

FINDHORN BAY LOCAL NATURE RESERVE (FBLNR)

MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD IN THE JAMES MILNE INSTITUTE, FINDHORN AT 1900HRS ON

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 2018

Committee members present:

Mo Hyde (MH) - Vice Chair, also representing Findhorn Heritage

Simon Paterson (SP) - Treasurer

Mike Crutch (MC) - Secretary

Bill Barber (WB), Findhorn Angling Club

Colin Bell (CB), The Moray Council (TMC)

Glenn Buchanan (GB), Royal Findhorn Yacht Club

Karen Cunningham (KC), RSPB

Claire Feaver (CF), The Moray Council

Pete Finch (PF), Findhorn Foundation

Manja Hannon (MaH), Friends of Findhorn Bay

Jen Heatley (JH), SNH

Bob MacKay (RM), FNDWA

Dr Colin Shedden (CS), BASC

Ian Suttie (IS), nature conservation/ornithology

Davina Thomas (DT), Findhorn Village Centre

Carl Wright (CW), Dyke & Landward Community Council

Apologies: Roy Dennis, Richard Somers-Cocks

1. Welcome

MH welcomed all for attending.

2. Minutes of the AGM 2017

The minutes were accepted - proposed by CF, seconded by JH.

3. Chairman's Annual Report 2017-2018

MH read from the following written report, supplied by Roy Dennis prior to the meeting:

Bird counts: *the bay remains an important location for birds; peak counts during the past winter were pink-footed goose (16139 Oct, still 11360 in Jan); greylag goose (influx 2400 mid Dec); shelduck (199 Dec); mallard (344 Jan), wigeon (4100 Oct), pintail (454 Dec), oystercatcher (1381 Dec), golden plover (426 Nov), knot (4000 Feb), dunlin (1520 Dec), curlew (419 Oct) and redshank (944 Sep)*

Website: *the reserve website has been up and running all year and Richard Somers Cocks has maintained and improved it to a high standard.*

Information Boards: *the new information boards were erected around the LNR and are a credit to Richard, Ian, Pat and Glenn, who worked hard on the project. They have been very well received by the public.*

Membership: *Simon Paterson took over as honorary treasurer, and Manja Hannon replaced Lisa Mead, Carl Wright replaced David Shaw. Our sincere thanks to David and Lisa. I am very grateful to Mike Crutch, as honorary secretary, for keeping all the admin up to date.*

Bird Hide: *Pete Finch organised the repair and painting of the bird hide, and we are very grateful to him and volunteers for their good work.*

Tern Raft: *Simon Paterson built the tern raft for free to my design, and it is due to be deployed in the bay in the next couple of weeks.*

Wildfowling. *Disappointedly, I have to report that attempts to bring peace to the fraught situation over wildfowling in the bay failed. A workable permit system was set up on the website, agreed by Moray Council and the LNR, but only a small number of people applied for permits which were issued free. Despite a plea to cease wildfowling in Kinloss Bay after the autumn goose season, this was generally ignored. Additional notices placed in Kinloss Bay did not improve the situation, and there were repeated cases of visitors shooting above the agreed tidal demarcation. This brought protestors into the mix and the police attended on several occasions. The issue of discarded plastic wadding from shotgun cartridges was highlighted and in view of international concern over plastic pollution this must be discontinued. All parties have been invited to submit their views to Moray Council. The LNR committee are certain that byelaws are urgently required. Views sent to the FBLNRMC will be passed on to Moray Council.*

Thanks to all members for supporting and helping with the LNR in a difficult year.

4. Treasurer's Annual Report

SP presented the accounts to 31 March 2018 (shown at Appendix 'A') - with the change in 2017 to the date of the AGM (previously held in June), accounts to 31 March will be audited and minuted accordingly at the next meeting of the FBLNR Management Committee.

5. Election of officers

Roy Dennis was elected *in absentia* as Chairman, proposed by MH and seconded by DT. Mo Hyde was elected as Vice Chair, proposed by IS and seconded by CS.

6. Any other business

None noted. The meeting was then brought to a close.

prepared by Mike Crutch, Secretary FBLNR MC

Appendix A

Findhorn Bay Local Nature Reserve Management Committee

Receipts and payment Accounts for the Year ending March 2018 (incomplete)

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Simon Paterson (petty cash)	£189.73	Cheque	Wildfowling Permits
		WP Forms Website (£35)	Wildfowling Permits
		Ian Hampson	Notice Boards
		Glen Buchanan	Notice Boards
		Simon Paterson (petty cash)	£35.01 Cash
			£29.47 Cash
			£41.57 Cash
			£88.76 Cash
			£189.73 Cheque
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£189.73</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£385.91</u>
Surplus of payments over receipts	£195.81		

<u>Opening Balance</u>		<u>Balance Sheet</u>		<u>Closing Balance</u>	
Bank of Scotland	£908.41	Bank of Scotland	unconfirmed	Bank of Scotland	£718.58
Petty Cash	£5.08	Petty Cash		Petty Cash	£0.00
		Surplus of payments over receipts			£195.81
		<u>£914.49</u>		<u>£914.49</u>	

Simon Paterson
Hon Treasurer