

**Minute of the Annual General Meeting**  
**of the Loch Tay Association**  
**The Reading Room, Kenmore on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 6.00pm**

**Present:** Bill Oppenheim (Chair), Steve Thomas (Vice-Chair), Wilma Harrison (secretary/Treasurer), Peter Ely, Keith Mitchell, Barrie Andrian, Nick Dixon, Eileen Malone, Alan Malone, Lou Radford, Dirk Bauskoek, William Lindsay, Billy Duff, Robin Menzies, Jenny Robertson, Graham Mulroy and Willy Graham.

1. **Apologies:** Jenny Penfold, David O'Donoghue, Jon Iddon
2. **Minutes of AGM 25/03/2024** - Proposed to accept by ST and seconded by BD. Accepted by those present.
3. **Receive & approve accounts:** - Accounts accepted. WH to arrange audit of accounts.

There was a discussion on the availability of fishing permits. It was agreed that we would approach the shop to ask if they would resume selling permits. RM will contact ELTAC to get their position currently and report back.

4. **Chairs Report:**

Good evening and thank you for coming along to the Loch Tay Association AGM for 2025. Following the organization's revival in 2023 we have enjoyed increased participation from a few key members of the community and the Management Committee although Wilma advises me there are quite a few subscriptions not yet paid for 2024. There are four areas I'd like to mention:

- **The revised Code of Conduct.** Inspired by Taymouth Marina's development of their own Code of Conduct we wanted to update ours and reconcile it as much as possible with the Marina's. This project was headed up for the LTA by Stevie Thomas and we want to thank Stevie for his efforts and persistence. The revised Code of Conduct is now printed and placed in key local businesses and copies are readily available for further distribution.

6.20pm GM arrived

- **Environmental Concerns** on and Around the Loch. Adam Harrison, Robin Menzies, and Robin Boswell have been active in this sphere and many of you have seen Adam's comprehensive analysis on environmental issues in and around the loch. We are hoping to move forward with some research about the water quality in the loch as there are significantly more users now in the loch rather than just on the loch. Adam and Robin Menzies are progressing action on this topic.

- **Roads.** There's no one who lives in the watershed of Loch Tay who isn't aware of the poor quality of the roads around the loch. The C451 south side road and the A827 north side road both have plenty of issues. Keith Mitchell has been representing the LTA and we have been coordinating with the Kenmore Community Council and its Road Safety Group which is led by Jon Iddon. Jon is away this week so couldn't be at the meeting but has actually been successful in getting some improvements scheduled for the U177 'back road' and is preparing to turn his attention to the south side road, and Andy Aitken from the Killin Community Council is leading the charge for action about the issues with the A827.

- **Fast broadband.** Those of us in close proximity to the Taymouth Castle redevelopment have benefitted from the laying of fibreoptic cables and now have incredibly fast broadband for which we are hugely grateful to the Discovery Land Co. which owns the Castle. But there are still many people in the Loch Tay Watershed who do not have fast broadband and, as we have been doing for the last 20 years the organization will continue our efforts until everyone in the Watershed has it.

However, there is an overriding issue with our organization which is that, like many community groups, we are an all-volunteer army with no statutory standing, whereas the Community Councils at least are statutory bodies which means their respective district councils have to at least make a show of communicating with them – and even the Community Councils are all volunteers. What clearly happens is that district councils like Perth and Kinross are basically able to get away with having community volunteers do a lot of unpaid work that councils should be doing or funding such as, for example, taking water quality readings in the loch. Firstly, volunteers do not have unlimited blocks of time; there is only so much people can or should be asked to do. Then there is what we might call 'volunteer fatigue': there's this to do, that to do, then a few more things to do, and when does it stop? This isn't a job, it's a contribution, and it primarily falls on the over-50's to do the volunteering as young families are generally properly more concerned with getting the kids fed and off to school so both parents can go to work.

Wilma has announced that she is stepping down as Secretary-Treasurer after nearly 25 years and can I say thank you, Wilma, we couldn't have done it without you, and I definitely couldn't have. I've been Chairman since 2007 and it's time I stepped down too, though if the organization would like for me to do a final term as Chair I will be happy to do so. There is an argument for the existence of the Loch Tay Association because the loch straddles three separate District Councils but if we are going to continue we need to focus our efforts on distinct projects such as those outlined above, but only if we have the volunteers committed to do the work – which ideally would consist of identifying issues and then handing them off to paid officials who accept it is their responsibility to fund and execute the projects. In this regard we do have excellent coordination with the Kenmore Community Council, which is at least statutory but still an all-volunteer army. But let me not be remiss in recognizing and thanking you volunteers who have undertaken, and will undertake, LTA projects. So thank you very very much, and again, thank you all for volunteering your time and coming along tonight.

6.30pm WG arrived

5. **Subscription:** Will remain unchanged.
  
6. **Election of Office Bearers:** To be elected by Management Committee at next meeting.

Thanks were extended to Nick Dixon who is standing down as a Committee Member.

**Volunteers for the Management Committee are as follows:**

Keith Mitchell  
Robin Menzies  
Billy Duff  
William Lindsay  
Dirk Bauskoek – Taymouth Marina  
Jenny Robertson – Glen Lyon & Loch Tay CC  
Andy Aitken – Killin CC  
Bill Oppenheim  
Graham Milroy

**A.O.C.B.:**

- It was suggested we set up a website to promote LTA and as a platform for information.
- We need to advertise for a new Secretary/Treasurer.
- Thanks were extended to Graham Milroy, for attending, he gave a brief talk on the Fish Farm and answered questions from the floor.

Kames Fish Farming – Tay – Update Graham Milroy Fish Farm Manager

The Fish Farm on Loch Tay is part of Kames Fish Farming Ltd, Scotland's family fish farm since 1972 whose values of quality, sustainability and community run through everything we do. The farm has been in operation on Loch Tay for approximately 40 years, the farm is still on the original moorings and have not been relocated. I have been the Manager on Loch Tay for the past 12 years. The fish farm grows rainbow trout from 200g to 4 kilos, this process takes around 20-22 months to harvest. The farm has not carried out any chemical treatments for parasites since 2014 as part of the aim to become more sustainable. The farm is strictly monitored by SEPA, the last audit was in August 2024. Stirling University carry out bi-monthly water sample testing to ensure that the waste that the farm produces, i.e phosphorus, levels are within the SEPA restrictions. Part of the discussions were regarding algae bloom in the loch, algae is more likely to be caused by the increasing temperature in the loch and when the Loch is low and not waste products from the fish farm as the algae can be found at many different sites from Killin to Kenmore.

**Answers to specific questions**

- · Loch Tay Fish Farm grow approximately 250 tonnes not 400 tonnes
- · The last SEPA visit to Loch Tay Fish Farm was 2024 though they were there in 2006 as well.
- · The moorings have never been relocated and are in their initial place.
- · We are looking into putting an information board up to give people an idea of the life cycle of the fish and how the farm operates throughout the year.

The chair thanked those present for attending. Meeting closed at 7pm