



**ASSOCIATION OF DEER MANAGEMENT GROUPS**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 AGM**

**At Macdonald Aviemore Highland Resort**

## MINUTES

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**In Attendance:**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Richard Cooke        | Chairman  |
| Finlay Clark         | Secretary                                       |
| Victor Clements      | Executive Committee                             |
| Col. Bewsher         | Executive Committee                             |
| Dick Playfair        | Executive Committee                             |
| Michael Aldridge     | Glenartney DMG & South Perthshire DMG           |
| Matthew Allen        | Corrour   |
| David Allison        | Reay Forest / W Sutherland & NW Sutherland DMGs |
| Peter Allison        | Corrour   |
| Rod Andean           | Bidwells  |
| Ewan Archer          | Kinveachy                                       |
| Jordan Boobyer       | Rannoch Estate                                  |
| Scott Bremner        | Culachy Estate                                  |
| John Bruce           | British Deer Society                            |
| John Cameron         | Kingie Estate                                   |
| Lynda Campbell       | KDMG and Glenmoriston DMG                       |
| Alastair Chalmers    | Drummond Estate                                 |
| Hugh Cheape          | Moidart DMG                                     |
| Jane Cheape          | Moidart DMG                                     |
| Tom Chetwynd         | East Sutherland DMG                             |
| Winston Churchill    | Cowal, Argyll                                   |
| Sophie Clark         | Gualin Estate                                   |
| Sinclair Coghill     | SNH   |
| Jack Cory-Wright     | Auchessan                                       |
| Holly Deary          | SNH   |
| Ian Dingwall         | Auchlyne & Suie                                 |
| Chris Donald         | SNH   |
| Andrew Duncan Millar | Remony  |
| Jamie Farquhar       | Confor  |
| Andy Ford            | CNPA  |

Colin Fraser  
Donald Fraser  
Peter Fraser  
Willie Fraser  
David Frew  
Falcon Frost  
James Gairlie  
Alistair Gibson  
Martin Girvan  
Duncan Gordon  
Kenny Graham  
Sir Patrick Grant  
Suzy Grant  
Richard Greenlaw  
David Greer  
James Harrod  
John Hay  
Alex Hogg  
Lloyd Humphreys  
James Irvine  
Colin Johnstone  
William Kelly  
David Kinnear  
Roddy Legge  
Ian Leith  
Mike Luti  
Brian Lyall  
Alex MacDonald  
Barbara MacDonald  
Douglas MacDonald  
Graeme Macdonald  
John MacDonald  
Helen MacIntyre  
Neil MacKay  
John Mackenzie  
Robin Maclean  
Lea MacNally  
Seamus MacNally  
Innes MacNeill  
Joanna Macpherson  
Peter Mayhew  
Colin McClean  
Iain McMyn  
Angus McNicol  
Clive Meikle  
Ran Morgan  
David Olds  
Andrew Oliver  
Emma Paterson  
Simon Pepper  
Alex Plommer

Dalness Estate  
SNH  
SGA  
Affric & Kintail DMG  
Mar Lodge Estate  
Glenfalloch Estate, I&T and Balquhadder DMGs  
Garrogie Estate  
Glenfinnan Estate, West Lochaber DMG  
Glenmoriston DMG  
Lude and Glen Quoich  
Coignafearn Estate  
Knoydart DMG  
Balavil Estate  
Glen Avon Estate  
Seafield & Strathspey  
Glen Avon Estate  
Mullardoch  
Portmore Estate  
Balavil Estate  
Glenmazeran Estate  
Dunira Estate  
Ardnamurchan Estate  
Alvie Estate  
Letterewe  
Glenfinnan Estate  
Balquhadder DMG  
Badanloch Estate  
Achnacarry Sporting  
Letterewe  
Shielbridge Estate  
Alvie Estate  
Borrobol Estate  
Inveraray & Tyndrum DMG  
Loch Choire Estate  
Ben Alder Estate, Glen Elg DMG  
Ardgour Estate  
Glen Quoich  
Gairloch Conservation Unit  
Alladale  
Attadale  
CPNA  
Glen Tanar  
SSE  
Upper Deeside & Donside DMG  
Bidwells  
Knight Frank  
UHI  
Letterewe  
Auchlyne & Suie Estate  
DWG  
Badanloch Estate

