

Nith Catchment Fishery Trust Annual General Meeting 2012

7.30pm Monday 12th March 2012

Thornhill Inn, Thornhill

Present

Tom Florey – NCFT Chairman
John Charteris - Director
Alan Bryden - Director
Jim Henderson – Director
Brian Lord - Director
Jim McKie - Director
Peter Hutchison - Director
Robbie Cowan
Simon Duffin
David Landale
Gordon MacGregor
David McMichael
Claire Matthews
David Matthews
Robert Shaw – New Cumnock Angling Association
Derek Hill– New Cumnock Angling Association
Andy Edgar
Dougie Smith
Geoff Walter – Closeburn Castle Fishings
Matt Walker – The Grayling Society
Alex Saville – Dumfries Burgh Anglers Association
Simon Hunter – Dumfries Burgh Anglers Association
Stuart Graham – SNH (Advisory capacity)
Tony Lightley – Forestry Commission (Advisory)

In attendance

Debbie Parke (DP) - Biologist

Apologies

Benjamin Weatherall
Sophy Weatherall
Beauchamp Blakett
Bob Perrett
Maggie Gordon
Robert Schiller
Ronald Clark - Director

1. Minutes of previous AGM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on meeting held on the 27th January 2011 were taken as a true and accurate account.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes

Gordon McGregor enquired if the schools project was commencing. DP answered that yes it was and that grants had been applied for to raise funds to be able to continue. The Chairman stated the importance of education and that the NCFT and Board must continue with children's education programmes. It was important to ensure that anyone working with children were vetted and had their Disclosure Scotland.

3. Presentation of Annual Report

The Chairman went through the annual report and informed the members of the work carried out by the Trust during 2011.

4. Presentation of Accounts

The Chairman presented the accounts for the period January 2011 to December 2011 to the members present and stated that it had been another good year for the Trust. Comments were invited.

5. Adoption of Accounts

The Chairman requested that the accounts were adopted. Alan Bryden proposed the motion and it was seconded by John Charteris.

6. Trust management Structure and Voting Procedure

The Fishery Biologist explained the constitution of the Trust to the members present, stating that there can be up to ten directors for the Trust and that 1/3 of the directors have to retire every year. This year a total of two directors were required to step down and that Roy Green wished to retire and not be considered for re-election and that Jim McKie was prepared to step down but wished to be considered for re-election. It had been agreed by the Directors that nine Directors in total could be elected as this would allow the Directors of the Trust to co-opt a specialist during the course of the year if the Trust had need for specific skills. This meant that two directors were to be voted on.

Prior to the AGM, members had been asked to put their name forward if they wished to be considered as a director. The following members wished to be considered and were asked to say a little about themselves, or if not present for a representative to speak for them:

- Captain Beauchamp Blackett
- Simon Duffin
- Claire Matthews
- Alex Saville
- Robert Schiller

DP explained the voting procedure, voting forms were collected and votes counted by the Chairman and James Henderson.

The Chairman explained that all office bearers must be re-elected every year and that he would be standing down as Chairman at the end of the AGM. The Chairman explained that he had also retired as Chairman for the NDSFB and the Percy Weatherall was the new NDSFB Chairman. Percy Weatherall would be a NDSFB co-opted director of the Trust in Thomas's place. James Henderson thanked the Chairman for his services to the Trust and that he had been instrumental in the formation of the Trust. The Chairman was presented with a bottle of whiskey as a token of thanks for all of the work he had put into the Trust.

7. Biologist's presentation – The future direction of the Trust

The Trust Biologist, Debbie Parke, gave a presentation outlining the structure of the Trust, the different facets of its work and what the future may hold in store.

Questions were invited from the floor and a number were received including the benefits of installing a fish counter on the Nith, the potential implications of a commercial crayfish farm becoming established in Loch Ken and what was the Trust doing to host a grayling event.

8. Election of Directors

The Chairman announced the new Directors of the Trust. They are (in no particular order);

- Robert Schiller
- Jim McKie – New Cumnock Anglers Association

9. Any Other Competent Business

There was no other competent business.

10. Closing Remarks

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.05 and thanked everyone for attending. The Chairman requested a quick Directors meeting.