

**MINUTES of ANNUAL MEETING of QUALIFIED PROPRIETORS OF THE RIVER UGIE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD held at Broad House, Broad Street, Peterhead on Thursday, 9th November, 2017 at 3.00 p.m.**

**Present:** J. Yule (Convenor)  
D. Low Mandatory for I. J. Booth  
A. Buchan for Lunar Fishing Company Limited  
A. Buchan for Score Group plc

**In Attendance:** D. McLean for Bruce Milton, Clerk to the Board

**Apologies:** Trustees of A E Jones Estate

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**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read as proposed by A Buchan (Lunar) and seconded by D Low and were carried unanimously.

**CONVENER'S REPORT**

The Convener noted no members of the public had attended and proceeded to read his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

**BAILIFF'S REPORT**

The Convenor read out the report prepared by Bob Davidson and a copy is attached to these minutes.

**CATCH RETURNS**

A Buchan (Score) asked if the numbers of fish caught were known and A Buchan (Lunar) confirmed 25 salmon which were all released and 214 sea trout of which 107 were released. He also presented to the Board graphs taken from the fish counter for the months March to October showing the daily number going up past the counter and the number going down. These numbers were further broken down to salmon and small, medium, and large sea trout. From June onwards there was also shown plots of the water level and tide levels during darkness. It was pointed out the higher numbers of fish recorded coincided with points where there was higher tide at same time as water levels were dropping after a peak.

J Yule praised the success of the counter and remarked that most rivers did not have the benefit of such a counter. He also thought it would be interesting to compare the catch data against the peak days. A Buchan (Lunar) offered to send out copy reports to any proprietor on receipt of their e-mail address.

### **ACCOUNTS**

The audited accounts for the year ended 31st May, 2017 were received and adopted on the proposal of A Buchan (Lunar) and seconded by D Low.

### **CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Joseph Yule', followed by the date '13/11/17'.

Joseph Yule  
Convenor

## Ugie District Salmon Fishery Board

### Convener's Report 2017

**2017** was in many respects a quiet year for the board with nothing major to report.

Sea trout were the main attraction for the anglers with many big trout recorded and with a good run of sea trout through from May till the end of August and with some trout caught into September and even October. There were not so many salmon being caught but the anglers did not continue to fish in numbers, after the main sea trout were past. There were numbers of Finnock caught in the latter part of the season in October and November. Pleasing to note that initial reports are indicating the anglers have been voluntarily returning 50% of the sea trout catches.

**The Fish Counter** continues to provide valuable information. We continue to monitor and gather the data from the Counter, which we send to MSS to help evaluate, not only the adult salmon and sea trout returning to the Ugie, but also part of the network of counters estimating the total salmon and sea trout populations in the whole of Scotland.

It is satisfying to know that the Ugie is among only five or six rivers operating a fish counter and that we are in the forefront of the Data gathering, so important for rolling out future conservation controls.

As part of our ongoing co-operation with MSS we placed two acoustic receivers in the river as part of **the Armadale tagging project** which is trying to monitor the inshore movements and final home Rivers, for Adult salmon returning from the feeding grounds off Greenland.

**Bob Davidson** continues in the role of part time Bailiff. We must be mindful as a board of Bob's age and his health, as we consider not only the future needs of the board but also our continuing concern for Bob's welfare. Several options are open to the board which we must consider very carefully in the best interests of policing the river.

**The Scottish Government** has placed a ban on all salmon netting in the sea for at least three years. The Rates Assessors have consequently zero rated these fishings and this will inevitably affect the financial position of the board.

**I wish to thank** the board members and our Clerk Donnie McLean for their input in the efficient running of the board and for their attendance at the meetings, allowing us to continue to look after the welfare of the Salmon and Sea Trout stocks in the River Ugie.



Joseph Yule (Convener) 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## UGIE SALMON FISHING REPORT FOR 2017

The 2017 season has been very poor and as a result of this there have been very few anglers. I am delighted to see a small number of anglers trying their hand at night fishing and it has proved to be successful for some.

Poaching doesn't appear to be the problem it once was, whether this is due to the lack of fish or not I can't say. However a shrimp was found on the banks of the river a few weeks ago, although we are not sure if this had been used for poaching or was merely a ploy to get my attention.

Pollution can still be something of a problem and there have been numerous incidents which I have reported to S.E.P.A. Unfortunately they can be very slow to act at times!

I am extremely disappointed that there have been no stock fish caught this year for the hatchery but hopefully this problem will be resolved before the end of another season.

Within the last 24 hours I have learned of numerous tests into water quality etc which will be taking place over the next few weeks and which I will be giving my assistance to in any way possible and I am sure the board will be notified of the results of these tests in due course.

R W. Daniel

**RIVER UGIE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**31ST MAY 2017**



C H A R T E R E D   A C C O U N T A N T S

[www.bainhenryreid.co.uk](http://www.bainhenryreid.co.uk)

**RIVER UGIE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD**

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY 2017**

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Rates		15,482		15,482
Building society interest		2		2
		<u>15,484</u>		<u>15,484</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Bailiff's retainer	7,231		11,000	
Hire of fish counter	1,200		1,200	
Insurance	349		358	
Accountancy fees	360		360	
Clerk's fee	2,640		2,640	
Bank charges	66		60	
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>398</u>		<u>509</u>	
		12,244		16,127
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		<u><u>3,240</u></u>		<u><u>-643</u></u>

**RIVER UGIE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**31ST MAY 2017**

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Communications equipment at cost		1,826		1,826
Less aggregate depreciation		<u>1,826</u>		<u>1,826</u>
		0		0
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash at bank		9,052		5,814
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Creditors		<u>3,010</u>		<u>3,012</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		6,042		2,802
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>6,042</u></u>		<u><u>2,802</u></u>
Represented by:				
<b>REVENUE RESERVES</b>				
At 31st May 2016		2,802		3,445
Net surplus/(deficit) for year		<u>3,240</u>		<u>-643</u>
At 31st May 2017		<u><u>6,042</u></u>		<u><u>2,802</u></u>

**ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

We have made an examination of the books and accounts of the River Ugie District Salmon Fishery Board and have prepared therefrom the foregoing financial statements which are in accordance with the books and accounts and the explanations given to us.

Bain Henry Reid  
Chartered Accountants  
28 Broad Street  
Peterhead

September 2017