

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of URR DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD
held in The Market Inn, Queen Street, Castle Douglas
on Monday 18th March 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present

In the Chair: R J Bellamy

Vice Chairman: D J Biggar

Attendees: K. Gibson
A. Ferguson
R. Smith
S. Smith
K. Irving
J. Ribbens
W. Marshall

Clerk: W G N Gourlay

1. Apologies

There were none, but regrettably the Clerk was late.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12th March 2018

The Minutes were approved nem. con. and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Will Marshall reported that Scottish Water was aiming to finish its engineering work at the reservoir (installation of siphoning system etc) by the end of March 2019.

Thereafter the reservoir would be refilled at a rate of around 1m per week, to allow the necessary expansion of the clay core – this suggested that the reservoir might be ready for re-stocking in June/July. Jamie Ribbens reported that appreciable numbers of mature eels still were being found in the outflow ‘filters’ – it seemed possible that these were coming from the very wet areas on the Guffogland side of the reservoir?

4. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman delivered his Report which is attached to these Minutes.

5. Accounts for the Year to 30th November 2018

The Clerk tabled the accounts which had previously been approved by the Board.

The budget for the year had been a break even. In the event there was a surplus of £118.79. Net Current Assets stood at £8,933.48 and total Reserves at £10,484.48. The Clerk explained that it was the policy of the Board to have a cushion in the bank equivalent to two years expenditure as Levies are not usually

invoiced until near the end of the Season and the financial year. The meeting approved the Accounts which were signed by the Chairman.

6. 2019 Levy

The Clerk advised that he did not anticipate any significant change in the expenditure for 2019 and therefore recommended that the Levy be set at 45 pence in the pound again. Mr Biggar proposed and Mr Ferguson seconded.

7. Date of 2020 Annual General Meeting

Monday 16th March 2020 at the Market Inn, Castle Douglas

8. Any Other Competent Business

Mr Ribbens gave a review of the current work of Galloway Fisheries Trust for the benefit of the River Urr.

Jackie Graham is on maternity leave. Funding has been obtained for Jessica Rodger to stand in her shoes. Courtney Rowland is leading on the Sparling Project. Victoria Semple has revised the Website.

Dumfries & Galloway Council are no longer funding control of invasives. While alternative sources of funds are being sought, owners and tenants are to be encouraged to decapitate Giant Hogweed.

If gudgeon are found they should be killed. A project to identify the possible danger of crayfish transferring from Ken/Dee to Urr and Nith at their watersheds is in contemplation.

There had been no response from Roadbridge to the report provided to them on re-instatement of the river banks, among other matters. The Clerk advised that Roadbridge were remobilising at the end of March.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm.