

Experience of inspectors with regards to Zoo inspections

Professor Anna Meredith has been a Secretary of State's Zoo Inspector since 1996 and has carried out over 100 zoo inspections. In her role as Chair of the UK Government's Zoos Expert Committee, Anna has an advisory role to Defra on the implementation of the ZLA, has chaired and participated in the delivery of several Defra training seminars for zoo inspectors, and has produced new guidance notes for inspectors on the zoo inspection process. She oversees the ongoing review of the SSSMZP including updates to standards to keep them in line with current best practice and EU legislation.

Dr Matthew Brash has been a Secretary of state's Zoo Inspector since 2002. Since then he has undertaken over 100 zoo inspections. As president of the British Veterinary Zoological Society he sat on the DEFRA/Zoo Liaison committee for two years. He continues to act as veterinary surgeon for a large well respected zoological collection in the North East of England.

Nick Jackson MBE has been employed in zoos since 1969. First as an animal keeper, then a Curator/Director, then as a Zoological Director and currently as CEO of the Welsh Mountain Zoo – National Zoo of Wales. He has been a Secretary of State's Part 2 Zoo Inspector for 33 years, since the Zoo Licensing Act was implemented in 1984. Since that time he has been involved in over 250 inspections across the UK. He was a member of the UK Government's Zoos Forum (now Zoos Expert Committee) for 9 years from 1999 to 2008, it's Vice Chair from 2002 to 2008 and Acting Chair in 2004. He is a former Chair of BIAZA's (then Federation of Zoos) Conservation and Animal Management Committee and Chair of its governing Council.

Graham Barker

From: Anne Chapman
Sent: 06 February 2017 09:35
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Jane Holden; Graham Barker
Subject: RE: FAO Environmental Health Manager, Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council - Re: Zoo Licence Application - David Stanley Gill

Dear [REDACTED]

I acknowledge receipt of your email which contains Mr Gill's representations on the Zoo Inspectors' reports.

Kind regards

Anne

From: [REDACTED] [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 03 February 2017 16:51
To: Anne Chapman
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FAO Environmental Health Manager, Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council - Re: Zoo Licence Application - David Stanley Gill

Dear Anne

I write further to your email of the 27th January and confirm safe receipt of the Inspection Report, the Additional Report and the Conditions Report.

I would be grateful if you could treat this email as Mr Gill's representations on those reports. Mr Gill is not proposing to make any substantive representations on the opinions and comments expressed in the reports, save in respect of those comments which relate to corporate governance and the transfer of the Zoo to a new operating company. However, this should not be taken as his admission that he accepts the validity of those other comments. His decision not to make such representations should be seen in the context of his previously expressed wish to step back from the running of the Zoo.

Mr Gill has been desirous of handing over the management of the Zoo for some time. However, he has always been aware of the need to keep the Zoo open and trading whilst new operators could be found.

It is true that over the last 12 months or so, a number of potential models for the future operation of the Zoo have been identified and explored. The inspectors seek to characterise these explorations as representative of poor management or of an underlying desire on Mr Gill's part to remain in control at the Zoo. This is not the case. There have been numerous meetings between Mr Gill, his bankers and professional advisors regarding the best way to achieve Mr Gill's objectives of exiting the Zoo whilst keeping the Zoo open so that any new operator is able to take the Zoo over as a going concern. These discussions led to consideration of a number of potential options, but each option had to be considered against the commercial benefit to the respective parties, the requirements of inspectors and regulators and the requirements of bankers.

The current arrangement sees the entire Zoo site leased to Cumbria Zoo Company Limited (CZCL) under a six month lease. CZCL has taken over the operation of the entire attraction, including animal management but also ancillary activities such as restaurant and gift shops. Mr Gill remains the licence holder, but otherwise has stepped away from all trading and management activities connected with the Zoo. He will continue in the capacity of landlord only (both directly and through South Lakes Safari Zoo Limited (SLSZ)).

If or when CZCL's application for a Zoo Licence is granted, an eight year lease will immediately come into force. You should have copies of the relevant Agreement for lease and the lease itself.

Mr Gill is also in discussions with CZCL for them to buy the land on which the Zoo is sited and/or for CZCL to buy the entire issued share capital in SLSZ. If this deal is concluded, Mr Gill would not even have a relationship with CZCL as a landlord and his ties with the Zoo would be completely severed. It is hoped that this final severing of all ties can be achieved in the coming months.

Mr Gill has no involvement in CZCL whether as an officer, shareholder, employee, consultant or contractor. He has moved to a new property around thirty miles from the Zoo and has only returned to his property at the Zoo on three occasions since Christmas. He therefore has no means by which he can oblige CZCL or its officers, employees or agents to follow his wishes. He has noted that the inspectors have commended CZCL for making certain changes to the Zoo which they regard as beneficial and this demonstrates that CZCL is acting independently from Mr Gill and is not subject to his direct or indirect influence.

In summary, although there appears to be some suspicion on the part of the inspectors, Mr Gill is absolutely committed to exiting the Zoo and to transferring full responsibility for the Zoo to CZCL.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge safe receipt of this email.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Director and Solicitor
Livingstons Solicitors Limited
9 Benson Street
Ulverston
LA12 7AU
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Ext: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

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David Gills
Broughton Road
Dalton in Furness
Cumbria
LA15 8JR

Date: 02nd February 2017

Our reference: FSL17/C4407964/ND



Dear Sir,

**CONSULTATION WITH STATUTORY AUTHORITY
LICENSING ACT 2003**

APPLICATION REFERENCE:– South lakes animal Park
PREMISES: South Lakes Animal Park, Broughton road, Dalton in
Furness, Cumbria. LA15 8JR

I refer to the application for the grant of a premises licence, under the above Act dated 1st February 2017. The plans submitted do not show the scale of the access roads to the site/buildings or water provision.

Vehicle access road should comply with ADB section 16.8, Table 20 and Diagram 50 and water provision as in ADB section 16.1 & 16.2.

This is subject to the premises having a suitable and sufficient fire safety risk assessment as required by the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Under this legislation, every 'responsible person' is required to carry out a fire safety risk assessment, of which both the significant findings and the identity of any group of persons especially at risk should be recorded.

Additionally, a record must be kept of appropriate fire safety arrangements for the effective planning, organisation, control monitoring and review of the preventative and protective measures. As a person having control of safety on the premises, the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is also responsible for establishing, recording and implementing these arrangements.

Guidance on complying with the regulations is available in the relevant booklets 'HM Government Publication Fire Safety Risk Assessment', which are available from the Stationery Office, some bookshops, and by downloading them free from the Internet at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-communities-and-local-government/series/fire-safety-law-and-guidance-documents-for-business>

If you would like to discuss this or any other matter of fire safety, please contact me at the above details.

Yours faithfully'

Handwritten marks at the top of the page.

Vertical line or mark on the page.

[REDACTED]
Watch Manager
Fire Protection
for the Chief Fire Officer

Graham Barker

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 February 2017 16:27
To: Graham Barker
Subject: RE: zoo Planning issues

“On Tuesday 21st Feb the Planning Authority (PA) received notification from the Planning Portal that a minor material amendment application for the repositioned buildings (visitor reception, Africa House and associated store) has been submitted. This application will be subject to checking for completeness including the correct fee and sufficient information upon which a decision can be made. Once registered a minimum of 21 days will be required for consultee and neighbour consideration. No application has yet been received for the Bear House.

Over the recent half term including the weekend 18/19th Feb the PA received complaints from Melton Terrace residents relating to queueing traffic on the hill outside their homes. It was alleged that this was due to poor staff supervision of the car park. The borough enforcement officer has visited and spoke to the zoo duty manager about the need to maintain a robust approach to managing visitor vehicles. He will make further inspections over the coming days”

[REDACTED]
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Development Services Manager
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Please send large attachments to;

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Captive Animals' Protection Society
Po Box 590
Manchester
M12 0DP

Environmental Health Manager
Barrow Borough Council
Town Hall
Duke Street
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria. LA14 2LD

9th February 2017

RE: South Lakes Safari Zoo

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to submit our concerns regarding the South Lakes Safari Zoo. As part of our charity work we monitor and investigate UK zoos and have been in operation since 1957. Due to the issues with non-compliance of the Zoo Licence by South Lakes Safari Zoo and the subsequent decision to not renew their licence, our investigators visited the zoo on 19th July 2016 and I would like to share our findings with you. We were primarily focussed on animal welfare issues, as that is the nature of our work.

We would also like to present our opinion on the possible future licensing of this zoo to be able to continue to operate. Working in the field of animal protection with years of work on the zoo industry, we would hope our presentations would be taken into account when making a decision.

We are aware the council has received two applications to operate South Lakes Safari Zoo from two parties:

1. Mr David Gill
2. Karen Brewer of the Cumbria Zoo Company Ltd

We wish to formally oppose both applications to continue the operation of the zoo and would encourage the council to use its powers under the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 to close this zoo down. Below we outline our main areas for concern at the zoo, many of which the council have already identified, which relate directly to the applications.

CAPS visit 19th July 2016

Our investigators visited South Lakes Zoo on 19th July 2016. They witnessed various animals with varying degrees of ill health including a meerkat with visible skin issues (Image 1), a lemur with a sore (image 2), and a kangaroo which looked incredibly emaciated and unwell (image 3).



Image 1. Meerkat with skin condition



Image 2. Lemur



Image 3. Kangaroo

Despite this day being one of the hottest of the year (reportedly up to 29 degrees Celsius in Barrow-in-Furness), the Humboldt penguins had no water at all (image 4 and 5). The investigators were in that enclosure for around 10 minutes and they could not see any keepers to speak with about their concerns.



Image 4. Empty penguin pool

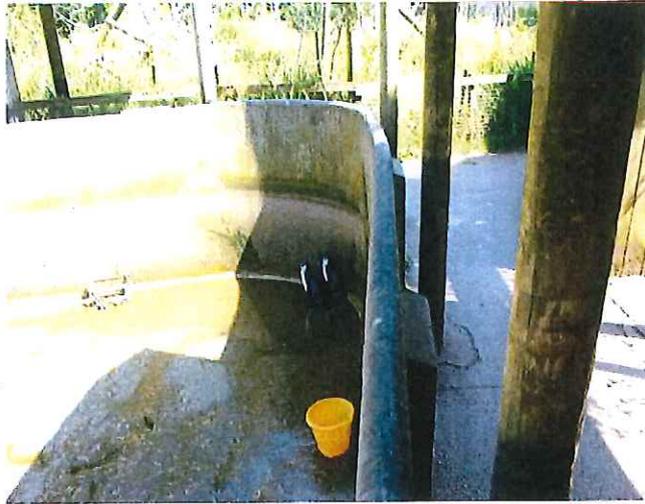


Image 5. Penguins in puddle of water

Alongside these findings, our investigators witnessed birds nesting on the outside of the zoo (image 6). These birds appeared to be European White Stork, a bird species which lives at the zoo and are not native to the UK. We can only presume that these birds had escaped from the zoo and taken nest outside the enclosures. Given the many previous documented escapes of animals from the zoo over the years, it is of concern to us that non-native species appear to still be escaping to the zoo, with seemingly little being done to rectify the problem.



Image 6. Stork nesting on top of zoo enclosure

With regard to previous issues surrounding animal bites and particularly the public feeding lemurs, our investigators observed lemurs in direct contact with the public, with many wearing just one glove and some with none (images 7 and 8).



Image 7. Lemurs interacting with public

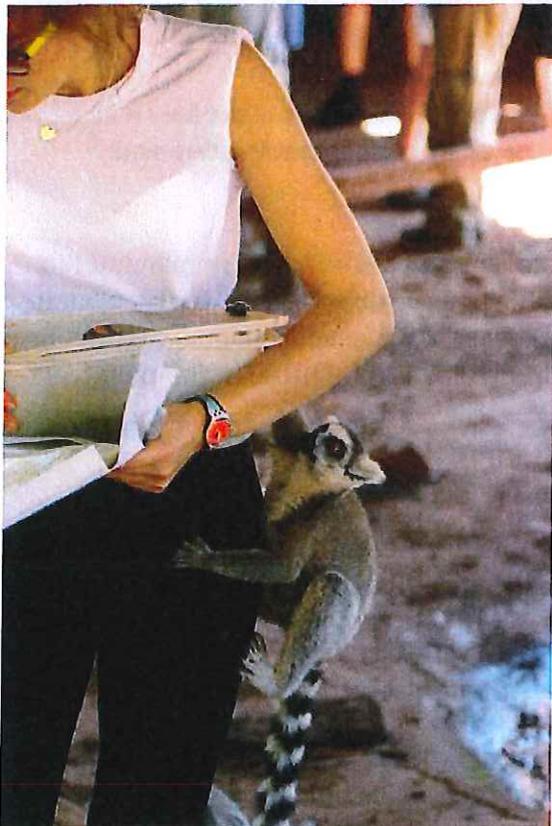


Image 8. No gloves on person interacting with lemurs

Council Inspections

On top of what our investigators have witnessed at the zoo, we have been closely following the inspections of South Lakes Safari Zoo and subsequent issues raised by inspectors. We are particularly concerned by the following highlighted in inspection reports:

Inspection November 2015

'During the November 2015 Inspection the Zoo were heavily criticised for not having sufficient shelter and especially after 5 of an imported 6 Nyala died. Two Nyala had died in the days leading to the November 2015 inspection in association with a period of extreme wet and cold weather.'

'At some point (it is not clear when) a number of birds had been moved from other areas of the park into the Africa field, the same enclosure that the nyala were kept in (and where some died of exposure). These birds included hornbills, storks, cattle egrets, ibis, and crown cranes. They had not been provided with any shelter, or perching. Many of these species will find shelter from inclement weather in shrubs, or under canopies, and enjoy perching, and building nests in trees. It was confirmed that none of these were available to the birds. Of concern is that these birds have been relocated to an environment, at some point prior to the inspection, without suitable facilities, i.e. perching and shelter, being constructed prior to the move. This is an example of the poor management still ongoing at the Zoo under the direction of David Gill.'

This condition (**Condition 31 on licence**) has now been complied with but we feel it is a strong indicator that the welfare of the animals under the zoo's care is not treated as a priority.

Whilst the applications for both zoos state that the nyala will have 'shelter to be provided in outdoor enclosures where needed' and for the birds, 'shelters required for the Africa area to accommodate all the birds at any one time' it has been clear that there has been a distinct lack of understanding of appropriate enclosures for both the nyala and the birds in the past.

Inspection 23rd-25th May 2016

On 23rd-25th May 2016 there was a special inspection and subsequent report. In this inspection the inspector looked at the veterinary records, particularly mortality rates which they considered to be high. The following was found:

'In 2015 there were 146 deaths, approximately half were mammals, half birds and some reptiles.'

In Jan-April 2016, 61 animals died. 50 died and 11 were euthanased. 17 of the deaths were related to trauma as well as 15 animals being treated for traumatic injuries and wounds.'

Inspectors noted that 19 could have been preventable:

1. 2 animals died from rat poison

2. *Five inca terns died from exposure undetermined*
3. *Alpaca died from hypothermia*
4. *13 animals died from trauma*
5. *1 bird euthanased after beak broken by macaw*
6. *Three from emaciation*
7. *1 lemur drowned*
8. *3 ducks run over*

At interview the vet for the collection RB agreed that there was a large number of injuries from fights but did not see how he could resolve this.

The veterinary department (FS and RB) were interviewed regarding this at length and accepted that the level of injuries and death were unacceptably high. However they did not have a plan as to how it could be reduced. FS was of the opinion that injury due to fighting is what would happen in the wild and the risk of this should be balanced against their freedom to range freely....The veterinary department, despite attending more regularly, seem to be largely reactive and 'firefighting'. Qu RB 'I spend most of my time stitching animals up' the management in preventing these problems.'

RB (Rick Browne) is listed as the primary veterinarian for both zoo applications. FS (Frieda Schreiber) sits on the board of Directors for South Lakes Safari Zoo and is David Gill's wife. It is worrying that the veterinary department who have had a level of acceptance for the high levels of injury and death will continue to be very much part of the veterinary team at the zoo as per the applications of both South Lakes Safari Zoo and Cumbria Zoo Ltd.

Although causes of death are not normally publicly available, the inclusion of this in the inspector's report leads us to believe that the level of preventable deaths is a higher level than is normally acceptable. The fact that the veterinary department accepted that mortality rates and injuries were 'unacceptably high' is very telling.

Inspection 3rd November 2016

At an inspection on 3rd November 2016, heating had still not been installed despite inspectors having been told that it would be by August, prior to the Winter months. The inspector stated:

'None of the zoo management present knew what the plans for heating the animal house were, nor are there written plans. It is essential that animals such as rhinos have accomodation that meets their welfare needs.'

