

EAST LOTHIAN ANGLING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 26th JANUARY 2015
IN THE TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON

- 1) **Apologies:-** C Thomas
- 2) **Present** - 24 members
- 3) **President's Welcome** President Scott McIntosh welcomed those present to the Meeting and hoped that they had had a good season. He also thanked the members of the Committee for the work they had done over the year.
- 4) **Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting** held on Monday 20th January 2014. These had been distributed. Their acceptance was proposed by Hugh Dignon and seconded by Tom Ronertson.
- 5) **Matters arising from previous Minutes** – None
- 6) **Review of the Past Year.** Clive Baker gave a review of the activities of the Association over the past year. Many of the items had been highlighted in the Newsletter but Clive expanded on some of them.

The poaching incident that had occurred, in which 60 sea trout had been found in a net, had been very disappointing and Clive urged all members to report any signs of poaching activities that they see to the Police.

The Association had also lost several committee members during the year. Tony Hawkins, a committee member for 33 years, had moved to the Isle of Man. John Knox, who had been responsible for obtaining the leases, had died suddenly. Former President Billy Lamb and former committee member Stuart Dyce had also died.

The Association had again had a stand at the Haddington Show and had held working parties to clear stretches of the river. Anyone interested in helping at a working party in the future was asked to leave their name with the secretary.

A report was being prepared regarding the problem of the silting up of the Burn and S.E.P.A were still looking into upgrading the weirs on the river.

Clive was thanked for his Review.
- 7) **Newsletter.** Clive Baker was thanked for producing the Newsletter again this year.
- 8) **Treasurer's Report** – John Medley went through the audited Accounts for the year to 31st December 2014. The number of permits sold was slightly down

on the previous year, but there had been an overall profit of £622. He referred to the Treasurer's report of 1998 when it was reported that the Association was over spending and would go bust if it continued in that way. In 1994 £3090 had been spent on stocking as opposed to £1700 last year. This still represented a considerable outlay to the Association and he asked how many present would not have purchased a permit if the river had not been stocked. No hands were raised.

The cost of postage was of concern and the Association were trying to encourage the use of email where ever possible.

The adoption of the Treasurer's report was proposed by Adam Love-Rodgers and Seconded by Scott McIntosh.

9) Logbooks and Catch Returns – Nick Main presented the statistics from the logbooks kept by 7 Committee members this year. From the logbooks a total of 332 fish were caught in 112 trips to the river, with 26 smolts but no sea trout were caught. The figures for fish caught per trip to the river were slightly higher and slightly bigger than last year.

Catch Return Cards. Steven Dora reported that the Catch Return cards, received from only 59 members, showed that they had caught 1078 brown trout, 19 sea trout (18 returned) and 1 salmon(returned). All catch figures were down on the previous year.

Nick and Steven were thanked for their reports.

10) Election of Office-bearers. Scott McIntosh was re-elected as President (proposed by Adam Beynon-Jones and seconded by Brian Davidson) Clive Baker was re-elected as Vice-President (proposed by Adam Love-Rodgers and seconded by Stan Wilson).

11) Election of Committee.

The Secretary explained that there were 5 vacancies on the committee. During the Year former committee member Adam Beynon-Jones had been co-opted back onto the committee. His re-election onto the committee was proposed by Scott McIntosh and seconded by Clive Baker.

Stuart McLean and Sam Mutters were also nominated and duly elected onto the Committee. (Proposed by Clive Baker and Scott McIntosh and seconded by Adam Love-Rodgers and Steven Dora respectively)

There were no other nominations from the floor so the committee remained with two vacancies.

12) Permit Prices – The Committee had discussed the price of permits for the 2015 season and recommended that the permit prices should be increased by £2 for the Full permit £33 -£35, Junior £15 -£17, OAP £20 -£22, and Day Permits £7 -£8. The Under 12 to remain at £2.

The voucher given to members sending in a Catch Return Card having purchased a Full, OAP, or Junior permit would remain at £5. The permit prices for the 2015 season were proposed by Stan Wilson and seconded by Nick Main. After some discussion this was put to the vote and carried by 18 votes to 2 and therefore agreed by the meeting.

- 13) **A.O.C.B.** a) The upgrading of the website, the use of Facebook and the increased use of email were all discussed.
- b) It was suggested that stocking should not take place but it was learned that, in order to obtain the discount, the order for the stock fish had already been placed for the new season.

14) **Date of next Annual General Meeting** - Monday 25th January 2016

17) **Speaker.** Peter Maitland gave a very interesting illustrated talk on “ Freshwater Fisheries in Scotland- the recourse and its problems”.