

# **Liskeard and District Angling Club**

## **Annual General Meeting**

**2012**

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting, held at Liskeard Constitutional Club, was called to order at 19.30hrs on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012, with R Williams (Vice Chair) and A White presiding.

### **2. Members not in Attendance**

Apologies for absence from N White, V Chambers, G Tucker, B Kirkpatrick, J Evans, D Lown, D Ross, A Davey, D Dinnis and K Hitchens

### **3. Approval of 2011 AGM minutes**

Following review a motion was made by R Williams to approve the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011 AGM meeting. **Motion carried**

### **4. Matters Arising from (2011) AGM Minutes**

- i) The minutes were corrected to name N Lintott as Chair of the Hatcheries Committee.
- ii) V Lamb was congratulated on his efforts in organizing the successful fly tying event.
- iii) The referred pollution incident was still under investigation by the EA.

### **5. Officers' Reports**

#### **i) Chairman (N White)**

In the absence of the Chairman, the V Chair, R Williams provided a brief review of the season, citing low water as the reason for difficult fishing. Restormel counter numbers were not significantly lower than previous years and it was hoped that the 2012 season would show an improvement.

Catch and release and club limits were discussed and members were reminded that club policy must be adhered to at all times. A reminder of all limits and policies would be sent to members this year.

## **ACTION ITEM 1: Committee to communicate to members**

### **ii) Secretary (V Chambers)**

In the absence of the Secretary no Secretary report was presented.

R Williams announced that V Chambers would be stepping down from the position due to work commitments and that a new Secretary would be elected at the AGM.

### **iii) Treasurer (T Sobey)**

The Treasurer reviewed the statement of income and expenditure to 31.12.11 and illustrated that the club finances were in good order.

As a result the 2012 subscriptions were to be held at 2011 levels. It was noted however that inflation increases would generally require annual rises.

Membership levels were good; at 249 (club limit of 250) comprising 225 full, 15 junior and 9 life members.

In response to a question from M Hocking regarding the low interest received on bank deposits the Committee agreed to review options for increasing interest revenue in 2012.

## **ACTION 2: Treasurer to investigate**

### **iv) Auditor (J Shearsmith)**

The Club auditor recommended the accounts for approval and commended the Treasurer.

**The approval of the accounts was proposed by C Bryant and seconded by D Johns. Approved unanimously.**

## **6. Other Reports**

### **i) Hatcheries/FRA**

a) A White reviewed performance on the Lynher hatchery and indicated that current operations were satisfactory and sustainable. However, a shortage of cock fish for brood-stock was reported for the 2011 season.

Members were advised that the 2011 returns indicated that the club

had exceeded the DEFRA 66% return rate for the first time in 3 years on the Lynher. This was encouraging and needed to be sustained.

b) R Grieve reviewed performance on the Fowey (Wainsford) hatchery and indicated that in 2011 the hatchery had, for the first time, introduced fry not just into the Fowey but also into all of its major as well as some lesser tributaries.

However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the hatchery was unable to continue at the Wainsford location and in late 2011 equipment was removed to a secure storage location on the Boconnoc estate.

c) R Grieve then reviewed FRA activity for 2011, concentrating on issues pertaining to options for relocation of the Wainsford hatchery (ongoing). Other South West Water (SWW) funded studies (St Neot mitigation and walk over surveys), the Westcountry River Trust (WRT) fry surveys and a riparian owners data base were discussed as part of the FRA efforts to i) mitigate the closure of the hatchery on the river system and ii) to improve habitat.

Members were reminded that the FRA AGM was scheduled for 18.4.12 at the Stable Block, Boconnoc Estate and that attendance was open to all.

## **ii) Head Warden**

R Williams expressed satisfaction at the excellent support for the ongoing gravel work in the Draynes area and encouraged all members to participate fully in these Sunday working parties.

Sand incursion in the Draynes was discussed. The consensus (supported by the EA) was that it was a natural occurrence and that as most redds in the Draynes were for sea trout the impact may not be as severe as originally thought.

Bank clearance working party dates for 2012 were discussed and members were encouraged to participate fully in improving their own fishing.

## **iii) Web Site Manager**

R Grieve updated members on the website content and encouraged members to fully utilize the site for downloading forms and maps of beats.

Following discussion it was anticipated that the website and email communication would become increasingly used by the Committee to communicate with members as this would reduce costs and allow more timely communication.

R Williams thanked R Grieve for his continued efforts in supporting the website.

