

The Annual General Meeting of the Fowey Rivers Association was held on Wednesday 10th April 2019 at Boconnoc

Present

Bill Smith (Chairman)

Dave Chapman

Jon Hake

Jeff Pearce

Nigel White

Paul Jordan (Treasurer)

Jason Drew

Matt L'Estrange

Adam Price

Ben Gallant

Chris Marwood

Jonathan Price

Apologies

Roger Brake

Alan Hawken

Trevor Sobey

Jon Evans

Claire Hoddinott

David White

Roger Furniss

John Tisdale

1. Minutes of the 2018 AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 11th April 2018 were agreed.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising not covered in the agenda.

3. Chairman's report

1. 2018 had been a difficult year on the river, with no counter data due to the low flows. Fishing effort had generally been down. No catch data was available as yet despite repeated attempts to obtain it from the EA.
2. WRT had again undertaken a fry survey and this had shown the best results for 6 years. Both salmon and trout fry numbers were up. Of particular interest was that good salmon numbers were again present in the Cardinham following the removal of the large trash dam by the Forestry Commission. Fry were also found above Ladyvale bridge for the first time, vindicating the easement work carried out by WRT below the bridge.
3. 2018 was a successful year for the hatchery. 40,000 juveniles were stocked out at several sites along the St Neot in late September. 10,000 of these were fin clipped. Earlier releases were not possible due to the sustained high flows from Colliford releases. Broodstock had been collected by December 15th. The first hen fish was stripped on November 14th and the last on January 21st. Water temperature had been good and 43,000 eggs laid down. Egg survival has been high and the last have just hatched. Thanks to Richard Grieve, John Hake and all the hatchery volunteers for all their continuing efforts and commitment.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported on the company (FRAL) and the association (FRA)

FRA (Association)

- The FRA Association account balance stood at £18,701.77p on 31st March 2019.
- The positive impact of the 2018/2019 WRT fry survey costs being covered by WRT/Water4Growth funding (+£8,100.00p) has been key in maintaining FRA balances through the period.
- Loan repayments from FRA Ltd to FRA in the period amounted to £0.00p and £998.49p remains outstanding.
- The Association has pre-paid for the 2019 fry survey and had no further obligations outstanding.
- The FFRG pool has reduced following drawdown of funds to cover the Draynes sanctuary rentals for the period from 2018-23 (-£3,164.00p); with a balance of £4,912.00 remaining as at 31st March 2019. A further £5,000.00 is due for credit on 1st April 2019.
- The Association is considered financially sound for 2019.

FRA Ltd

- The FRA Ltd current account balance stood at £1,562.61p as of 31st March 2019.
- FRA Ltd remains indebted to FRA (-£998.49p).
- FRA Ltd posted an operating profit of £423.00p for the financial year to 30th June 2018. No corporation tax is anticipated.
 - The (un-audited) accounts for the financial year ending 30th June 2018 were presented for inspection at the meeting.
 - FRA Ltd filed statutory annual accounts (for the period July 1st 2017 – June 30th 2018) with Companies House and HMRC on 26th February 2019.
- The hatchery operations remain within budget.
- The hatchery is considered financially sound for 2019.
- It is noted that the contract for hatchery services is up for renegotiation with SWW in 2010.

5. Report on river works and Fry Survey by WRT

Ben Gallant and Dave Chapman reported on WRT progress with implementing W4G plans

1. Coppicing and in river works had been completed at 16 sites on the St Neot. Work was still ongoing and some work would be undertaken on the Warleggan. The groove under Palmers bridge had been cleaned out to aid fish passage. Baffles had been placed on Bodmin Parkway Weir and were being considered on the gauging weirs. Improvements are planned for Glynn weir on the Cardinham.

2. Fry surveys show excellent results for trout throughout the catchment, and the best salmon results for 6 years. Of note was the return of salmon to the Cardinham and fry being found above Ladyvale bridge for the first time following the improvements below the bridge

Ben was thanked for his summary

6. **Election of Officers**

It was agreed that Bill Smith should be re-elected as Chairman and Paul Jordan as Treasurer. Jeff Pearce had very kindly agreed to stand for the vacant secretary post. He was unanimously elected.

7. **Election of Committee**

Those listed on the agenda were all elected to the committee. John Hake also agreed to serve on the committee.

8. **Any other business**

There was none.

The meeting then broke for beer and pasties

Cheryl Marriott, head of conservation for Cornwall Wildlife Trust then addressed the meeting on the Cornwall Beaver Project.