This is of particular importance as whilst Giraffe can cope well with high ambient temperatures, they are not good at coping with low temperatures. Non Shivering Thermo-genesis uses energy reserves that these animals do not have, and makes them prone to Per-acute Giraffe Mortality Syndrome.

Rhino are more robust at coping with a lower temperature, but juveniles are very susceptible to low temperatures, and in all cases they should be provided with an environment that meets their needs at all times.'

It was mentioned in this Special Inspection Report that a giraffe died after slipping in June 16. During this inspection there was a scattering of sand and no thicker bedding for the giraffe to lie on. This again leads us to believe that the animals' needs are not being treated with the attention they need and more preventable deaths have occurred since the ones highlighted by the inspection in May 2016.

There was no bedding or substrate for the rhino. Two of them were pregnant and one had a juvenile calf (which is susceptible to the temperature so could die of hypothermia).

Whilst we are unaware of whether the issue of heating has been complied with, it shows very much a lack of care and understanding of the animals' needs by these issues having to be raised by an inspector. Not only this, but the heating had still not been provided by the winter months which could have resulted in ill health, or even worse, death of the animals under the zoo's care.

Whilst the applications state that heating would be provided for the species as well as bedding and 'deep litter where required', we are left in doubt that these statements are genuine when the zoo has previously failed to meet the most basic requirements of providing heating and bedding to animals who need it.

Licence conditions and compliance

We note that over the years the zoo has had an unprecedented number of conditions added to its license, as outlined in inspections and also as covered in the council meeting held on May 13th 2016. Some conditions have not been complied with at all whilst other conditions were not complied with in the specified timescale, showing how they do not seem to be taking the law seriously. This gives us serious reasons for doubt that the zoo will perform better in future.

Conclusion

Due to all of the issues we have found during our investigation and by inspectors, the Zoo's non-compliance with the Zoo Licensing Act, not to mention the disregard for animal welfare, we feel that the Zoo licence applications submitted by Mr David Gill and Ms Karen Brewer should be rejected. It is clear that both Mr Gill and Ms Brewer have held major responsibilities for the running of this zoo and have failed to carry out what was required of them to comply with the law and to protect the welfare of the animals in their care.

The conduct of this Zoo has been some of the worst we have seen in many years and we feel that a cause for closure is strong. We urge the council to take the opportunity to prevent more



Registered charity no 1124436

animal suffering at this Zoo and also set an example to the entire industry that inadequate care and management will not be tolerated.

Regards,


Campaigns Director

[REDACTED]

(

(

[REDACTED]
ZEAHWA Service
Zoo / Exotic Animal Husbandry and Welfare Advisory Service

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]
Mob: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Environmental Health Manager
Barrow Borough Council
Town Hall
Duke Street
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria
LA14 2LD

Dear Environmental Health Manager,

Representation against Zoo Licence Application made by David S. Gill in accordance with the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 (as amended)

Ss.3(2)(f) and (g) state:-

(f) Any person alleging that the establishment or continuance of the zoo would injuriously affect the health or safety of persons living in the neighbourhood of the zoo;

(g) Any other person whose representations might, in the opinion of the local authority, show grounds on which the authority has a power or duty to refuse to grant a licence.

In July 2016, inspectors recommended the zoo's licence should not be reissued until new management was in place. The council agreed and David Gill's zoo licence was revoked. Inspectors and the council said Mr Gill, 55, had refused to "implement modern zoo practices" resulting in significant concerns over the safety of staff, the visiting public and the animals. A number of new management teams had been forward to inspectors to comply with the conditions, but Dr Brash was critical of them all, which included the CEO of the zoo and the management under her control.

As per Condition 39 Direction Notice Order; the only future for this zoo [South Lakes Safari Zoo] is to be free and disassociated with the current owner [David S. Gill], the management and the staff, to have no link whatsoever. However, this is not the case and as such David Gill's zoo licence application fail to meet and comply with such an order which was placed on David Gill's / South Lakes Safari Zoo's zoo licence and as such the zoo cannot continue.

[REDACTED]



David Gill's Zoo Licence Application contains false information and as such is seen as a Criminal Offence. Such as: (a) David Gill has posted his convictions against him but has forgot to add those taken against his zoo, this must be put down as it is his zoo and he owns it and is in charge of the licence when occurred; he is the owner and must comply with the said declaration; (b) The offences are not spent, the law states five years and even so, they remain on your criminal record and cannot be expunged. David Gill is seen under law as not being a fit person to hold a zoo licence.

Time and time again, the cat and mouse chase has run its course between David Gill and the council, who in all purposes have given David Gill more bites at the cherry than any other zoological collection known in the UK. I have given numerous amounts of evidence against David Gill and the South Lakes Safari Zoo, this is credible and tangible.

David Gill has not dissolved or liquidated any of the three known companies that he has, aside from the fourth known as Cumbria Zoo Ltd, as they are all under the control of David Gill as per Companies House and Charities Commission charity check [evidence has been given to show this]; all are active and all have David Gill, his wife Frieda and the Management and or Staff of the Zoo are involved. Therefore, all of these companies are just another front and or phoenix companies that are set up so that David Gill can gain in principle a Zoo Licence, but using these four companies.

There is some confusion regarding as to who is running the zoo currently, as the zoo is still owned by David Gill [see <https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/03561692/officers> - South Lakes Safari Zoo Ltd] Currently you have David Gill but you also have the zoos CEO also under the second zoo licence application, the staff do not own the zoo, David Gill does; who pays the staff and why does David Gill still have his name as Director and owner?

David Gill / South Lakes Safari Zoo, is under court investigation by HMRC for EBT scheme which is being chased for to the tune of £1.1 million and rising daily. It is understood that the Minister for DEFRA, the Minister for Local Government and other national bodies are also investigating David Gill and the zoo.

Under David Gill as the owner, Director and person who financially runs the zoo, the zoo and he have ignored many times legal requirements, direction and notice orders, court action and orders, failing to play by the rules and regulations and in whole, he has basically stuck his nose up to all authority. The management and the staff are ultimately under the control of David Gill, the buck stops with him.

Due to the past and current chronic history of the zoo, with itself being in and out of court, the press and breaching so many laws and regulations etc. this making it a hot potato and far too risky to be associated with, then it would be advisable by not allowing David Gill in obtaining a new and fresh zoo licence. It is seen that David Gill will continue with his games between those in authority, this is costly, it I also foolish and dangerous, after all, the zoo owned by David Gill has had a keeper death, staff injuries, employment tribunals, the highest number of animal escapes, animal



The Rivera Schreiber-Gill Conservation Foundation

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vationFoundation

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The Rivera Schreiber-Gill Conservation Foundation

21 hrs · 🌐

We have some very sad news to pass on to our supporters and followers. In early January 2017 David Gill the founder of the Safari Zoo and foundation signed a lease to transfer all of the operations of the Zoo to a new company. This was to enable him to retire and focus on conservation. However as you may be aware nearly all of the direct funding of ALL our projects was provided for by David himself either personally or through the zoo company. This funding has now ceased totally due to the new Zoo operator having a different priority in the future and not having any obligation to support our projects.

We are therefor in desperate need of sponsorship from companies or individuals to continue all our vital work.

We would be grateful for any contacts or communication with anyone to ensure these world acclaimed projects do not fail and place around 75 overseas staff out of work in this next month.

This is critical and was very much an unexpected occurrence for this charity.

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👍👍👍 21

Chronological

20 shares



[Redacted Name]

Like Reply 0 likes



[Redacted Name]

Like Reply 0 likes



[Redacted Name] Surely it should have been part of the contract that they upkeep the funding? I can't believe that David would've let this happen. I would've expected him to want all the projects to continue after he put so much into them. This is really sad news for... See More

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The Rivera Schreiber-Gill Conservation Foundation I did try to get guarantees but the authorities have insisted that no such obligation be placed on the new licence holder. It is simply a moral and ethical question for the new owners and I believe they would like to assist in the long term but cannot for the foreseeable future regards David

Like Reply 0 likes

deaths, animal bites to public, highest number of poor animal welfare history known in any UK zoo. This is not forgetting the Mareeba Zoo in Australia where David Gill found himself in court, animal escapes, animal deaths, owing monies, leaving the animals to fend for themselves, and his business in tatters which was raised in a Government Hansard report, where David Gill had to leave Australia, likewise for his business ventures in the USA, this is well documented.

