

**Note of the Proceedings of the  
Annual Meeting of  
The Ythan District Salmon Fishery Board  
Held at Haddo Estate Office on  
Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

**1. In Attendance:**

Evan Ritchie – Fishery Owner  
Eric Ritchie – Fishery Owner  
Audrey Forbes-Clarke – Fishery Manager  
C I Wolrige Gordon – Fishery Owner  
Robert Dey – ADAA Representative  
Alex Paterson – ADAA Representative  
John Pirie – Angler  
Sandy Milne – Board Superintendent  
Mark Andrew – Clerk to the Board

**2. Publicity:**

Notice of the General Meeting had been posted on the Ythan District Fishery Board website and on the Association of Salmon Fishery Board's website from 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Notices of the meeting had been sent to all Proprietors on 20<sup>th</sup> January but many had been advised by e-mail of the forthcoming meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January.

**3. Annual Report:**

The annual report by the Clerk and Water Bailiff, which had been circulated earlier, was considered by those attending. There were no issues arising save those dealt with below.

It was agreed that the Honorary Bailiffs mentioned in the report would be named in future, subject to those individuals granting consent to be named.

**4. Accounts for the Year to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2013:**

The accounts for the year which had been audited and prepared by Messrs J M Taylor of Ellon had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Clerk explained that the accounts had been prepared in order to comply with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities

issued in March 2005 and that the Trustees detailed in the report were in fact Board Members.

There were no issues arising from the accounts.

**5. Voluntary Code for 2014**

The Voluntary Code had been circulated prior to the meeting and had already been accepted at a previous Board meeting. Those attending agreed to the adoption of the Code but suggested that the word “voluntary” should be removed to enhance its credibility.

**6. Seals in the Estuary**

The Clerk advised that the Board was looking at the possibility of establishing a fixed array of seal scarers across the estuary near the old lifeboat station at Newburgh in the hope that this would deter seals from swimming up into the estuary waters and to keep them on the seaward side of their present haul-out site. It had been noted that although the number of seals had declined markedly with very few remaining through the winter, they had returned in large numbers in the last day or so and now numbered at least 600. These seals were now accompanied by their pups.

The seal scarers would be part of the ongoing research in non-lethal seal control involving Aberdeen University and Sea Mammal Research Unit.

**7. Complaints**

No complaints had been received by the Board over the last 12 months.

**8 Any other business**

There was no further business discussed at the General Meeting.

**M H T Andrew**

**Clerk to the Board**