

MINUTES
Of the Board Meeting
of the River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board
Held at The Belted Galloway, Newton Stewart
On Wednesday 15 April 2026 at 5.30 pm

Present

(A) Board Members/Mandatories

Jamie Hyslop – in the Chair

Murdo Crosbie

Gene Fryatt

Terence Flanagan

Lindsay McKain

Adrian Paterson

Steve Smith

(B) Attendees

Matthew Pumphrey (Clerk and Treasurer)

Peter Jones

(1) Apologies

Norrie Ferguson

(2) Absent

Jamie Ribbens & Iain Service

Jamie Ribbens had immediately replied to the Clerk's email enquiring about his possible attendance at the meeting or his report in lieu thereof by saying he had previously heard nothing about the meeting and had received no agenda nor previous Minutes. The Clerk checked this and it appeared, unfortunately, that JR had been omitted from the relevant email. The Clerk has apologised for this oversight and has now sent him the Previous Minutes and the date for the next meeting.

(3) Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting on 14 January 2026

These were **approved** without demur.

(4) Matters arising from the two aforesaid Minutes

None not otherwise on the Agenda.

(5) Chairman's Report

The Chairman said that the opening ceremony at Linloskin had gone well and that there had been a good attendance.

There was nothing new to report about the proposed Newton Stewart Flood Prevention Scheme.

The work on the EIA is ongoing – but to date no information has been made available.

The questions remained as to how and when the FPS project would be put into effect, as different fish would be affected depending on the time of year that work would take place. Murdo said that the works would affect the upper stretches of the river as well as the lower stretches.

(6) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer said that he had provided Montpelier with the paperwork needed by them to finalize the annual account. He thought that there would be a surplus of around £2,500 for the year and that the amounts in the Savings Account would be £10,000 + and, in the Current Account was just over £1,700. Steve mentioned that he had formally made a complaint about the AVJB as they were threatening to increase the Ayrshire RVs without apparently any justification for doing so. They never replied to his emails. The levy notices for 2026-27 would be despatched with a copy of the Conservation Code and a specific request to note the changes from last year which included the prohibition of killing or retaining all salmon caught after 14 September and not just hen fish.

(7) GFT Report

There was no report for the reasons mentioned in (2) above.

(8) RCHHT Report

Murdo reported that there were about 200000 fry in the Hatchery at the moment and most had now hatched from the incubators. They had been fed for the last 3 weeks or so.

On tree planting, some of the trees planted seven years ago had been badly damaged by sheep. It was not known to whom these sheep belonged as they were not tagged. FLS seemed to be only concerned with deer and were not interested in damage by sheep.

School visits would recommence, hopefully, next week. There was some discussion on the provision of buses for the children for such visits.

There had been an influx of fish-eating birds noted during the smolt migration. The Board have a license to scare and also shoot a limited number. It was agreed that the work to shepherd smolts during their migration was very important and should continue. A license should be applied for next year also.

The crowd-fund for the extension to the Hatchery building had gone very well. NASF via the Orri Award had agreed to provide funding up to £10,000 as long as there was match funding via the crowd-fund campaign. The crowdfund target was achieved and exceeded which was an excellent result.

(9) Insurance

The Clerk reported that he was awaiting a quote from the NFU. He would chase this up.

(10) AOCB

Terence raised the question of the Register of Interests as required by the 2003 Act and would liaise with the Clerk about this. He also mentioned one or two things about the website which Steve said he would attend to, if necessary.

(14) Date of next Meeting

19 August 2026 at 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm

.....

Chairman