Please take note of the new attached information conferring what I was saying about David Gill. He writes using his wife's FB page and has said that he is no longer in charge of the zoo and he is going off to do other things but we have heard this before. It is noted that David Gill has not dissolved South Lakes Safari Zoo or any other of the three companies that I have given evidence of. David Gill is taking the council and the zoo inspectors for mugs, nothing has changed, he is still playing his games.

Interesting, as they [the zoo] are using the email address and name "Cumbria Zoo"; David Gill has NOT dissolved or liquidated any of the three known companies aside from the fourth known as Cumbria Zoo Ltd, as they are all owned by David Gill as per Companies House, all are active and all have David Gill, his wife Frieda and the Management and or Staff of the Zoo all named and involved, therefore Cumbria Zoo is just another front and phoenix company set up so that David Gill can gain in principle a Zoo Licence but using Karen Brewer who is employed by David Gill under the companies named below as the zoo CEO and Director:

<https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/10423947/officers> - Cumbria Zoo Ltd

<https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/03561692/officers> - South Lakes Safari Zoo Ltd

<https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/10059261/officers> - Safari Zoo Trading Ltd

<https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/10143744/officers> - Safari Zoo Nature Ltd

 BSc (Hons)

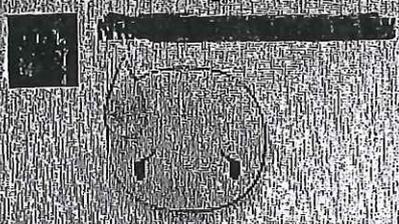
Ex-Zoo Curator; Head Keeper and Senior Keeper; Big Cat Specialist; Author of Exotic Animal Welfare and Zoo Animal Management Articles; Freelance University Tutor on Zoo Animal Management, Advisory Service for Zoos and Animal Collections & Freelance Press Photographer



Like Comment Share

Chronojica

20 shares



Like Reply 20 hrs



Like Reply 20 hrs Edited

Surely it should have been part of the contract that they upkeep the funding? I can't believe that David would've let this happen. I would've expected him to want all the projects to continue after he put so much into them. This is really sad news for the zoo and projects & worrying for the future. I hope they aren't going to turn out to be a profit driven company & that they will continue to put the zoo & conservation projects first.

Like Reply 20 hrs

The Riveta Schreiber Gill Conservation Foundation I did try to get guarantees but the authorities have insisted that no such obligation be placed on the new licence holder. It is simply a moral and ethical question for the new owners and I believe they would like to assist in the long term but cannot for the foreseeable future. regards David

Like Reply 20 hrs Edited

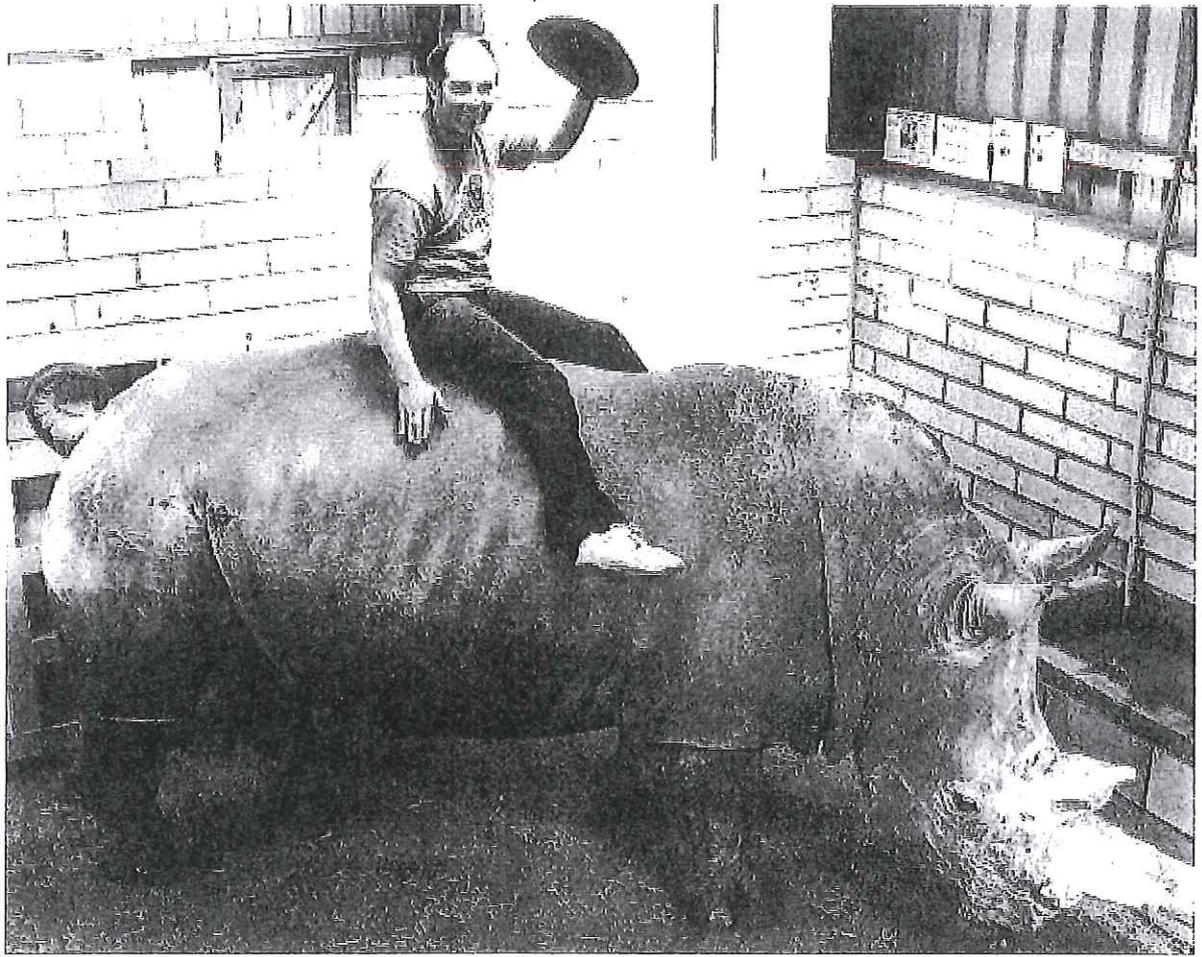
That's such a shame David. I hope things change. It seems its a constant battle.

Like Reply 20 hrs



That's really sad. I hope you get somebody to take on the funding. What are the plans of the new owners? Does this mean that the zoo in Gambia will be run as a profit based company or will the emphasis still be as a conservation breeding programme?

Like Reply 20 hrs



Graham Barker

From: Jane Holden
Sent: 07 February 2017 08:45
To: Anne Chapman; Graham Barker
Subject: 2017; } - South Lakes Safari Zoo: Concerns raised over zoo licence applicant

Morning

FYI

Jane

Jane Holden
 Acting Principal Legal Officer
 Barrow Borough Council
 Tel: (01229) [REDACTED]

From: Customer Services
Sent: 06 February 2017 11:02
To: Jane Holden
Subject: FW: South Lakes Safari Zoo: Concerns raised over zoo licence applicant

From: J
Sent: 03 February 2017 18:05
To: Theresa May
Cc: Jeremy Corbyn; Customer Services
Subject: South Lakes Safari Zoo: Concerns raised over zoo licence applicant

Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP
 Prime Minister
 10 Downing Street
 London
 SW1A 2AA
 E-mail: britishembassyenquiries@gmail.com

Re: South Lakes Safari Zoo: Concerns raised over zoo licence applicant

Dear Prime Minister:

It has been reported that David Gill, owner of South Lakes Safari Zoo in Cumbria, is re-applying for a licence to operate the zoo, despite having been refused an extension to a previous licence purportedly over animal welfare and safety fears.

In July 2016, the Barrow Borough Council unanimously rejected renewal of the licence, agreeing with inspectors' concerns about "out of date practices".

