

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING
of the qualified proprietors of salmon
fisheries NORTH & WEST DISTRICT
SALMON FISHERY BOARD held on 10th
November 2021
at 10.00 am via Zoom**

Present: Mr D Davies (Vice-Convener)
Mr K Dunbar
Mr A Balfour
Mr R Bradshaw
Ms S Harkins (Kinlochbervie Estate)
Mr T Kirkwood
Ms K Bontoft

In Attendance: Dr S Marshall (WSFT)
Mr A Harrington
Mr R Whitson (Bell Ingram – Clerk)

Apologies: Mr C McLeod
Mr D Lindsay
Mrs G Rex; and
Mr R Vestey

The Vice-Convener chaired the meeting as the Convener was recovering from Covid-19 and sent his apologies.

1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2020

The Minutes of the Meeting of Qualified Proprietors held on 17 November, 2020 were considered by the Proprietors and agreed by the Vice-Convener as an accurate record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising had been dealt with.

3. ANNUAL REPORT

The proprietors considered the Annual Report and agreed the contents.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented the proprietors with the audited accounts to 28 May 2021. The Vice-Convener agreed them as a true representation of the Board's finances for the Financial Year 2020/2021.

There was one question regarding the accounts which related to creditors. This was explained as being an accrual for assessments which had subsequently been ingathered.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice-Convenor drew everyone's attention to an email sent by Gabby Rex, which referred to the Sea Change Wester Ross Alliance, and the requirement to pay attention to polluting inshore waters in which salmon and sea trout live and migrate.

There was a question regarding pink salmon in the catchment, of which one or two have been seen in the Inver and Kirkaig and the Polly had seen their first pink salmon. There is concern that their numbers are increasing and they were seen spawning at Inverpolly. Shona Marshall commented that there seem to be more than last year, and that east coast rivers are seeing a higher incidence of them as is Norway, where they are becoming endemic.

There was a question as to whether there was a likelihood that they would affect our native species; however, their spawning pattern is fundamentally different to the Atlantic salmon and so the likelihood of that is slim.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk will propose dates in November 2022 and circulate these to the proprietors for agreement.