

**MINUTES FOR THE AGM
HELD ON SATURDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT 10.00AM
AT MACBI COMMUNITY HUB, MINTLAW**

Attended:

James Abel, Lee Adams, Steve Aylwin, Hugh Baxter, Mike Weatherby-Boon, Dave Brough, Jim Buchan, (Treasurer), Ian Christie, David Cook, James Cook, Paul Conlane, Bill Crawford, Alfie Davidson, Ali Donald, Di Faithfull, (Secretary), Steve Faithfull, Colin Grieve, Mike Kimber, Alan Leel, John Lewis, John Mackenzie, Martin Macdonald, Jack Mackenzie, John Masterton, Kenny Mclemnan, George Murphy, Alan Norrie, Alan Rennie, Victor Retalic, Eric Richardson, Andrew Robertson, Charlie Russell, Ewan Russell, Peter Scott, Kenny Shuttleton, (Chairman), John Steven, Dave Smeaton, James Taylor, Andy & Connie Thomson, Frank Thrall, Ann & Alan Watson, John Watt

Apologies Received:

Steven Chalmers, Brian Copland, Kenny Johnston, Alan Kavanagh, Alexander Noble, Chris Stretton

Item No	Item	Action
1	Chairman's Welcome	
	Kenny Shuttleton, Chairman opened the meeting and thanked those members present for attending the club's 5 th AGM.	
2	Apologies	
	Di Faithfull said she had received several apologies and these will be listed in the minutes as above.	
3	Presentation of Watson Cup	
	Ann Watson kindly presented the trophy to the winner of the Watson Cup, Frank Thrall. Photos were taken to be put in the paper at a later date. Frank's prize is free membership for a year. Kenny felt that the competition was perhaps too long without a break and next year there will be one. Alan Leel suggested a BBQ but this is too much to arrange on top of the fishing competition. Perhaps sandwiches supplied by Saplinbrae Hotel might be a better idea as they are letting the club use their access road. A family day could be organised instead at another time if members want this The other previous winners were presented with a small trophy to keep, (as the big trophy gets handed on every year), except for Graham Allen who was not present. A photo was taken of this.	Kenny Shuttleton
4	Approval of and Matters Arising From the Extraordinary AGM Minutes of 28th February 2015.	
	There were no matters arising to be discussed at this meeting. The minutes were proposed by Hugh Baxter as an accurate account and seconded by Ewan Russell.	

5	Chairman's Annual Report	
	<p>Kenny Shuttleton read through the Chairman's Annual Report, which everyone received either by email or post. Should any member not have received it then please contact Di Faithfull. Rather than duplicate this I will only add anything that is not already stated in the report, which will be sent out again with the minutes.</p> <p>Kenny wished to thank the committee and club members who have helped throughout the year and donated their time and maintenance materials. Di was given a voucher for her role as secretary and thanked everyone present.</p> <p>Kenny felt that the Adult/Child membership for £30 a year was a cheap way to take a child fishing, and not necessarily the same child, throughout the year, and is what the club is all about, i.e. promoting fishing.</p> <p>Kenny stated that there had been a proposal at last year's AGM to increase the standard membership by £50 from £130 to £180 but that this would be voted on after the Treasurer's report.</p> <p>Kenny mentioned vandalism and this is as per his report.</p> <p>Kenny stated that the lake had in general fished very well. 1900 fish had been caught with 152 being kept. However, since Jan/Feb this year only about 14/15 been caught due to the water being very coloured due to work on the east end of the lake which is still affecting the colour of the water and there has also been the issue of cormorants. There have been 8 stockings this year with 2,000 fish going in and 151 brownies. Since 2011 there have been 7,200 fish stocked. Please ensure that the brownies are returned.</p> <p>Argulus has not been such an issue this year due to the stocking policy although it may run on a 3-5 years cycle.</p> <p>Kenny explained about the maintenance of boats, weed cutting and maintenance of the lake as per his report.</p> <p>Since last AGM the Saplinbrae Hotel has new owners, Noel and Joanna Gall. They have allowed continued access through their car park and we wish them all the best in their new venture.</p> <p>Kenny spoke about the 7 dead swans. The SSPCA are involved and suspect pneumonia. Ian Christie stated that swans can be territorial and fight each other. Kenny reminded everyone that a swan had been found with fishing nylon down its throat and chest feathers. This was not what killed the swan but nevertheless should not happen if anglers take their nylon home with them.</p>	

