

MINUTES OF the Annual Meeting of Proprietors and the Annual Public Meeting  
of the  
River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board  
Held at Bruce Hotel, Newton Stewart  
On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 at 6pm

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**Present**

Terence Flanagan – Chairman

Board Members

Duncan Baillie  
Jim Davidson  
Dougal Evans  
John Galloway  
Jonathan Haley  
Johnnie Johnstone  
Tom Kenyon  
George McShane  
Steve Smith

Matthew Pumphrey - Clerk  
Billy McHarg – Treasurer

Also in attendance:-

R Archer  
Robert Bell  
D Campbell  
Murdo Crosbie - RCHHT  
Roddie Crosbie  
B Ducker  
Chris Emmerson  
Chris Flanagan  
R Heron  
C Hughes  
J Hyslop  
Lindsay McKain  
Mark McKie  
J Peak  
Jamie Ribbens – GFT  
Barry Strachan

**Apologies**

Roger Sharples

**Agenda**

This had not been circulated but it was on the website. The Agenda for the two meetings would be to some extent the same namely

1. Introduction
2. Annual Meeting of Proprietors – Consideration of the Annual Report and Accounts
3. Annual Public Meeting – Consideration of the Annual Report and Accounts
4. A Question and Answer Session including a consideration of matters proposed by members of the public

1.

The Chairman gave the introduction.

#### 2. The Annual Meeting of Proprietors

The Clerk had circulated the Annual Report, including two appendices thereto prepared by GFT and RCHHT. The Chairman mentioned some of the salient points in the Report and Jamie Ribbens and Murdo Crosbie went through the respective appendices prepared by GFT and RCHHT.

There were two questions raised by the proprietors both of which were dealt with satisfactorily.

The Treasurer had circulated the audited annual accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 and mentioned that as at the date of the meeting there was about £1,450 outstanding in unpaid levies.

There were no revisions to the Annual Report or the Accounts, which were therefore in their final form for consideration at the next meeting.

#### 3. The Annual Public Meeting.

The Accounts were considered and there was a wide-ranging discussion about the Annual Report and issues raised by members thereupon, including the following:-

- (a) Fish eating birds. Various members volunteered to do the count which was required in order to obtain a licence. Those members interested in participating in the count would provide their names and contact details at the end of the meeting.
- (b) The Wild Fisheries Review and the proposed transfer of Board functions to a composite body. There was general disagreement with the Review's proposals but nevertheless it was felt that there was some risk that the proposals would be put into effect with the result that Boards such as the Cree would no longer exist at least in their present form. Since the proposals had not yet been put out for consultation it was thought premature for the Board to voice its objections at this juncture.

#### 4. Matters proposed for consideration by members of the public.

Letters to the Clerk from Roddy Crosbie and Barry Strachan respectively were read to the meeting. There was an interesting and lively exchange of views about the reasons for the decline in the numbers of fish in the Cree. This involved, among other things, the effectiveness of hatcheries in keeping the numbers up and possibly increasing them.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.