Calum Proctor  
Maitland Rankin  
Gordon Robertson  
Iain Robertson  
Niall Robertson  
Donald Rowantree  
Niall Rowantree  
Claudia Rowse  
David Scott  
Linzi Seivwright  
Duncan Shaw  
Michael Skelly  
Don Smith  
Ian Stewart  
Andrew Sutherland  
Iain Sutherland  
Ian Thornber  
Andrew Thomson  
Susanna Thomson  
James Urquhart  
Richard Vernon  
David Wallace  
Thomas Watson  
Fenning Welstead  
Jonathan Whitehead  
Rob Whitson  
Jamie Williamson  
Andrew Adamson  
Tahir Hanif  
Peter Keyser  
Roddy Macaskill  
Blair McFarlane  
Kirsty MacDonald  
Cara Richardson  
Gilmour Strang  
Sandy Walker

**Apologies:**

James Duncan Millar  
Julian Clarke  
Ewen Macpherson  
James Adamson  
Dr Jean Balfour  
Angus Campbell'  
Angus Cheape  
Charles Connell  
Crispian Cook  
Alan Cory-Wright  
Patrick Creasey  
Ross Dakers  
Ian Duncan Millar

Black Mount Estate  
Galloway DG  
West Sutherland and Easter Ross DMGs  
Defence Infrastructure Organisation  
Dunalastair Estate  
Corrour Estate  
West Highland Hunting  
SNH  
Glen Avon Estate  
Caorann / ADMG  
Gualin Estate  
FES  
Dunira Woodlands  
Braeroy  
Glencalvie  
Alvie Estate  
Morvern DMG  
Achnacarry Sporting  
Black Mount DMG  
Dunrobin / Ben Armine Estate  
Glendoe  
Drummond Estate  
Attadale Estate  
Alladale  
SQWV / Acoura  
Badanloch  
Alvie & Dalness Estate  
Wildland Ltd  
Wild Deer Game Ltd  
Associate Member  
Highland Deer & Habitat Solutions Ltd  
Highland Hill Associates  
Highland Game Ltd  
Big Game & Bird Hunting Ltd  
Associate Member  
Associate Member

Executive Committee  
Executive Committee  
Executive Committee  
East Loch Ericht DMG  
Scourie Estate  
SNH  
Mull DMG  
Garogie Estate  
North Ross DMG  
Auchessan  
North Ross DMG  
Ben Alder Estate  
Trinie

Roddy Feilden  
 William Jackson  
 Timothy Laing  
 David Lowes  
 Drew McFarlane-Slack  
 Hugh Nicol  
 Mark Nicolson  
 Christian Nissen  
 Hugh O'Donnell  
 Robin Pakeman  
 Gillian Pattinson  
 Mark Pattinson  
 Karen Ramoo  
 Richard Seaman  
 Colin Sneddon  
 Robert Spence  
 Frank Spencer Nairn  
 Gavin Strathdee  
 Sue Walker  
 Michael Wigan  
 Alex Baillie-Hamilton  
 Col. Rupert Nicholas  
 Hugh Rose

Mid West DMG  
 Strathtay DMG  
 Mull DMG  
 Glenfalloch Estate  
 MDMG / SLE  
 Inveraray & Tyndrum  
 Mar Estate  
 Corporate Member, Highland Game  
 Wyvis Estate  
 JHI  
 Lochcarron Estate  
 Lochcarron Estate  
 SLE  
 Goldsmiths & Co  
 British Association for Shooting & Conservation  
 West Lochaber DMG  
 Glenstrathfarrar DMG  
 Strathdee Properties Limited  
 SNH  
 Borrobol  
 Associate Member  
 Associate Member