## **7. Election of Officers**

### i) Chairman

A White (President) presided over the election of the position of Chairman. With the need for a new Chairman the committee proposed to members that R Williams be elected as Chairman. With no other nominations from the floor the proposal, seconded by W Elliott, was supported. No objections.

*R. Williams duly elected as Chairman.*

R Williams presided over the election of other officers in the club

### ii) Vice Chairman

T Sobey proposed that N White be elected as Vice Chairman. With no further nominations the proposal, seconded by G Hake, was supported. No objections.

*N. White duly elected as Vice Chairman*

### iv) Secretary

With the need for a new Secretary R Williams proposed P Jordan be elected as Secretary. With no further nominations the proposal, seconded by P Mugridge, was supported. No objections

*P. Jordan duly elected as Secretary.*

### v) Treasurer

T Sobey stood for re-election and was proposed by G Hake. With no further nominations the proposal, seconded by P Mugridge, was supported. No objections.

*T Sobey duly re-elected as Treasurer.*

## 8. Election of Committee Members

With all but three Committee members standing for re-election nominations were sought from the floor. Three nominations were received

D White: proposed by T Sobey, seconded by D Johns

B Dean: proposed by D Johns, seconded by T Sobey

C Bryant: proposed by V Lamb, seconded by D Johns

R Williams therefore proposed re-election of existing committee members and the three new candidates. No objections.

*Committee duly elected.*

## 9. Presentation of trophies

A single nomination for the new Lynher trophy was received. A White proposed that it be awarded to G Hake for services to the Lynher hatchery. Unanimously approved and awarded.

No nominations were received for best brown trout, best sea trout or best salmon. The trophies were not awarded for 2011 season.

**ACTION 3: Committee to develop a more robust trophy award process.**

## 10. Any Other Business

i) Whilst the club has lost access to a short stretch upstream from Pillaton Bridge, P Mugridge advised members of the acquisition of 2 beats on the Lynher for the 2012 season. Changes are now included on updated beat maps available on the club website.

a) Kingfisher Beat. From Pillaton Bridge, downstream RHB, 1 field. To be designated as beat 16A with the specific need to provide riparian owner with an annual catch return. Access from Dogleg Pool or Pillaton Bridge. New signage would be placed to indicate the beat extent.

**ACTION 4: Committee to add beat to Catch Return form**

b) Parsons Meadow (incorporated into and now part of Beat 11). No signage. Access from pub or at top of hill.

The Chairman expressed thanks to P Mugridge and G Hake for

their efforts in securing the new leases.

- ii) P Mugridge expressed ongoing disappointment over the take-up by volunteers for bank clearance. He suggested that the Committee consider an incentive programme for members; earning credits for work. Credits could be used to enable members to bring a guest onto club waters for a day of fishing.

### **ACTION 5: Committee to discuss**

## **11. Guest Speakers**

- i) D Chapman (WRT) provided an overview of the activities of the WRT. Specific reference was made for the need to gather additional data for their ongoing AARC (Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation) study into the genetic typing of sea trout and brown trout. Copies of the magazine, confluence and scale collecting packs were made available to interested members. Further details are available on their website [www.wrt.org.uk](http://www.wrt.org.uk)
- ii) Simon Toms EA (Environment Agency) provided an overview of the Fowey fish stocks. 2011 Restormel count figures indicated that whilst fish numbers were the third highest since 1995 angling efforts had resulted in fewer fish caught than the previous season. There was an observed drop in salmon numbers during the August to October period; a trend has reported countrywide. Reasons for these observations were being studied and may be related to sea feeding grounds, migration or a cyclical effect between grilse and multi year winter fish. The issue received debate from the membership.

The EA were encouraged by the catch and release efforts for anglers in the Lynher and Fowey and thanked members for their support in sustaining stocks.

The EA remains supportive of ensuring sustainability of salmon stocks in the St Neot and is working closely with SWW and FRA to mitigate the effects of Colliford Lake on the catchment area. Discussion took place regarding the impact of sand on redds and artificially raising water levels.

Enforcement and poaching remain a significant problem in the catchment area and the EA encourages anglers to immediately report any suspicious activity. Members were

advised not to approach suspected poachers themselves.

Both guest speakers were thanked for their interesting talks.

In closing, the Chairman reminded the members of the need for conservation on our waters and closed the AGM at 21.50hrs.

The AGM was followed by a successful club raffle organised by V Lamb.