Over recent years, the zoo has been the subject of investigations over apparent failings to ensure the safety and welfare of animals and visitors:

- The zoo was recently fined £255,000 for health and safety breaches which resulted in the death of a young zoo keeper, Sarah McClay, who was tragically killed by a Sumatran tiger in 2013

· Recent reports from Government-appointed zoo inspectors have raised a number of concerns over the risks to animals from inadequate housing and out of date drugs, and a failure to notify the Council of injuries to visitors from vultures at the zoo

· In 2014 Mr Gill was found guilty of three counts of allowing an invasive species to escape from the zoo and was prosecuted under Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. After being challenged about the release of sacred ibis into the wild from the zoo, Mr. Gill reportedly shot 13 of the birds at the zoo

In light of the previous allegations, I am deeply concerned to discover that Mr Gill is reapplying for a new licence; I feel that this case further highlights the ongoing failures of the zoo licensing and inspection processes in the UK, and believe that animal welfare and public safety should be at the forefront of the licensing authority's decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

I sq.

cc:

Jeremy Corbyn , Leader of the Labour Party

The Labour Party

Eldon House

Regent Centre

Newcastle Upon Tyne

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E: frontbench@labour.org.uk

Councillor Mrs. Anita Husband

Mayor of Barrow

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01229 876 543

Graham Barker

From: Jane Holden
Sent: 07 February 2017 14:34
To: Anne Chapman; Graham Barker
Subject: FW: South Lakes Safari Zoo

Another objection against Mr Gill's licence application.

Jane

Jane Holden
 Acting Principal Legal Officer
 Barrow Borough Council
 Tel: (01229) 876543

From: Customer Services
Sent: 07 February 2017 09:25
To: Jane Holden
Subject: FW: South Lakes Safari Zoo

From: [redacted]@[redacted].com
Sent: 07 February 2017 03:19
To: Customer Services
Subject: South Lakes Safari Zoo

Dear Barrow Borough Council

I have heard through the Born Free Foundation that David Gill is re-applying for a licence for this zoo.

Please deny him this licence.

The zoo was recently fined £255,000 for health and safety breaches which resulted in the death of a young zoo keeper, Sarah McClay, who was tragically killed by a Sumatran tiger in 2013

Recent reports from Government-appointed zoo inspectors have raised a number of concerns over the risks to animals from inadequate housing and out of date drugs, and a failure to notify the Council of injuries to visitors from vultures at the zoo

In 2014 Mr Gill was found guilty of three counts of allowing an invasive species to escape from the zoo and was prosecuted under Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. After being challenged about the release of sacred ibis into the wild from the zoo, Mr. Gill reportedly shot 13 of the birds at the zoo

History shows that this man is unfit and uneducated in looking after animals. He does not show compassion or knowledge and these animals deserve better.

Please show the public that Barrow Council is modern thinking and leads the way in conservation and animal management.

Kind regards

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

13th October, 2016

RECORD OF DECISION

Agenda Item No.10

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Timescale</u>	<u>Findings of Fact</u>	<u>Reason for Decision</u>
<p>Condition No. 17 - Review of Veterinary Programme (Direction Order)</p>	<p>The Committee note that the Zoo have complied with the Direction Order, therefore, the condition should be removed from the licence on renewal.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr David Stanley Gill holds a Zoo Licence issued on 8th June, 2010 to operate a Zoo at premises known as South Lakes Safari Zoo Ltd, Crossgates, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA15 8JR. • At a meeting of the Licensing Regulatory Committee on 23rd, 24th February and 2nd March, 2016, Members decided to elevate existing Condition No. 17 to a Direction Order. • The compliance date for Condition No. 17 was 22nd May, 2016. • The Zoo appealed the Direction Order. An appeal hearing was listed for 28th July, 2016 and until the appeal was either determined or withdrawn, any actions in relation to the Direction Order were prohibited. • On 27th July, 2016, the Council's Legal Team were notified of the withdrawal of the appeal. • It was formally withdrawn at the Magistrates Court on 28th July, 2016. • All prosecution costs in relation to this appeal and that of Condition No. 18 (Direction Order) were recovered and the Zoo had made a full payment of £1,548.60 to the Council. • The requirements of the Direction Order were:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A review of the Veterinary programme must be undertaken in conjunction with the consulting veterinarian; and 2. A resulting written programme of care (to include parasite control, vaccination, p.m. routine etc.) be agreed, recorded and maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition No. 17 and the associated Direction Order were drafted to require the Zoo to undertake a review of the veterinary systems in place. This has been completed.

- The history of concerns regarding the level of veterinary care over a number of years.
- Condition No. 17 was first attached to the Zoo Licence on 8th June, 2010 (previously Condition No.24).
- It was elevated to a Direction Order on 4th March, 2016.
- A Special Inspection had taken place at the Zoo on 15th August, 2016 to assess compliance with the Direction Order.
- The Inspection Team had consisted of: Dr Matthew Brash (the Council's Professional Veterinary Advisor) and Richard Garnett (Principal Environmental Health Officer – Commercial).
- Graham Barker (Principal Environmental Protection and Licensing Officer) also attended as an observer.
- The Special Inspection Report, produced by Dr Matthew Brash, was attached as an appendix to the report and fully considered by the Committee.
- A copy of the report had been sent to the Zoo. They were then given 28 days to make any representations.
- Representations had been received from the Zoo on 26th September, 2016 which were attached as an appendix to the report and fully considered by the Committee.
- Members noted the Inspector's findings along with an explanatory e-mail dated 16th September, 2016.
- He had commented:-
"the veterinary direction order has been complied with, and although it could be much better, it was still complied..."
- The Zoo had responded to the report which was attached as an appendix to the report along with extracts within the report which the Committee fully considered during the decision making process.
- A review of the veterinary programme had been undertaken and implementation of the findings had occurred.

LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

13th October, 2016

RECORD OF DECISION

Agenda Item No.10

<p>Condition No. 18 – Delivery of Veterinary Services (Direction Order)</p>	<p>i) The non-compliance of the Direction Order be noted ; ii) The existing Direction Order should be varied to reflect the work undertaken with compliance period of 10 weeks (31st December. 2016); and iii) The Direction Order shall relate to the whole Zoo and the steps required to comply with the Direction Order shall be:- 1. Provide a final written version of the Veterinary Procedures to the Local Authority. 2. Provide a copy of the protocols in place for the relevant veterinary cover when the Principal Vet is unavailable to the Local Authority. 3. Ensure that all Animal Treatment and other</p>	<p>31st December, 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr David Stanley Gill holds a Zoo Licence issued on 8th June, 2010 to operate a Zoo at premises known as South Lakes Safari Zoo Ltd, Crossgates, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA15 8JR. • At a meeting of the Licensing Regulatory Committee on 23rd, 24th February and 2nd March, 2016, Members elevated existing Condition No. 18 to a Direction Order. • The compliance date for Condition No. 18 was 22nd May, 2016. • The report on the Direction Order was submitted to the Licensing Regulatory Committee on 5th to 7th July, 2016 for informational purposes only due to the Zoo appealing it. • An appeal hearing was listed for 28th July, 2016 and until the appeal was either determined or withdrawn, any actions in relation to the Direction Order were prohibited. • On 27th July, 2016, the Council's Legal Team were notified of the withdrawal of the appeal. • It was formally withdrawn at the Magistrates Court on 28th July, 2016. • The Committee noted that all prosecution costs in 	<p>The Direction Order issued on 4th March 2016 detailed 5 steps the Zoo was required to take to achieve compliance with the Condition. The Reporting Officer's comments (in bold print) on the extent of the compliance against each of the 5 steps required by the Direction Order issued on 4th March 2016 are outlined below:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The operator must, in conjunction with the Zoo's veterinary advisor and/or other such professional advice as deemed necessary, develop to the modern standards of good zoo practice and implement, an improved and clearly defined programme, for the delivery of veterinary services to the collection. (This must include the additional and extended collection).</i>