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| 1. | <p><b>Apologies</b><br/>         Recorded above.</p>  |  |
| 2. | <p><b>Welcome</b><br/>         The Chairman welcomed all those present to the MacDonald Aviemore Highland Resort Hotel.<br/> <b>Minutes of AGM 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b><br/>         The Minutes were proposed by Col. Bewsher and seconded by Lynda Campbell as a true record of the meeting.</p>   |  |
| 3. | <p><b>Chairman's Report</b><br/>         The Chairman's Report is available to view at: <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Chairman-AGM-22.03.18.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Chairman-AGM-22.03.18.pdf</a></p>   |  |
| 4. | <p><b>Financial Report</b><br/>         Finlay Clark reported on the Management Accounts of the Association of Deer Management Groups to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Against an income budget of £81,000 relating to membership subscriptions some £78,800 had been recovered. This is against a total annual budget of £108,600.</li> <li>• FC summarised the areas of income, as donations received, lunch recoveries, associate membership subscriptions, newsletter advertising, bank interest and miscellaneous.</li> <li>• Year to date actual income was £82,821 versus a budget of £88,546 there was therefore a shortfall of £5,725 against budget.</li> </ul> |  |

- FC reported that the total income budget for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 was £117,244 and was confident that the income budget would be achieved.
- On expenditure to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018, the only area of expenditure at variance with budget related to regional meetings, running some £305 over budget.
- Against a budgeted spend of £72,720 an actual spend of £42,342 had occurred. There was therefore a positive variance of some £24,653 year-to-date.
- FC reported that the budget surplus to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 of £1,054 was likely to be achieved or exceeded by the year end.
- FC reported that the Association held £114,540 cash in the bank as at the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

FC reported on the audited accounts of the ADMG income and expenditure account for the year ending June 2017.

- FC reported the total income to the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 as £127,529.19. Subscriptions totalling £90,871.15 had been recovered along with a significant level of donations received through donors amounting to £35,150.
- Expenditure totalling £85,485.08 was incurred and comprised of administration totalling £39,107.34 and other major costs included PR, Consultants' fees and £12,783 and various DMG project costs amounting to £10,610.17 which accounted for Linzi Seivwright and Victor Clements in the main.
- A net surplus of £42,044.01 was recorded. Debtors and cash in bank accounted for £130,921.71 and creditors amounted to £84,343.40. Net assets recorded at £126,578.31.

The annual accounts and financial statements for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 had been audited by Johnson Carmichael and signed by the Chairman of the Association, Richard Cooke on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

There were no questions in relation to the Management Accounts or Audited Accounts to the end of June 2017.

Proposed by Duncan Gordon and seconded by Alistair Gibson.

**5. Chairman and Executive Committee Elections**

Richard Cooke stated that, in terms of the Constitution, the position of Chair was not due for election in 2018, he having been re-elected in 2017. However the position of Vice-Chair falls due and Randal Wilson had indicated that he would not offer himself for re-election. The Chairman thanked Randal for his work during the two years that he had served as vice chairman and proposed Tom Turnbull, former Chairman of Inverary and Tyndrum DMG as the new Vice Chairman; seconded by Mike Luti. There were no further nominations and Mr Turnbull was therefore duly elected Vice Chairman.

