

**SALMON & TROUT ASSOCIATION
BRISTOL & WEST BRANCH**

Minutes of Committee Meeting on April 11th 2016 at The Stoke Inn, Chew Stoke.

1. Present:

Alfred Pope (AP) Chairman
John West (JW) Treasurer
Brian Kick (BK)
Mike Hobbs (MH)
Malcolm Fisher (MF)
Roy Buckland (RB)
Nick Mitchell (NM) President
Malcolm Bond (MB) Secretary

Also in attendance: Jenny West (JVRW) Minuting Secretary

2. Apologies

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

AP signed the Minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

S & TC Head Office

JW circulated the response from Debbie Creasey re public liability insurance to the committee. The S & TC cover

- (i) Events undertaken in their name
- (ii) Individual members whilst fishing

RB confirmed that he has a copy of the event insurance to display at the shows and Junior Coaching.

RB continues to speak to Debbie Creasey at Head Office re Game Fairs and is in conversation with Dean Asplin from Angling Trust.

5. Water Resources Officer's Report

Nothing to report.

6. Branch Programme

General – RB reiterated that HQ had no interest in the branches. He could not get any merchandise from HQ who had only supplied membership leaflets and old magazines. Consequently he spoke to Dean Asplin (Angling Trust) about promotion and support who supplied him with some material.

Junior Coaching – Bristol Water have agreed that this can be run as a Father/Son event although adults on their own would be admitted. Adults to pay £10 to go to Bristol Water and Juniors £5 which we

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would retain. Bristol Water raised a concern that we would migrate into coaching for adults but we stated that there only 5 sessions involved and we would not take on any other adult coaching through the year.

The Angling Trust were promoting the Junior Course both on their website and circulating schools through the Sports Council. A meeting has been arranged between RB and Dean Asplin on 27/4/16. The EA give money to the Angling Trust for environmental issues.

ACTION: JW to contact Jody Armitage to see if the EA would promote the Junior Coaching Course.

This instigated a discussion on the fact that the EA were not prosecuting farmers over the Willow Brook incident but the farmers had given money to the Rivers Trust for restoration projects. BART have accepted money in one case and some clubs perceive BART to be in cohorts with the EA because of this. NM also stated that some water companies do a lot of work educating farmers.

The situation with S&TC was again discussed at length and also our relationship with the Angling Trust. The Angling Trust have the ear of government and the question was asked “why pay money to S&TC?” Insurance seems to be the only benefit. The S&TC had the opportunity to join forces with the Angling Trust but chose to become a campaigning organization eg west coast salmon farms and the threat of judicial review.

It was agreed to invite Paul Knight to a Branch Meeting.

ACTION: AP/JW to draft a note to Paul Knight with regard to their current take on membership and its benefits, This should be followed up with a meeting with Paul. Draft to be circulated to Committee.

Royal Bath & West Show – MF, RB and BK to help. Colin Linge will also help. MH may be able to help. AP will check to see if Paul Reddish can help.

RB will seek help from Dean Asplin and Rod Hughes.

ACTION: MB to see if West Wilts & Bybrook can help.

There will be a joint stand with the Angling Trust with the usual ring demonstrations and presence in the “meet the expert” area.

Member’s Day – 2/10/16. It was agreed to keep Ealaine for supper and this has now been booked. JW has confirmed the booking of the boats. The letter will go to members by email.

Annual Dinner –September 23rd at Cameley Lodge. NM confirmed this had been booked.

ACTION: NM to confirm with Cameley Lodge.

7. Treasurer's Report

Expenditure

Angling Trust membership	£60	
Newsletter & printing	£65	(most sent by email)
West Country Game Fair	£87.60	(electrics)
Howard (web site)	£30	(whisky)

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Domain Host for new website	£35.86
AGM	£56.39
Income	
AGM	£128.00 (Lunch)
AGM Raffle	£60
Current Account	£3480.18
Income/Expenditure a/c	£2498.63
JH-G Junior a/c	£981.55

8. Website

JVRW explained that the domain name had been retained and transferred to a new host. A new but basic website had been developed that retained the newsletter and a calendar of events.

The question was raised as to what the website achieves.

It was decided to monitor the situation before making a final decision at the December meeting about the future of the website.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Monday August 1st 2016 at 7.45 at The Stoke Inn, Chew Stoke preceded by dinner at 7pm.