for Absence

Jim Davidson, Jamie Ribbens and Steve Smith

(2) Approval of Minutes of Meeting of 6th July 2022

These were approved without demur.

(3) Matters arising

Norrie said that after internal discussion within NSAA, it had been agreed that they would be responsible for the levy due by J&T Scott.

(4) Chairman's Report

The Chairman said that there had been liaison between Kenny Kortland at FLS and himself, as representing the Board, about the capture of broodstock. FLS have provided a list of documents and conditions which are to be provided in order to allow the capture of broodstock. These are the same as provided in previous years, so it is hopeful that FLS will allow the capture of broodstock. The Chairman also said that he had sent an email to Lord Grantchester at Glentool Estates outlining the season so far and asking him to support the capture of broodstock this year. To date no reply has been received.

The Chairman had also been in contact with Kim Kirkbride at FLS regarding "No Fishing" signage on FLS water above Kirriereoch Bridge. Kim has agreed for FLS to put signage up at Kirriereoch Bridge and the road to the old Tarfessock Bridge stating that no fishing is allowed.

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Cree again had been awarded Category 1 status. No other river in the Solway had been awarded this status.

He reported that he had received a communication from Vanessa Brown, Policy officer for Salmon and Recreational Fisheries for the Scottish Government. The proposal was to introduce additional

measures to enhance the catch and release rate in Scotland (currently 95% overall, and 99% for spring salmon). Initially voluntary measures will be encouraged, but if these did not increase catch and release rates then mandatory measures would be considered. These measures would be irrespective of River grading and apply to all rivers in Scotland

The chairman advised that he had already personally submitted representations to the Scottish Government against this proposal. He hoped the Board would be prepared to make representations similar to the ones he had made. He also asked the Clerk to advise all proprietors of this proposal and to make representations themselves. Both these requests were **agreed.**, and it was agreed that the Chairman would respond to the Consultation AGAINST the introduction of any additional C&R restrictions. Representations had to be made by 9th September.

The Chairman informed the Board that pollution had been reported in the Nether Barr area. This had been investigated at the outflow of the sewage treatment works at Machermore. This outflow was running, but the discharge water was clear and free of any solids.

During the Board meeting a report of raw sewage entering the River Cree downstream of the old Sparling bridge site was reported. Photographs were viewed and a large brown and grey water discharge was evident. A call was made to the SEPA pollution line and the incident was reported. The site was viewed by Board members after the meeting closed and it was clearly evident that untreated sewage was entering the river from two points – a discharge pipe in the minnigaff bankside and also from a discharge pipe in the middle of the river. Both pipes are linked to the pumping station located in Minnigaff. Photographs were taken of the discharges. No SEPA officers were observed onsite during the visit.

(5) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had sent out an email prior to the meeting detailing the current financial position. Since then, some levies had been paid and others had not been and accordingly reminders had been sent to the latter. It was **agreed** that, in the case of A&J Campbell, the Chairman should explain the position to them again but if they still refused to pay simply because they maintained they did not fish the beat, that would be unacceptable as a precedent and legal action would have to be considered.

(6) GFT Report

- Jamie Ribbens had sent an email to the Chairman with his report and this was read out in full by the Chairman.
- Iain wanted to know what electrofishing GFT were intending to do on the High Cree. The Chairman said he would contact Jamie Ribbens to identify the locations
- Gene stated that GFT did not let Bargaly know when they were coming onto their water to carry out any electrofishing. It was felt that she should contact Jamie Ribbens about this apparent oversight.
- Gene also asked for a web link to the Kirroughtree forest plan. The Chairman said he would contact Jamie Ribbens to obtain this.

(7) RCHHT Report

Murdo gave a verbal report covering, inter alia:

- Salmon fry and salmon parr
- Japanese knotweed
- Himalayan balsam
- Presence of perch in the river and that they should be removed from the river when caught and dispatched humanely (perch are not native to the river Cree)
- Donation of 3 extra tanks by the Tay hatchery.

- An incident of poaching was reported to the Police by an angler on the upper minnoch. The police attended and it was found that the persons involved did in fact have written permission/permits to fish (kirriereoch loch). Murdo asked that fishers be absolutely certain that poaching was in fact taking place as he did not want to call the police out for no reason.

(8) Stocking document

The stocking document had been received from GFT by the chairman and was discussed. The document was largely similar to that produced in previous years. Some minor changes were discussed and agreed.

It was **agreed** that there should be a sub-committee to discuss this further with the Board's full authority to decide all matters relating to it. It was agreed that the Chairman, Murdo Crosbie and Terence Flanagan would form the sub committee. The present document as prepared by GFT was ~~very~~ acceptable and there would be likely to be only minor changes proposed.

(9) Any Other Business

There was none

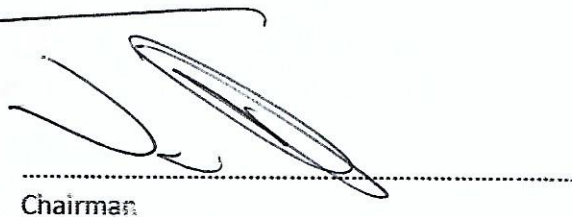
(10) Date of AGM

23rd November 2022 at 6pm

(11) Date of next Board Meeting

23rd November at 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.25pm



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Chairman