

MINUTES

Of the Board Meeting
of the River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board
Held
at The Macmillan Hall, Newton Stewart
on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 5.30 pm

Introductory Notes

- (a) Due to an unfortunate illness affecting a member of the Belted Galloway's proprietor's family, the meeting was hastily rearranged to take place at the Macmillan Hall. The Board wanted to express their sincere sympathy to the family and want them to know our thoughts are with them.
- (b) The meeting had been scheduled to take place on 24th September 2025 (see Minutes of 31st July 2025) but this transpired to be inconvenient to too many Board members and accordingly it was changed to 8th October 2025

Present

- Board Members/Mandatories

Jamie Hyslop – in the Chair

Murdo Crosbie

Terence Flanagan

Norrie McIntosh

Adrian Paterson

- Attendee

Matthew Pumphrey (Clerk and Treasurer)

(1) Apologies for Absence

Lindsay McKain & Steve Smith. Absent: Gene Fryatt & Iain Service

(2) Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting on 31st July 2025

These were **approved** without demur.

(3) Matters arising from the previous Minutes

There was nothing else arising which was not on the Agenda.

(4) Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that all the relevant proprietors had given their consent to the Broodstock licenses apart from Glentrool Estates. He hoped and expected Glentrool to give their consent. The season had been just-above average which, given the adverse fishing conditions prevailing for much of the season and reduced catches over the UK as a whole, was a good result

(5) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that last year's accounts had been prepared by Montpelier and had been circulated for approval. They were duly **approved** without demur. Given that the 2 non-paying "proprietors" in Ayrshire were now considered to be off the Roll of Proprietors, all other proprietors

had paid their levy with the exception of Andrew Stewart who would pay the balance of his levy of £1000 in November. It was **agreed** that the Treasurer should write a polite email to him to ask him to pay his whole levy when due, to ensure consistency with other proprietors and for cash-flow purposes.

The Treasurer had also circulated an email from Louise Adams of the D&G Assessor's office about the Revaluation due in 2026. The unanimous view was that there was no advantage to the Board in having a Revaluation and accordingly it was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to Louise to say that a Revaluation was neither required nor desired.

(6) Insurance

The Treasurer had been in touch with his opposite number on the Nith Board who had, in turn, referred him to a firm in Haddington. The firm involved, however, dealt with risk assessments for insurance purposes but did not offer insurance as such. After some discussion as to what exactly needed to be covered (given that Employers' liability cover was mandatory), the Chairman agreed to consult with Howden Skimming (Insurance Broker) and report back.

(7) Flood Prevention Scheme

The Chairman reported that Michael Smith of DGC had advised that there would be a meeting in GFT's offices on 16th October 2025 to discuss the EIA which now had to be done as a result of the Board having been accepted as being a Consultative Body and the Board requesting an EIA. Habitats and aquatic ecology and the effects of scour would be on the agenda. The Chairman and Terence Flanagan would attend on behalf of the Board.

(8) GFT Report

Jamie Ribbens had sent in two reports since the last meeting, the first one covering the period up to the last meeting and the second one for the current period. The first was duly acknowledged. The Chairman said that the question of acidification was of considerable interest with which pronouncement the Board agreed. The chairman recommended the board members read the paper produced by GFT regarding acidification works and the link for which was in Jamie Ribbens email and report

The chairman also felt that the peatland restoration programme outlined in the (second) GFT report was interesting

(9) RCHHT Report

Mr Crosbie said that all the autumn fry had been fin clipped. There had been about 30,000 fry. He and Michael Todd had sprayed the Japanese Knotweed. 50 litres had been used. The Knotweed had been particularly bad on the island below the Cree bridge.

The final bug survey of the year has been completed by Murdo and the volunteers. The results have disclosed that there had been quite different insects during different months of the year.

Electrofishing had been going on in various places for parr and fry and the results had been recorded. A student from London had spent a week on the Cree training for his degree to become a marine biologist and he seemed to have enjoyed the experience.

School visits would start in November.

(10) Arrangements for AGM

It was agreed that the APM & AMP should take place on Wednesday 26th November at 6.00pm at The Belted Galloway subject to their being able to accommodate the AGM.

(11) Date of next meeting

To be arranged

(12) Any Other Business

Andrew Stewart had proposed a “No kill in September”. This would be discussed at the next Board Meeting in the context of the Conservation Code.

The meeting closed at 6.30 pm

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Chairman