

A meeting of the Fowey Rivers Association
was held on Wednesday 16th January 2008 at Lostwithiel Social Club

Present

Sir Michael Thompson (President) taking the chair in the Chairman's absence	Roger Furniss (SWRA)
Godfrey Tucker (Vice Chairman)	Ivan Lyne (Bodmin Angling Association)
Roger Brake (Treasurer)	Arthur White (Liskeard)
Bill Eliot (River Co-ordinator)	Robbie Williams (Riverbed management)
Tyson Jackson (Water resources officer)	Jon Evans (secretary)

Apologies

Mike Bryant (Newbridge)	Roger Lashbrook (Commercial interests)
Ray Burrows (Bodmin Angling Association)	Brian Muelaner (Lanhydrock)
Paul Eliot (Chairman)	David Phillips (Lostwithiel)
Alan Hawken (Glynn)	

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2007 were agreed subject to an amendment to item on page 2 which replaces "discharge licence" with "discharge charge".

2. Financial statement

The Treasurer tabled his report which showed that, for the period 1st April 2007 to 16th January 2008, income was £4971.23 and expenditure was £7,283.00. The closing balance on current account is £10,639.80 and on deposit is ££15,000, both with Barclays Bank.

Adjustments will need to be made to take account of previous year's expenditure brought forward.

It was noted that SWW is holding £10,000 from 2006 and 2007 and there will be a further £5,000 income from 2008.

It was agreed that, in future, individual projects would be identified in the accounts, and it would be the responsibility of those managing approved projects to pass all invoices, with appropriately identified project expenditure, to the Treasurer.

The Treasurer was thanked for his report and the accounts were noted.

3. Projects for 2008

The following projects were proposed for 2008. The invoices would be paid recognising the Fowey Fisheries and Resources Group had the responsibility for ensuring that all projects were approved by the Environment Agency,

SWW and the Fowey Rivers Association.

1. Upper Draynes five year sanctuary agreements from 2008 which would expire in 2012. Godfrey has given the Treasurer a schedule of the proposed agreements for payment. The total cost is £5,016.
2. The hatchery has incurred £1,500 and a further £1,000 will be required to bring on the remaining eggs and juveniles.
3. River Projects. It was agreed that Tyson, Robbie, Roger and Jon should undertake the management of this work.
 - a. Review of previous work (prior to the AGM)
 - b. Filming the bank and gravel clearance work on the Upper Draynes
 - c. Constructing new redds, most likely to be below Lamelgate on the Draynes. Each project should be based on a £3,000 budget.
 - d. Sand and weed clearance on the Draynes at £200
 - e. Coppicing at Bulland at £1,000

TJ

4. **2007/8 hatchery results**

It was noted that 20,000 eggs were currently being incubated. These would be fed on to at least parr size.

5. **Future hatchery work.**

It was noted that there had been a number of conversations between Paul, Robbie and Trevor Sobey about maintaining a hatchery programme within the overall catchment conservation plan. Further conversation will lead to appropriate input to the

1. Salmon Action Plan review
2. Project plan for the FFRG
3. Hatchery operations in the future

The enormous contribution made by Paul to the development of the hatchery and the stocks in the river are fully recognised but

1. It was also recognised that the hatchery is still needed to compensate for the loss of wetted area and salmon spawning beds as a result of Colliford. This has never been recognised in compensation payments. It is essential that the FFRG try to recover this position with SWW. The flow regime has been seriously compromised and Roger Furniss should be asked to help us in this matter while other abstractions are being discussed with SWW.
2. The present hatchery works so it should not be discarded
3. It should be possible to establish a rota of dedicated people who would both undertake routine work at the hatchery and be on call to collect broodstock. Robbie agreed to do this in 2008. This is a similar arrangement to that which works well on the Lynher. Professional advice can be obtained from Paul and Justin.
4. Continuing support must be given to Paul
5. Continuation of the site as a location for the hatchery must be secured

RW

6. Future funding options should be developed
7. 2007 should be left as it is
8. At the July meeting of the Fowey Rivers Association, reports should be obtained from the informal group about how they perceived the 2008 arrangements, and from Roger Furniss about the preferred strategies for the future.

RW

Rf

6. River improvement schemes

Tyson reported on current activity

1. The assessment group will meet to walk the patch and evaluate past work
2. The Park Pit abstraction proposal from SWW is about to be published and an early sight of the detailed environmental and hydrological reports have been received from Neil Whiter. The current proposal is an improvement on the one produced in April 2007. An annual recharge of water is proposed with a maximum draw down of 7.5 metres. The abstraction will enable SWW to stop using Porth which has very high treatment costs and should reduce the pumped storage to Colliford from the main river. There are a number of inaccuracies in the report and also some deficiencies from our point of view. Examples include the fact that there is no mention of the fact that Fowey water was discharged by Imerys into the Trenant and thus contributed to the overall prior usage of water. Also there is a denial of the access of fish at high waters through the new armoured outlet at the South Western end of the Pit. Tyson suggested that if Park could not be used in the ways we had previously suggested, it should become a continuing income stream for the Association.

It was agreed that all riparians and the Fowey Rivers Association should lodge objections to the formal proposal when it was submitted to the Environment Agency. This should be undertaken by Tyson and Jon, in consultation with Roger Furniss.

TJ,
JE,
RF

7. The AGM

The date and venue for the AGM were agreed as 16th April in Lostwithiel.

It was noted that Sir Michael and Paul had previously said that they were unwilling to stand again for office. Bill said that he too was unwilling to stand again.

Sir Michael agreed to write to Anthony Fortescue to see if he would be willing to stand as President. Tyson will check again with Paul about his intentions. Robbie agreed to combine the positions of River co-ordinator and riverbed management. Roger Furniss said that he was willing to act as representative for the Glynn and would speak with Alan Hawken who was unable to find the time to attend Fowey Rivers Association meetings.

MT

TJ

RF

Simon Toms should be invited to the meeting but rather than his usual summary, he should be invited specifically to address the meeting on progress, actions and timetables arising from the Salmon Action Plan.

JE

8. **NLO**

It was noted that the nets had now legally been reduced to one but there is a significant cost associated with the buy out.

9. **Irene Eliot**

Irene had now come out of hospital after her operation and it was agreed that flowers and best wishes should be sent.

JE