<p>veterinary information is suitably recorded and integrated into the Zoo's Animal Record System so as to be quickly and easily retrieved.</p> <p>4. Provide clear evidence of implementation of points 1 to 3 to the Local Authority by 31st December, 2016.</p>	<p>relation to this appeal and that of Condition No. 17 (Direction Order) were recovered and the Zoo had made a full payment of £1,548.60 to the Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee noted that the requirements of the Direction Order were:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Operator must, in conjunction with the Zoo's veterinary advisor and/or other such professional advice as deemed necessary, develop to the modern standards of good zoo practice and implement an improved and clearly defined programme for the delivery of veterinary services to the collection. (This must include the additional and extended collection); This programme must detail: the frequency of routine visits, duties expected of the Vet, routine prophylaxis (vaccination etc.), agreed surveillance policy – to include screening, post mortem protocols, transmission and recording of p.m. records and pathological results; All relevant information must be integrated into the animal records system, such that, information on any individual animal is quickly and easily retrieved; Agreed protocols for relevant veterinary cover when the Principal Vet is unavailable, must be clear; and A written copy of the final procedures must be lodged with the Licensing Authority and clear evidence of implementation provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members noted the history of concerns regarding the level of veterinary care over a number of years. Members also noted that Conditions No. 17 and 18 were intrinsically linked. Condition No. 18 was first attached to the Zoo Licence on 5th September, 2013 (previously Condition No.25). It was elevated to a Direction Order on 1st July, 2014. 	<p>The work undertaken by the Zoo and by Jon Cracknell and Andreas Kaufman have, with the addition of a Veterinary Nurse, brought the standards of the Zoo up to the modern standard required by the Inspectors.</p> <p>2. <i>This programme must detail: the frequency of routine visits, duties expected of the Vet, routine prophylaxis (vaccination etc.), agreed surveillance policy – to include screening, post mortem protocols, transmission & recording of p.m. records & pathological results.</i></p> <p>It can be seen by the Zoo's submissions that record keeping is improving and that as the record keeping improves so the gaps in knowledge are being identified and filled. However, it is acknowledged that the process can only progress so far before the barrier to further improvement becomes the wider management of the zoo and the ability to make wider changes to systems and protocols. The improvements in record keeping have only been observed over a very short period of time.</p> <p>3. <i>All relevant information must be integrated into the animal rec-</i></p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On 13th August, 2015, it was reported that the Direction Order had been complied with and the condition was retained on the Licence. ● Members noted, questioned and commented on the Chronology of Inspections, Committee Hearings and Decisions from November, 2015 to date. ● A Special Inspection had taken place at the Zoo on 15th August, 2016 to assess compliance with the Direction Order. ● The Inspection Team had consisted of: Dr Matthew Brash (the Council's Professional Veterinary Advisor) and Richard Garnett (Principal Environmental Health Officer – Commercial). ● Graham Barker (Principal Environmental Protection and Licensing Officer) also attended as an observer. ● The Special Inspection Report, produced by Dr Matthew Brash, was attached as an appendix to the report and fully considered by the Committee. ● A copy of the report had been sent to the Zoo who were then given 28 days to make any representations. ● Representations had been received from the Zoo on 26th September, 2016 which were attached as an appendix to the report and fully considered by the Committee. ● Members noted the Inspector's findings along with an explanatory e-mail dated 16th September, 2016. ● He had commented:- <i>"Whilst compliance is evident, and the Direction Orders can be discharged, the Inspector was disappointed to note:-</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The records of the veterinary visits are still poor;</i> 2. <i>Out of date drugs were still present in the veterinary treatment room</i> 3. <i>Frieda Schreiber is leaving the Zoo, and at some point in the near future will need to be replaced.</i> 	<p><i>ords system, such that, information on any individual animal is quickly and easily retrieved.</i></p> <p>The animal record keeping is improving and this had been demonstrated to Council Officers. However the changes resulting in the improvements have only been demonstrable since September 2016.</p> <p>4. <i>Agreed protocols for relevant veterinary cover when the principal vet is unavailable, must be clear.</i></p> <p>It is unclear what the procedures currently are and how the presence of the new consultants is changing the Veterinary Reporting Chain. The Zoo have failed to supply sufficient information.</p> <p>5. <i>A written copy of the final procedures must be lodged with the licensing authority and clear evidence of implementation provided.</i></p> <p>The Zoo has not submitted the final procedures to the Licensing Authority.</p> <p>The Zoo had not complied with the full requirements of the Direction</p>
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		<p><i>The Zoo informed the Inspectors that they are interviewing a veterinary nurse to take her place, and this person would take over the role of liaising with vets, and filling in the records".</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Zoo had responded to the report which was attached as an appendix to the report along with extracts within the report which the Committee fully considered during the decision making process. • The Committee noted that Dr Jonathan Cracknell BVMS CertVA CertZooMed MRCVS (Conservation Medicine Services) and Andreus Kaufman were now involved with the Zoo (for a limited time) as well as Andrew Greenwood and Rick Brown. • The Committee also noted that a temporary, full-time Registered Veterinary Nurse had now been appointed to act as Veterinary Coordinator. • The Veterinary Coordinator had only been in role for a few weeks and the role would only become a permanent position if and when a fresh licence was granted. • Members noted that the diaries which were kept by Keepers and detailed daily issues/problems were an important source of information for the Inspectors during the Special Inspection in November, 2015. • Officer's had returned to the Zoo at a later date to collect the diaries for further investigation and they had been advised that they had been sent to the Zoo's Solicitors and "got lost in the post". • Member noted the importance of daily diaries by referring to Paragraph 3.3 of Section 3 of the SSSMZP. • During recent informal inspections, Officers had noted that comprehensive daily diaries were now being kept by the Zoo, although this practice had only started mid-September. • Members noted that it now appeared that the Zoo had conceded how critical these records were, 	<p>Order and there had been a limited period during which the improved record keeping had been witnessed.</p> <p>By their own admittance the Zoo had agreed that the recorded keeping was poor at the time compliance was assessed and that the improvements are a "huge cultural shift for both the veterinary team and the animal keeping staff and is a progressive, ongoing effort to ensure accurate and reflective animal records are maintained on site".</p> <p>The improvements have only recently been implemented following the appointment of 2 consultants, Jon Cracknell and Andreus Kaufman and the temporary appointment of the Veterinary Co-Ordinator. The Inspector, Dr Brash, clarified that his recommendation and expectation of continued improvement was based on Mr Cracknell and Mr Kaufman leading the change and Veterinary Co-Ordinator now being in place. Both Mr Cracknell and Mr Kaufman are contracted on a limited time basis. The Veterinary Co-ordinator has only been in place for a few weeks and the role will only become permanent position if and when a fresh licence is granted.</p> <p>The history of concerns regarding</p>
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		<p>however agreed that a period of sustained compliance needed to be demonstrated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the decision making process, the Committee considered Section 3 of the SSSMZP Guidance. • Dr Matthew Brash attended the meeting and made representations as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mr Cracknell and Mr Kaufman had other commitments and unlikely to take a full time position with the Zoo. * It would be unreasonable to expect the Zoo to take either Mr Cracknell or Mr Kaufman on fulltime. * At the May Inspection, conditions were complied with and by August, those same conditions raised concern, therefore, informed the Committee that the Officer's recommendation of retaining the Direction Order was appropriate. • Ms Karen Brewer (South Lakes Safari Zoo), who was in attendance in the capacity of an employee of Mr David Gill as well as somebody who was involved in the new Zoo company who were looking to apply for a new Zoo Licence. • Ms Brewer made representations and answered questions posed by Members as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mr Cracknell and Mr Kaufman are Consultants who visit the Zoo at varying times and lengths. * Mr Kaufman had been with the Zoo 4 times now. * There has been discussion with one of the Consultants with regards to future employment with the Zoo. * Mr Gill had not been involved with the appointment of the above named consultants; it had been tasked to the new Zoo Company 	<p>this matter give sufficient grounds to suspect that the changes implemented may not continue.</p> <p>The Zoo must demonstrate continued compliance for a longer period and post Mr Cracknell and Mr Kaufman's time at the Zoo.</p>
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			<p>to liaise and appoint.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Referring to the out-of-date drugs; the new Veterinary Coordinator had now been tasked along with John Cracknell to ensure that this does not happen again. * When asked by Dr Brash, if she thought it was entirely reasonable to continue with the Direction Order, Ms Brewer responded "Absolutely". 	
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LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

13th October, 2016

RECORD OF DECISION

Agenda Item No.10

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Timescale</u>	<u>Findings of Fact</u>	<u>Reason for Decision</u>
Condition No. 26 – Formal Staff Development Programme	Condition No. 26 had been complied with, therefore, should be removed from the Licence upon renewal.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition No. 26 had been added to the Zoo Licence in July, 2014 following questions raised about staff training, an apparent lack of experience and a need to revisit the management structure for periods when David Gill was out of the country, going back to 2009. • At a meeting of the Licensing Regulatory Committee on 13th August, 2015, Members were informed about developments at the Zoo with regards to staff training. • At that meeting, Members had agreed that the condition should remain on the licence with the Zoo required to demonstrate development of the programme over the next 12 months. • A Special Inspection was carried out on 15th August, 2016 and the Inspector's comment as follows:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>"There is a record of training for all members of staff. Two examples were provided, one of which was randomly picked by one of the Inspectors. These are accurate and up to date. It is noted that two members of staff have now been signed up to the Diploma of Zoo Management.</i> 2. <i>There is a log of all ongoing training being undertaken by staff at the Zoo.</i> 3. <i>Andreas Kaufman has been hired as consultant to oversee a training staff programme. He has</i> 	In 2015 Officer noted that a new system was in use at the Zoo. The Zoo was given 12 months to demonstrate continued operation and development of the programme. During the August 2016 Inspection, the Inspectors found that a formal staff development programme had been fully implemented and was ongoing.