**Areas 2, 4, 6 and 7**

The Chairman thanked David Allison who wished to stand down, for his work in representing Area 1 and proposed Tom Chetwynd as his successor; seconded by Niall Rowantree.

|                  | <p>The Chairman proposed that all other office bearers be confirmed en-bloc, seconded by Falcon Frost.</p> <p>The Area Representatives and their Deputies are therefore as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><b>Area Representative</b></th> <th><b>Deputy</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Area 1:</td> <td>Tom Chetwynd</td> <td>Brian Lyall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 2:</td> <td>Randal Wilson</td> <td>Willie Fraser</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 3:</td> <td>James Adamson</td> <td>Drew McFarlane-Slack</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 4</td> <td>Colin McClean</td> <td>Julian Clark</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 5</td> <td>Lynda Campbell</td> <td>Alistair Gibson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 6:</td> <td>Tom Turnbull</td> <td>Victor Clements</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area 7:</td> <td>David Gillies</td> <td>Steve Woodhall</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>   |                      | <b>Area Representative</b> | <b>Deputy</b> | Area 1: | Tom Chetwynd | Brian Lyall | Area 2: | Randal Wilson | Willie Fraser | Area 3: | James Adamson | Drew McFarlane-Slack | Area 4 | Colin McClean | Julian Clark | Area 5 | Lynda Campbell | Alistair Gibson | Area 6: | Tom Turnbull | Victor Clements | Area 7: | David Gillies | Steve Woodhall |  |
|------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|----------------------|--------|---------------|--------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|----------------|--|
|                  | <b>Area Representative</b>  | <b>Deputy</b>        |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 1:          | Tom Chetwynd  | Brian Lyall          |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 2:          | Randal Wilson   | Willie Fraser        |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 3:          | James Adamson   | Drew McFarlane-Slack |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 4           | Colin McClean   | Julian Clark         |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 5           | Lynda Campbell  | Alistair Gibson      |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 6:          | Tom Turnbull  | Victor Clements      |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| Area 7:          | David Gillies   | Steve Woodhall       |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| <p><b>6.</b></p> | <p><b>Questions</b></p> <p>An update was requested regarding North Lorne and Kintyre. Tom Turnbull had been encouraging engagement and progress was on-going in the area which is largely forestry. Winston Churchill confirmed that work had restarted around 18 months previously and progress was being made. Linzi Seivwright was in the process of putting a DMP together.</p>   |                      |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| <p><b>7.</b></p> | <p><b>Committees &amp; Venison Report</b></p> <p>Dick Playfair's report can be downloaded / viewed at: <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/SVP-report-ADMG-AGM.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/SVP-report-ADMG-AGM.pdf</a></p> <p>Col. Bewsher advised that Food Standards Scotland (FSS) had reported there had been instances of wilful non compliance with food hygiene legislation at inspected processor premises and that FSS must be taken very seriously. This message was reinforced by the Chairman. It was noted that the food safety message must be disseminated more widely. The consequences of food poisoning from infected meat can be fatal and the message should be "if in doubt, throw it out". FSS had set up a hotline to encourage the industry to report unsafe practices and to promote self-regulation. The FSS hotline number is: 0800 028 7926</p>   |                      |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |
| <p><b>8.</b></p> | <p><b>SNH Update</b></p> <p>Claudia Rowse, Rural Development Manager SNH, commended the Chairman and ADMG for their commitment to the deer sector and for holding SNH's "feet to the fire" and underlined the importance of maintaining and growing the relationship between SNH and the upland deer sector..</p> <p>SNH was working with ADMG to clarify the criteria for the 2019 Assessments to ensure the deer sector know what to expect and that there are no surprises but that the process will be based on the same 101 criteria as used in the 2016 review.</p> <p>CR relayed Angus Campbell's and Sue Walker's apologies for their absence from the meeting. SW would be stepping down as Deputy Chair of SNH and AC would be succeeding her and also taking over as Chair of the Deer Management Round Table.</p> <p>SNH's CEO, Francesca Osowska was undertaking a cycle ride around the country and meeting many stakeholders. ADMG had now had two good meetings with her including her attendance at a DMG meeting.</p> |                      |                            |               |         |              |             |         |               |               |         |               |                      |        |               |              |        |                |                 |         |              |                 |         |               |                |  |

