



The thirty-six meeting of the JNCC Support Co. Board to be held
at 13.00 on 3 June 2021 virtually via MS Teams

This paper was provided to the JNCC Support Co. Board for
decision/discussion or information. Please refer to the minutes of the
meeting for the Board's position on the paper.

To view other Joint Committee papers and minutes visit <https://jncc.gov.uk/about-jncc/who-we-are/joint-committee/>

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JNCC Support Co.

Board meeting

Minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the JNCC Support Co. Board held on Thursday 11 June 2020 held as a virtual meeting via GoToMeeting

1. There are no amendments to the minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the JNCC Support Co. Board.



JNCC Support Co 35th Meeting Minutes Unconfirmed

Date: 11 June 2020	Time: 13.00
Venue: Virtual meeting via GoToMeeting	

Present

Professor Melanie Austen
Independent Member

Mr Charles Banner
Independent Member

Professor Ian Bateman
Independent member

Lord David Blencathra
Natural England

Ms Cath Denholm
Scottish Natural Heritage

Professor Colin Galbraith
Independent Member

Professor Chris Gilligan
Independent Chair

Dr Hilary Kirkpatrick
Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside

Professor Steve Ormerod
Natural Resources Wales

Professor Marian Scott
Independent Member

Professor Michael Winter
Natural England

Mr Marcus Yeo
JNCC

In attendance

Mr Chris Brooks
JNCC Company Secretary

Ms Emer O'Connor (via telephone)
JNCC

Mrs Tracey Quince
JNCC

Apologies

Dr Mike Cantlay
Scottish Natural Heritage

Sir David Henshaw
Natural Resources Wales

1. Chairman's opening remarks

- 1.1. Professor Gilligan welcomed everyone to the thirty-fifth meeting of the JNCC Support Company Board of Directors. Professor Gilligan advised members that his term as Chair of JNCC, which had been scheduled to conclude at the end of May, had been formally extended until 4 December 2020. The extension would allow for continuity during the changed period of working brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 Professor Gilligan noted the sad passing of Professor Platt in August last year. A silence was held whilst members reflected on his contribution to the Joint Committee and Company Board.

2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 No relevant interests were declared.

3. Amendments to the minutes of the June 2019 Board meeting (BD 20 01)

- 3.1 The minutes of the June 2019 Board meeting were agreed.

4. JNCC Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 (BD 20 02)

- 4.1 Mr Brooks introduced the paper which presented the JNCC Annual Report and Accounts (ARA) for the year ending 31 March 2020. Certification was expected on 26 June with the ARA being laid in Parliament on 9 July.
- 4.2 The Board was advised that the ARA had been reviewed by Mr Nigel Reader on behalf of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC). ARAC had discussed the ARA the previous day and ARAC was content to recommend to the Board that it approves and adopts the ARA for 2019/20.
- 4.3 In discussion the Board noted that:
 - i. reporting on equality and diversity and sustainability should be more comprehensive in next year's ARA;
 - ii. note 2 to the financial statements showed that staff costs had increased by 14% since 2018/19. This level of increase would be unsustainable in the longer term. Mr Yeo noted that an increase in pension contributions accounted for a large part of the overall increase;

- iii. full attendance at meetings of the Company Board was an expectation not an aspiration. Ms Denholm and Professor Ormerod agreed to speak with their respective chairs to discuss attendance as specified by the constitution.

4.4 The Board:

- i. **approved and adopted** the JNCC Annual Reports and Accounts (ARA) for the year ending 31 March 2020. The Board delegated sign off of the ARA to Mr Yeo;
- ii. **authorised** the Company Secretary to lodge the accounts with Companies House;
- iii. **authorised** the Chief Executive to arrange for the accounts to be laid before the Houses of Parliament and the Scottish Parliament; and
- iv. **authorised** the Chief Executive to sign the letter of representation for the year ended 31 March 2020.

- 4.5 The Board passed on their thanks to the staff involved in the production of the ARA, noting the tremendous effort expended to bring the ARA together under the challenging circumstances of Covid-19. Members expressed their thanks to staff in maintaining the original timetable for production of the ARA and extended their thanks to the IT team for ensuring staff could use the technology to deliver their work.