

Cove & Kilcreggan Angling Club

Annual General Meeting held at Clynder Bowling Club on the 6th March 2019 at 8pm

Members Present

Jane Wright, Peter Hill, Mark Bradley, James Young, Lachie Bain, Joy Penrose Stupart, Martin Guthrie, John MaCrae, Ian MacFarlane, Shane Rankin, Robert Finnan, Alex Pratt, Jez Underwood.

Apologies Frank Boggie, Alan Hier, Alasdair Reynolds

The minutes of the 2018 A.G.M. were agreed as a true record. Proposed Lachie Bain seconded Martin Guthrie.

Thanks were expressed to Robert for making the Bowling Club Premises available at short notice.

President's Report.

Yet again the main topic of conversation was the situation regarding Lindowan Dam and the problem of bringing it in to a position where it complies with current regulations. The idea of a permanent syphon was rejected as when the design went out to tender the lowest quotation was £30,000, clearly way beyond the Clubs resources. However, many thanks go to Jim Young who put in a great deal of time and effort into the siphon design and procurement costs. Thanks Jim!

It has now been suggested that the way forward could be to try and reinstate the original sluice/valve. With this in mind the original culvert has been opened up and the original pipe has been exposed. The interior of the pipe has been inspected and is clear up to the face of the existing valve face. The proposal is to reduce the level of the Loch using a temporary syphon to expose the existing valve and ascertain if the valve is still operable. If so a control mechanism will be fitted to the valve and the Dam refilled. If the existing valve is not operable, it will be removed from the existing pipe, a plastic pipe of slightly smaller diameter will be inserted into the existing pipe and a new valve will be fitted on the "water" end of the pipe. The gap between the old and new pipes will be sealed with concrete/ grout and a control system for the valve will be fitted with the control on the Dam Wall. After further ground work, if the above proposals are viable, it is intended to reduce the water level at the end of the 2019 fishing season (October/ Nov) unless SEPA as the regulators require it beforehand. The original valve/sluice will be inspected, and a decision made on the correct mechanism required to bring Lindowan into line with the Regulation.

Although the Club was under the impression that the 2018 A.G.M. had appointed Jim Findlay as the engineer who would oversee the above described works, recent correspondence between Jim Findlay and Colleen Kennedy (S.E.P.A.) indicated this was not the case.

Accordingly those who attended were asked to agree the following motion: **'To ratify the appointment of Jim Findlay as the engineer appointed to oversee the certification works at Lindowan Loch required by the Reservoirs (Scotland) Act 2011'**. The motion was unanimously agreed.

Peter Hill commented that there may be an alternative solution to this course of action. The Dam Inspection in 2002 contained anomalies that have never been addressed, mainly the size of the Catchment Area of the Dam. The matter of draining the Dam in an emergency could be achieved by the use of a Mechanical Excavator breaching the dam in a controlled manner. He is of the opinion that a good case could be made to show that Lindowan does not pose a threat to the local area and a Risk Assessment based evaluation would show this. Iain MacFarlane offered to go over Peter's findings and report if he found merit in seeking a meeting to discuss the outcome with the regulator. It goes without saying that this solution would be infinitely less expensive and safer than draining the Dam.

Several action points arose from this discussion.

- The President to write to Jim Findlay confirming his appointment
- Pending Iain MacFarlane's review of Peter's topographical survey and revised appraisal , a meeting would be sought with SEPA to discuss the implications.
- Jim Young to design a temporary siphon

Outings The Outings Venues for the 2019 season have been circulated to the Membership by e-mail. It is hoped the Outings will be well supported in 2019.

Stocking/ Fish Feeding : As there is a distinct possibility that the water level at Lindowan may be significantly lowered at the end of the season it was decided not to stock this year. The initial response to fish feeding so far, coupled with the small amount of fish taken from the Lochs in 2018 and the generous stocking in November 2017 indicates that there is an abundance of fish in both Lindowan and Mill Dam

Membership

As at October 2018 Membership stood at 55 Senior Members with 4 Juniors

2019 Fishing Policy

Due to the possible end of the year drawdown at Lindowan, the Committee suggests that all fish landed can be taken after the end of April when they should have regained condition.

The fishing rules for 2019 are as follows:

Lindowan: Catch and Release until the end of April when all fish landed may be taken.

Mill Dam: Catch and Release until the end of April, thereafter 2 fish per day up to 6 fish per month.

Work Parties

A significant amount of work is required at both Lochs

Action: The President to inform the Committee and Membership of work parties.

Treasurer's Report.

Opening Account on 1 st January 2018	£ 6,182.68
2018 Net Income	£ 5,186.17
2018 Net Expenditure	£ 2,014.39
2018 Closing Account on 31 st Dec 2018	£ 9,354.46
Funds held in Trust	£370
Balance at 31 st December 2018	£9,724.46

The accounts were scrutinized by Mrs Anne Bernard

It was agreed that the Club Membership Fee should remain at £ 65 for the 2019 Season. Junior membership at £10 and day tickets at £10

The Treasurer reported that fees for Dam Inspections, Engineers Inspections and SEPA now account for 57% of Club Income and will most certainly rise in the future. Therefore if Membership of the Club continues to fall, its survival will be in doubt. The President urged those at the meeting to make every effort to attract new members and to ask lapsed Members to rejoin.

Fund Raising

The meeting was encouraged to bring forward any ideas they had regarding Fund Raising.

Election of Office Bearers

President	Jane Wright	Retires 2019. Lachie Bain Appointed: Agrees to serve until 2021
Vice President		No Appointment
Secretary	Peter Hill	Agrees to serve until 2020
Treasurer	James Young	Retires 2019. Shane Rankin Appointed : Agrees to serve until 2021
Reservoir Manager, Lindowan		Peter Hill Retires 2019. Joy Penrose-Stupart Appointed : agrees to serve until 2021

Committee Members re-elected :

Jim Young

Alex Pratt

Joy Penrose- Stupart

Frank Boggie

Martin Guthrie

Jane Wright (also Outings Secretary)

S.A.N.A. / S.A.N.A.C.C.

It was agreed that the club will not join S.A.N.A. or S.A.N.A.C.C. during 2019

A.O.B

It was agreed to ask Frank Boggie to approach Helensburgh Angling Club Members to promote the Brown Trout facilities on offer at Lindowan and Mill Dam.