			<p>recently started, (August 2016) and the Zoo informed the Inspection Team that he has agreed to undertake ten more weeks of training during the rest of 2016.</p> <p>4. <i>Jon Cracknell, a Veterinary Consultant has also been hired to assist the Zoo in developing policies and to move forwards meeting the SSSMZP."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members noted the Zoo's Comments with regards to the Formal Staff Development Programme. • The Committee considered Sections 10.4 and 10.5 of the SSSMZP during the decision making process. 	
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LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

13th October, 2016

RECORD OF DECISION

Agenda Item No.10

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Timescale</u>	<u>Findings of Fact</u>	<u>Reason for Decision</u>
Condition No. 33 – Review of Animal Bites	<p>(i) Non-compliance with Condition No.33 be noted;</p> <p>(ii) Condition No.33 be escalated to a Direction Order with compliance deadlines as detailed below:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with Paragraph 6.14 of Appendix 6 and Paragraph 1.10 of the SSSMZZP an appropriate and comprehensive written review of the risk of bites or injury to members of the public caused by animals must be carried out and submitted to the Licensing Authority within 2 weeks; An appropriate written action plan, implementation times and all further changes that will be put in place to eliminate the risks of bites or injuries by animals to members of the public, must be submitted to the Local Authority within 2 weeks after 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 weeks; 2 weeks following (1) above; 4th November, 2016; and 6 months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During a Special Inspection which took place in November, 2015, Inspectors had expressed concern about the number of bites and injuries to the public which were reported in the incident book. The Inspectors recommended that a condition be placed on the Licence which was done so by Member at the Licensing Regulatory Committee on 23rd, 24th February and 2nd March, 2016. A Special Inspection was carried out in May, 2016 and review of bite injuries was undertaken and an action plan produced by the Zoo was reviewed. Only the bites which had been noted by the Inspectors at their inspection in November, 2015 were covered in the review and it stated that there were no further bites reported. During the May Inspection, the Inspectors noted interference from primates with visitors during their visit. The Inspectors had concluded that the review was “inadequate and does not address the underlying issues” and rejected it. Inspectors were also of the opinion that it was likely that bites and other injuries caused by animals were “still likely to be occurring but were not being reported 	<p>The Zoo has failed to comply with the condition and whilst they have produced a review of bites/injuries to members of the public, they have failed to eliminate such injuries. Indeed the latest evidence reveals that injuries due to animal contact continue. In addition, the August, 2016 Inspection revealed details of three animal contact injuries that had not been reported to the Council within the 14 days specified in the condition.</p>

	<p>compliance with (1) above;</p> <p>3. Implementation of this action plan must be made immediately following its submission to the Licensing Authority and demonstrably active progress should be visibly by 4th November, 2016; and</p> <p>4. Full completion of implementation of the action plan must be achieved within six months; and</p> <p>(iii) The Direction Order would take effect 28 days after it was issued as the works specified were not normally carried out by the Zoo.</p>		<p><i>and/or recorded".</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Zoo had technically complied with the condition in that they had produced a written review and action plan however, the Inspectors deemed the resulting report and action plan inadequate. • At the Licensing Committee on 5th to 7th July, 2016, the wording of the condition was amended and remained on the Licence. • A further Special Inspection was undertaken on 15th August, 2016. The Inspectors noted that:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Zoo had recorded three episodes of bites, all within the Illescas walk through aviary. * The Zoo permanently manned the Illescas aviary with a member of staff and a second person could be called upon to assist (<i>during an informal inspection on 30th September, 2016, Officers were informed that the Zoo had ceased to man the Illescas Aviary on a permanent basis due to low visitor numbers following the schools returning. The Aviary would be manned again during the October half-term holidays.</i> * The WWS was also permanently manned and the Zoo were also considering permanently manning the penguin area. * The Zoo had placed more signage and created verbal warnings about the need to avoid contact with animals and the risk of bites. * A new picnic area had been created but a number of chickens were noted around the picnic tables and members of the public were observed feeding them. * Although Primates and other animals did not go down into the new picnic area, there was no fence stopping them, should their behaviour change. 	
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- * A new outdoor eating zone had been created which had a tall fence topped with electric wires making it lemur proof.
- * Consultants had been taken on to assist in compliance with this and other conditions but as they had only just started, this had yet to be undertaken and a new review and report had not yet been compiled.
- * Risk Assessments for staff had been reviewed and all had been signed off by the staff.
- * The Zoo were interviewing for new staff to assist with the manning of the walk through areas.
- * Although there had been considerable attempts to decrease the availability of food in areas where there were Primates, there were still food outlets outside the contained eating areas.
- The Inspectors concluded that:-
 “This condition has still not been complied with, and it is therefore necessary to reissue it, albeit with more precise wording so that the Zoo is clear on what is required. A more precise timeline must be assees to the condition. Whilst the Zoo continues to have food outlets in areas where free ranging primates have access, then there is a high likelihood that bites or other injuries to the public will occur. The Inspector also noted, but did not observe, that the lemur feeding experience had not been altered, and feels that this is also an area where there is insufficient control over primate/visitor contact.”
- In response to the Inspector’s findings, the Zoo had undertaken a complete review of the bite situation and expanded it to include all animal-guest interaction injuries as well as review the potential risk of zoonotic disease presence within the collection.
- To improve the accuracy of the overall picture the review had included accident records, Trip Advisor

		<p>reports of bites or similar, staff interviews, clinicopathological testing reviews as well as post mortem data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The full review was attached as an appendix to the Officer's report for the Committee's information. • The second part of Condition No. 33 was a requirement that all contact injuries must be reported to the Local Authority within 14 days. • The bites noted by the Inspectors during the August 2016 were not reported within the required period. • On 31st August and 15th September, 2016 Officers had written to the Zoo requesting copies of the incident reports for each of the above injuries but did not receive a response to these requests. • On an informal inspection to the Zoo on 21st September, 2016, records were provided for each of the above injuries; all of which involved a Vulture in the Illescas Aviary. • Members noted that there were a number of inconsistencies in the number of incidents recorded in the "Animal-Guest Interaction Audit" report (provided by the Zoo), compared to the figures given by the Zoo to Committee in July, 2016. • Ms Brewer was in attendance at the meeting and made representations and answered questions as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mr Cracknell had come to the Zoo and reviewed animal bites which took account of social media and staff statements. * A near miss reporting system had now been instigated. * Education and training of visitors not to get too close to the animals along with more people on the ground was key to reducing the number of bites. 	
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The fulltime manning of the Illescas Aviary had now been changed and it would only be manned at weekends and school holidays (i.e. busy periods). * There was now focus on training the birds not to come near members of public. * A risk assessment had been carried out before the decision not to man the Illescas Aviary permanently. * A camera would be placed in the Illescas Aviary but she admitted that this would not be watched at all times. * There were roughly 50 Vultures within the Illescas Aviary but it was unknown which of the vultures carried out the bites in July, 2016. * When asked why the July 2016 bites had not been reported to the Licensing Authority within the required time period, Ms Brewer informed the Committee that it had just been an oversight. * There were now plans to enclose the lemurs within one zone of the Worldwide Safari and tenders had gone out for the fencing to enable this. * A surplus list of animals had also been created to make numbers more manageable and 34 lemurs would soon be going to Europe. * There had been development changes at the Zoo and Mr Gill's private land and house would now be fenced off from the Zoo to make his property a private entity. * Ms Brewer agreed with the Committee that it would be easier not to have any food outlets (ie popcorn) in any areas of the Zoo other than the designated eating areas.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * When asked by Dr Matthew Brash if she fully supported the elevation of the condition to a direction order Karen Brewer stated "I do". • Dr Matthew Brash was in attendance at the Committee and made the following comments:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * He thoroughly commended the report prepared by the Zoo. * The aim of the condition was to completely eliminate bites. * In his opinion, it was a retrograde step to only man the Illescas Aviary at busy periods. * Referring to the statement made by Ms Brewer at today's meeting regarding the fencing off of the lemurs, Mr Brash stated that he felt that this would be a step forward but still worries that it won't be sufficiently manned. * Until the fencing was in place, he was still concerned about the picnic area being accessible to the primates. * He fully supported the elevation of Condition No. 33 to a Direction Order as bites should be completely eliminated. • The Committee took account of guidance contained within the SSSM/ZP during the decision making process.
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LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