	Kenny finished up thanking everyone for joining the club and felt that the club is in a good position to move in to the next season, 2016-2017.	
6	Treasurer's Report	
	Jim Buchan reported that the balance at 24 th Feb 2015 was £6244.99 and the balance as of 27 th Feb 2016 is £5960.62. Income was just over £12,000 in membership fees and day tickets. There were 90 adult members and 7 junior members. The main expenditure was £8,000 stocking fish and £3,600 for the lease of the lake and £287.95 for insurance. Jim felt that the accounts were very healthy.	
7	Proposed of Membership Fees	
	Kenny felt after the Treasurer's report that there is no real need to increase the membership fees. James Abel decided to withdraw this proposal. The main expenditure is on stocking and at times due to the temperature it is difficult to get stockings in. John Lewis noted that it might be best to put fewer but larger stockings in to combat this.	
8	AOCB	
	<p>Insurance Kenny wanted to point out that with Mead Insurance, the club's insurers, you are covered anywhere in the world for bank fishing but only in the UK for boat fishing.</p> <p>Cormorants Bill Crawford had raised the issue of the 15-20 cormorants eating fish at the lake in an email to the committee. Kenny has looked into this and there are a number of things which can be done before you can get a licence from the Scottish Natural Heritage agency before you can shoot them. One suggestion is bird scarers but there are two houses nearby and they are very noisy. Another suggestion is cut down the trees where they roost and make the place unappealing to them. This will have to be discussed with Alan and Hamish. Stock management, i.e. put in bigger fish so they aren't so easy to take. Fish refuges built of deer fencing coiled into 3 or 4 tubes where the fish can hide when chased. This is also an inexpensive option. Buoys would mark where they are so people know to avoid them. Only when everything has been tried can you get a licence to shoot them. Even then if you shoot two then another two cormorants usually come to replace them.</p> <p>Scottish Week Elaine Cay had asked the committee if we would be interested in an open day during Scottish Week. However, they have decided to use the breakwater in Peterhead instead. There is the possibility of doing something at the weekend. Kenny will look into the insurance cover to see if this is possible and then will ask members</p>	Kenny

	<p>if they are willing to take part in this or not. Someone thought it might open the flood gates to other organisations like Mintlaw Gala, etc.</p> <p>Emails sent when lake stocked James Abel wondered why the emails had stopped re informing members when lake is being stocked. Kenny explained there had been rumours that when this had been done in the past people were going up at night and netting the fish. Now if there is a stocking it will be put up in the Bothy just for members to see.</p> <p>Heating for colder months James Abel wondered if a bottle of gas could be put in for the colder months. Kenny wasn't sure due to vandalism and people breaking in. James suggested a cage to keep the bottle secure. Kenny said there is no cooker now as it was returned to the person who owned it and the cups were removed as they were filthy and a health hazard.</p> <p>Parking Ian Christie wondered if people would not park near the Bothy but unload and then park their car in the car park.</p> <p>Remote control yachts Connie wondered if they could be used on the lake. Steve Faithfull said that it wasn't possible due to the possible introduction of argulus or other things into the lake. A kayak uses the lake but only Pitfour lake otherwise it wouldn't be able to go in either.</p> <p>Adult/Carer Ticket There was discussion re an adult/carer ticket and Alan Leel proposed that this should be introduced at £30 pa and was seconded by James Abel. This will be for catch and release fishing only. Issue of this will be at the committee's discretion.</p>	Kenny
9	Date of Next AGM	
	Saturday, 25 th February 2017 – venue and time to be confirmed nearer the time.	Di Faithfull