



River Findhorn District Salmon Fishery Board

Clerk: Anthony Laing Administrator: pending

Fisheries Office, Logie Steading, Dunphail, Forres, IV36 2QN

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Minute of the Board Meeting

Held on Monday 8th August 2022 at 10.30am
at Coignascalan Farm, Coignafearn Estate

Present:

Anthony Laing -AnL (Chairman)

David Paton – DP

Alasdair Laing (AL)

Murray Wilson – MW

Graham Bell- GB

In attendance:

Sean McLean (SM) (Head Bailiff),

Alister Taylor (AT) (Bailiff)

Duncan Kerr (Kyllachie Estate)

Robert Laughton (RL) – Director, FNLRT

Kenny Graham (Coignafearn Estate)

Elle Adams (LivingAlive)

A	Item	Action
1.	<p>Apologies: Tony Watts, Mark Laing, Andrew Howard, Campbell Ross.</p> <p>AnL welcomed Elle Adams, Duncan Kerr and Kenny Graham to the meeting and extended thanks to Kenny for hosting the meeting and following AGM.</p> <p>RL informed that a new administrator had been appointed to replace Valerie Wardlaw (Administrator). Clare Walker would take up the role from mid-August onwards. RL would maintain administrative duties until Clare arrived.</p>	RL
2.	<p>Minutes of Meeting 23rd May 2022 Minutes were approved. RL to post on web site.</p>	RL
3.	<p>Matters arising Fish Disease- RL provide additional update on salmon fungal infections and circulated the Fish Disease Inspectors report. Saprolegnia had been the main cause of death, but a range of other infections and parasites had also been found. The report was welcomed but additional clarification would be helpful, RL agreed to discuss the findings further with the Fish Health Inspectors and report back.</p>	SM
4.	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>SM informed the Board that a 1st Aid course had been provisionally arranged for staff in early October. SM would confirm date shortly.</p> <p>Body cams had been purchased for the bailiffs and were now in regular use, this was within the equipment budget. A training course on dealing with aggressive behaviour was being organised by Richard Whyte (Spey Fishery Board) and two places had been provisionally booked for SM and AT.</p>	SM
5.	<p>Budget & Finance</p>	

	Cash flow was discussed and largely on target although the increasing fuel costs were noted.	
6.	Conservation Code 2022- The wording of the code was discussed after concerns on clarity had been raised by some proprietors and anglers. This referred to ambiguity between whether the code applied to both salmon and or sea trout in certain sections. A revised wording was agreed and RL agreed to circulate the revised version for comment and approval within the next two weeks.	RL
7.	Revaluation of Findhorn Rateable Value Highland Council and Moray Council assessors had enquired if the Findhorn Board wished to have the river revalued. After discussion the Board agreed to a revaluation. AnL to contact assessors.	AnL
9.	AOCB GB asked for an update on a recent poaching incident on the Forres AA section. SM indicated that the two poachers had been arrested by the Police and the evidence plus statements from SM/AT had been compiled for consideration by the Procurator Fiscal. SM would inform the Board on progress regarding trial etc.	SM
10	Dates of 2022 Meetings November 14 th 10.30am Board Meeting. Venue tba.	