MINUTE of the TRIENNIAL MEETING
of the qualified proprietors of the
DON DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD
held at The Haughton Arms Hotel, Alford
Monday, 24th October 2016 at 7:00pm

Present: Jon Davison, Chairman
George Alpine, Clerk to the Don DSFB
Jim Adie, Inverurie AA
Richard Armstrong, Waterside
Steven Corsar, Inverurie AA
Robert Dey, ADAA
Ivor Duffis, Aberdeen
Gordon Ferries, Alford
Samantha Fleming, SEPA
Lord Forbes, Castle Forbes
Richard Fyffe, Fetternear
Richard Gledson, Delnadamph
Ralph Green, Inverurie AA
Fred Hay, Keithhall Fishings
Calum Hislop
Alastair Hume, ADAA
Jim Kerr, Don DSFB
David Littlewood, Kildrummy
Richard Marsh, Bellabeg
Sam Martin, Inverurie AA & River Don Trust
Stuart Mathewson, Alford
Mike Maughan, Kemnay House Beat 4
Stephen Murphy, Don DSFB
Dan Newcombe, Ardhuncart, Brux, Tillypronie
Alec Paterson, ADAA
Ian Paterson, Alford
William Paton, Grandhome
Frances Russell, Moonhaugh, Bandley, Waterside
Brian Shand, Aberdeenshire Council
James Stevenson, Don DSFB
Jamie Urquhart, Kemnay AC

In Attendance; Mark Bilsby, River Director
Lorraine Hawkins, River Dee Trust
Carol Mair, (Minutes Secretary)
Edwin Third, River Operations Manager

Apologies; James Herbertson, Simon Hicks

Final Triennial minutes 24th October 2016
1. **Apologies and Introductions**

Mr Davison welcomed everyone and introduced himself as Chairman to the Don DSFB. He introduced the other people at the top table;

- George Alpine – Clerk of the Don DSFB
- Mark Bilsby – River Director
- Edwin Third – River Operations Manager
- Lorraine Hawkins – River Dee Trust Manager
- Carol Mair – Administration

Apologies as tabled above.

2. **Minutes and matters arising from meetings held on 22nd October 2015 and 24th October 2013**

The minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting and 2013 Triennial Meeting, having been circulated previously, were accepted as correct.

As there were no matters arising their approval was proposed by Alec Paterson and seconded by David Littlewood for 22nd October 2015 and proposed by Robert Dey and seconded by Alastair Hume, for the 24th October 2013.

3. **Chairman’s Report**

Mr Davison presented a report on the Don DSFB – Presentation

4. **Approval of the Annual Statutory report**

Mr Davison referred to the Annual Accounts, which had been previously circulated and approved by the Board, and asked the qualified proprietors for questions.

Comments were made regarding the debtors and the collection of these monies. Mark Bilsby advised that this was the first year of the Service Level Agreement and steps had now been put in place to pursue the outstanding amounts through legal procedures to ensure monies were received by the end of the financial year. The accounts were approved.

A presentation on the activities undertaken by the Trust and Board was given, a copy can be found at Presentation

There was a question and answer session on The Annual Statutory Report.

The Annual Statutory Report was nominated for approval by Alastair Hume, seconded by Richard Fyffe and approved by the meeting.

5. **2017 Season**

a. **Assessment 2017**

The Don DSFB had discussed the finances required to run the River for the next year and had agreed to set the assessment at the same level as last year. Assessment notices had been issued accordingly. It was noted that the Board would aim to keep the assessment level the same for the next two years.

The allowance of three months to pay before interest being added was queried but it was pointed out this was to give time for proprietors to gain income from the beats with which to pay the assessment.

b. **Conservation code**

The Conservation code has been updated to reflect the new legislation.
Item C is in addition to last year and highlights the importance of catch returns being completed and sent to the River Office.

There were no questions on the conservation code for 2017 and it was approved.

6. **Wild Fisheries Reform**

2016 AGM presentation – Wild Fisheries Reform

*Presentation*

There was a question and answer session on the Wild Fisheries Reform.

7. **Triennial Election**

George Alpine, Clerk to the Don DSFB, presented the names of the eight individuals nominated and seconded. The outgoing Board had recommended there be nine members but no other individuals had been nominated and seconded. Fred Hay, who had been nominated only, expressed interest in being on the Board and George Alpine asked for a seconder. Alastair Hume seconded the nomination.

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<th>Lower proprietors;</th>
<th>George Clerk</th>
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<td>Upper proprietors</td>
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Mr Alpine asked if the members agreed to these appointments. Proposed by Jamie Urquhart and seconded by Lord Forbes. All approved the appointments.

8. **AOB**

Lord Forbes asked if the member of Parliament for the fisheries reform was knowledgeable in fishery matters. Mark Bilsby confirmed that we were awaiting a response on how the Cabinet Secretary intended to take forward the reform process.

All matters covered, Mr Davison called the meeting to a close.

Richard Fyffe asked for a show of thanks to Mr Davison for his last six years in his role of chairman. This was agreed by all.

Signed:  
**George Alpine**  
Clerk to the Don District Salmon Fishery Board

Final Triennial minutes 24th October 2016