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|                  | <p><b>Current SNH Projects included:</b></p> <p><b>Independent Deer Working Group</b> - secretariat and support;</p> <p><b>Lowland Deer Panel</b> - technical support and secretariat;</p> <p>-: now working towards 2019 which includes Lowlands as well as Uplands;</p> <p><b>Deer vehicle collisions;</b></p> <p><b>Funding</b> - increase to £500,000 on projects and increase in staff. £200,000 support to DMGs including HIA and cull reductions, £30,000 to Best Practice;</p> <p><b>Regulatory powers</b> – had been reviewed and it was intended to utilise these more rigorously. CR also said that SNH will use the new powers under Section 6A of the land Reform (Scotland) Act. There is a determination to use powers and adopt a more assertive approach in supporting and guiding the deer sector;</p> <p>Willie Fraser, Helen MacIntyre and Robbie Rowntree had made excellent presentations to DMRT. In summary CR said that 2017/18 had been a busy year and SNH were now preparing for DMG reassessments in 2019 and putting more time in to lowland deer matters.</p> <p>The Cabinet Secretary was focused on delivery of the public interest and CR was happy that good progress is being made with the deer sector being well placed for the 2019 review;</p> <p>RMJC stressed the need for close working with SNH. There were many high performing DMGs, but there were a few Groups where more work is required to demonstrate that the deer sector had the capacity to deliver under the voluntary principle.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p>RMJC said that FES is most supportive of DMGs and plays a key part and positive role in the deer sector. Local Authorities were now more active in deer management and were engaging in DMGs and Lowland Deer Groups.</p> <p>CR was asked for SNH’s view on FSS and the standard of deer larders and handling. CR acknowledged concerns but had nothing particular to add other than that SNH will provide support where possible.</p> |  |
| <p><b>9.</b></p> | <p><b>Presentations</b></p> <p>Presentations can be downloaded / viewed at the undernoted webpages:</p> <p><b>Dr Peter Mayhew (CNPA): “Natural Capital’ – what does it mean for DMGs”</b><br/> <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/180228Pete-M-ADGM.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/180228Pete-M-ADGM.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Donald Fraser and Linzi Seivwright:</b><br/> <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SNH-DMG-Assessment-2019-1.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SNH-DMG-Assessment-2019-1.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Linzi Seivwright (ADMG / Consultant): “How to prepare for the 2019 Review”</b><br/> <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ADMG20181.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ADMG20181.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Winston Churchill: “A lifetime with deer and my brush with sporting rates”</b><br/> <a href="http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/winston-ADMG-AGM.pdf">http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/winston-ADMG-AGM.pdf</a></p>  |  |

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| <p><b>10.</b></p> | <p><b>Questions</b></p> <p>Peter Mayhew was asked about food production in the uplands and the future of upland farms. PM responded that the Government was focused on integrated land use which includes sheep and cattle farming. The consequences of Brexit are unpredictable, but changes in the global economy also affects agricultural output disproportionately and the agricultural sector was more challenging than ever.</p> <p>PM was asked whether there was monetary value in Natural Capital, does it exist and what does it look like? How is it quantified?</p> <p>PM commented that Scottish Government policies were not always coordinated. Monetising Natural Capital is difficult and potentially misleading. Economic decisions must quantify National Capital to enable balanced decision making.</p> <p>Claudia Rowse spoke of the National Capital Index which could produce a natural capital account for Scotland. At local level. SNH was liaising with CES regarding a natural capital protocol and how this relates to land management and delivery of public benefit.</p> <p>RMJC commented that Natural Capital value would take stewardship into account which is very important.</p> |  |
| <p><b>11.</b></p> | <p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>David Allison advised that he was recruiting staff from Ultimate OE based in New Zealand. RMJC has contact details and encouraged any DMGs needing staff to let ADMG know. The potential for student / scholarship exchange was to be explored.</p> <p>ADMG are to carry out a stalking rent survey sponsored by Knight Frank.</p> <p>There being no other business the Chairman thanked all those in attendance and closed the meeting.</p>   |  |