10th November, 2016

RECORD OF DECISION

Agenda Item No.6

<u>Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Timescale</u>	<u>Findings of Fact</u>	<u>Reasons for Decision</u>
Tiger Enclosure	Members note that the Zoo had undertaken to work to resolve the problem with the tiger fencing therefore there was no requirement to add a condition to the licence	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An informal inspection was carried out at the Zoo on 3rd November, 2016; The Inspection Team consisted of Dr Matthew Brash (the Council's Professional Veterinary Advisor), Anne Chapman (Environmental Health Manager) and Graham Barker (Principal Environmental Protection & Licensing Officer); During the inspection, the external fencing around the tiger enclosure was examined following comments from the Zoo; Dr Brash had produced a report following the informal inspection which was attached as an appendix to the Officer's report and fully considered by the Committee; The tiger enclosure fencing consisted in part of sections constructed of Perspex and metal to enable the public to view the tigers clearly; Dr Jon Cracknell, who was assisting the Zoo as a Consultant, had proactively pointed out to Inspectors that the top part of one area of the above mentioned fencing had a sideways movement of approximately 12 inches when a lateral force was employed; The Inspectors considered there was a low likelihood of the fence failing, hence immediate enforcement under health and safety legislation was not warranted; It was acknowledged that the fence did require some reinforcement; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Zoo had supplied evidence to show the tiger fencing has been strengthened. The Reporting Officer had provided an assurance that the works had been carried out to a satisfactory standard following his visit on 9th November, 2016.

- The instability had come about due to some retaining metal struts had been disconnected when an elevated walkway had been removed earlier in the year *(During questioning from Members, Karen Brewer was asked why this had not been identified and reinforced once the walkways had been removed. She responded by stating that it had been thought that the fence had been supporting the walkway and not the other way round);*
- Because of the lateral movement noted, Dr Brash had recommended that a condition be placed on the Zoo's licence;
- As the Inspectors were finishing the Inspections, the Zoo's representatives (Dr Jon Cracknell and Karen Brewer) stated that work to stabilise the fence would be undertaken immediately;
- The Zoo had confirmed that the work had been undertaken via e-mail and provided a photograph for information showing 5 inch galvanised drive screws fixed in four places onto the roofing of the adjacent covered walkway;
- Dr Cracknell had also confirmed that work had been undertaken in an e-mail dated 4th November, 2016 and included another photograph showing the supports.
- Dr Cracknell had stated that the fence was now rigid with no lateral movement.
- Dr Cracknell also added that the Zoo was carrying out further work to proactively strengthen one other area of the fence where minor movement had been detected.
- The Principal Environmental Protection & Licensing Officer visited the Zoo on 9th November, 2016 and confirmed to the Committee that the work had been carried out.
- The Committee considered paragraphs 8.6 and 8.7 of the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo

Postmortem report - gross pathology

Species:	Jaguar <i>Panthera onca</i>	ID ARKS:	PO0001
		House name:	Saka
Sex:	Male	Date of death:	28/12/2016
Age:	7y6m DOB 07/05/09	Date of PM:	13/01/2017
Weight:	66 kg	Storage:	Frozen
Location:	UK Captive	Type of PM:	Cursory
Enclosure:	Safari Zoo	Pathologist:	Jon Cracknell
		Pathologist other:	
Death:	Euthanased		

Presentation: Saka noted on 26/12/16 to have a very severe bite wound to the right fore paw, possible degloved. Started on antibiotics and analgesia, following day metacarpals visible, 28/12/16 leg swollen, missing digits due to self trauma, wound severe and non-salvagable, opted for euthanasia medetomidine 5mg, ketamine 300mg IM, 20ml somulose intracardiac. No immediate PME as body retained frozen for NMS/. Provisional PM limited as frozen - accurate documentation of foot lesions for records undertaken prior to loss of carcase to NMS.

Audit category: RTA/ Trauma
Accession: 1525
Disposal: Education (and clinical waste)

DIAGNOSIS: Euthanased (loss of right fore)

External appearance: BCS 3/5, reasonable condition and general pelage excellent. Obvious degloving injury and loss of major digits to the right fore (reason for euthanasia - see below for details). Only additional lesion was small superficial erosion and area of alopecia on the left lateral cervical region approximately 15cm to the left ear. No other obvious lesions noted. Testes intact. Rigor as frozen. Animal not undergone PME as thought needed to be kept entire for taxidermy and freezing prevented assessment. No obvious injuries noted on the left fore nor right hind pads.

Removal of skin & open abdomen: NA

GIT: Left dorsal aspect of the tongue small erosion, possible PM artifact. Incisors and canines limited access but appear normal, other GIT not assessed.

Cardiovascular: NA
Respiratory: NA
Immune: NA
Urinary: NA



Species: Jaguar

Panthera onca

ID ARKS: PO0001

Date of death: 28/12/2016

Date of PM: 13/01/2017

Reproductive: NA

Neurological: NA

Endocrine: NA

Musculoskeletal: Frozen - limited assessment. Right fore loss of skin from medial level of distal carpus, with skin intact but alopecia and ulceration of the skin to level of the proximal carpus, dorsal aspect skin present to level of mid metacarpal but ulceration and alopecia extend to distal radius/ulna, most extensively on medial aspect, lateral aspect skin and fur present to level of the distal phalanx with remnant of claw sheath present. Palmar aspect the lateral aspect of the metacarpal pad remains but 70% missing, lateral digital pad is the only one of the four remaining. Tendons and musculature tissue hanging from traumatised wound. Consistent with licked, self traumatised lesions. Digit 1 (dew claw) intact but majority of meat cleaned from the digit, nail present, digit II, III and IV missing P1-P3 with distal ends of the metacarpal bones exposed and majority of surrounding muscle tissue missing, digit V intact including the nail, missing medial aspect but lateral intact. No evidence of trauma or damage to the bones nor pads other than self induced. NAD otherwise.

Miscellaneous: NA

Diagnosis:

1. Euthanased
2. Right fore: missing phalanges digits II to IV, missing skin on dorsal, medial and palmar aspect along with three medial digital pads and most of the metacarpal pad.
3. Excoriation dermatological lesions to distal right fore
4. Superficial excoriation lesion to left lateral cervical area (?bite wound)

Tissues submitted: None

Frozen tissue store: None

Formalin store: No

Serum store: None

Other tests: None - body to National Museum of Scotland for osteo and taxidermy collection.

Date submitted: 17/01/2017

Lab submitted to: NMS

Comments: The instigating cause is not clear from the frozen cursory examination of the lesions. However the distribution of the loss of digits, skin and associated structures is suggestive of a chronic, ongoing self traumatisation as the natural position of the limb to sit in sternal recumbency is medial aspect dorsally and lateral down, the lateral aspect being the only part of the foot to have survived relatively intact. The clinical notes mention a severe bite wound on the first day and this would fit with the lesion to the left of the neck, however it is impossible to rule out other causes of injury or underlying pathology. Historically there have been other jaguars with cut or damaged pads - broken glass has been found in the enclosure from building rubble used for landscaping, there are loose wires in the inside house, or even the large nails used on the feeding poles could create similar lesions that may be traumatised and equally appear as bite wounds. Recommend



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review of enclosure and instigate management plans to monitor and mitigate further such injuries. Also recommend early intervention on any similar lesions with assessment under GA and surgical repair or partial, distal amputation to salvage rest of limb and prevent self trauma, although this does not always guarantee success.





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Fig 1:
Jaguar presented for PME



Fig 2:
28/12/16 ventral view of the right fore



Fig 3:
28/12/16 ventral view of the right fore



Fig 4:
28/12/16 Extent of the right fore limb swelling



Fig 5:
13/01/17 Frozen comparison of the variation between the right and left fore



Fig 6:
Small suppurative wound caudal to the left ear

