

Candidates Consent to Nomination Form

Parish Members of the North York Moors National Park Authority 2011 Elections

Please complete this form in BLOCK CAPITALS or TYPESCRIPT and return it to the National Park Chief Executive at The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, York, YO62 5BP by noon on **Wednesday 25 May 2011**.
Please Do Not Enclose A Separate Curriculum Vitae Or Other Loose Papers.

Surname:
Forenames (in full):.....
Title (Dr,Mr,Mrs,Ms,etc):
Parish:
Tick Status: Parish Councillor <input type="checkbox"/>
or
Chairman of Parish Meeting <input type="checkbox"/>
Date of Birth:
Permanent Address (BLOCK LETTERS)
Postcode:
Telephone number where a message may be left:

How long have you lived at this address?	
If less than five years at current address please give details of former address: Address:	
.....	
.....	
Postcode:	
<hr/>	
Nominated by (Signature):	
Name (BLOCK LETTERS):	
Address:	
.....	
Seconded by (Signature):	
Name (BLOCK LETTERS):	
Address:	
.....	
You do not have to be nominated by a Parish Council	

My Parish Area Forum is (ie North, South, East or West)

I confirm that I wish to serve as a Parish Member of the North York Moors National Park Authority under the terms of the "Guidance Notes" which I have read, and that I can commit at least 25 days per year to this work.

I have completed in block capitals or typescript the boxes overleaf.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am not disqualified from being elected by reason of any disqualification set out in Schedule 7 of the Environment Act 1995 (see notes) and I do not hold a politically restricted post, within the meaning of Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, under a local authority within the meaning of that Part.

Signature
of Nominee:

Date:

Reasons For Applying

Please say why you are interested in becoming a Parish Member of the National Park Authority.

Relevant Skills And Experience

Please say what skills, experience and qualities you would bring to the National Park Authority if appointed, with particular reference to the Guidance Notes accompanying this application form.

Guidance Notes for Appointment of Parish Members

The Parish Member

The Environment Act 1995 introduced the category of "Parish Member" to the National Park Authorities that were established to run the English National Parks from 1 April 1997. In the case of the North York Moors, there are four Parish Members on the Authority, appointed by the Secretary of State from names put to him by the four Area Parish Council Forum groupings. A Parish Member will be regarded as a Forum's representative, but not its delegate, so cannot be mandated by the Forum concerned. The Environment Act and Government guidance on it strictly limits eligibility for the Parish Member posts. Parish Members must be Parish Councillors or (where there is no Parish Council) Chairpersons of Parish Meetings, from parishes which are wholly or partly in the National Park. Parish Members cannot be Members of or employed by any Council with part of its area within the National Park, ie: Scarborough Borough Council, Ryedale District Council, Hambleton District Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council or North Yorkshire County Council. Nor can they be employees of a Parish Council or Meeting or of anyone who would themselves be disqualified under the rules. They may not hold politically restricted posts.

The involvement of Parish Members is to ensure that the National Park Authorities fully take account of the needs of their local communities and to improve links between the National Park Authorities and local people. The Government has said that the Parish Members should not just be spokespeople for the local issues, but ambassadors for wider concerns. They are in every sense full Members of the Authority. Candidates should therefore be mindful of National Park purposes, which are:

- (a) to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Parks; and
- (b) to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Parks by the public.

Parish Members will be expected to attend meetings of the National Park Authority and, some of its Committees and to prepare for these by reading papers, reports and background information. They will also need to keep abreast of developments both locally and nationally and to attend their relevant Area Parish Council Forum. This is likely to involve commitments, mainly during the daytime, for at least 25 days per year. Allowances will be paid, including travel and subsistence.

Members are bound by the Code of Conduct for Members of the National Park Authority and all Members must sign a declaration that they will observe the Code. Interests in contracts and business relating to the National Park Authority must be declared when relevant and voting on such matters is restricted. A Member who fails to attend any meeting for six consecutive months, unless approved, will cease to be a Member. Employers are to allow reasonable time off for Members of the Park Authority.

Part of Schedule 7 of the Environment Act 1995 relating to disqualification is printed overleaf. Candidates may also find it helpful to refer to the candidates' guide for Parish Council elections to remind themselves of the rules of Parish Council office. Further guidance can be sought from the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations or National Park Office.

Nominations and Voting

Candidates for nomination as Parish Members are sought from parishes within the Park, or groupings of such parishes, but those nominating a candidate do not themselves need to be Parish Councillors.

Candidates were initially sought in 1996. Those nominated to the Secretary of State in 2011 will, if appointed, be expected to serve on the National Park Authority from their appointment date (probably in June) until their term of office as Parish Councillor or Chairperson of Parish Meeting ends. (Candidates may wish to make a note of the dates of meetings scheduled for June and July: Planning Committee 16 June, Members Training Day 22 June, National Park Authority 27 June, Planning Committee, 21 July, Access and Information Committee 25 July)

Candidates for nominations must be proposed using this form. When completed, forms are to be returned to the National Park Office (address at head of form), by no later than 25 May 2011. Copies of the first two pages will then be sent immediately to all Parishes in the Area Forum containing the nominee's Parish. Area Forum Hustings will be held on 31 May when candidates must

make every effort to attend; each will be able to speak for up to ten minutes and to answer questions from Forum members. These Hustings meetings will take place as follows:

Northern and Coastal Forum areas – Sleights Village Hall, Sleights on 31 May 2011, at 7.00pm.

Southern and Western Forum areas – National Park Office, Helmsley on 31 May 2011, at 7.00pm.

Voting is to be by ballot paper returned to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association (as Independent Returning Officer) by noon on 13 June. Each Parish or Parish grouping will have one vote

The nominees with the largest number of votes in each of the four Forum Areas will be nominated to the Secretary of State for appointment as Parish Members.

If a Parish Member ceases to be a Parish Councillor or Chairperson of a Parish Meeting before the next election or leaves office prematurely for any reason, the following mechanism will be used to find a replacement:

- a) if the vacancy arises before the last 18 months of the term of office (ie within 30 months of the original election) then a new election should be held in that Forum area; but
- b) if the vacancy arises in the last 18 months of the appointment, then the next best runner up still willing to be nominated shall be put forward to the Secretary of State for appointment, as long as that candidate received more than 25% of the votes cast. If no such candidate exists then an election shall be held in that Forum area.
- c) A Parish Member who is Chairperson of a Parish Meeting (and may therefore need to stand for re-election before the Parish Council elections) shall, if re-elected as Chairperson, continue to be the nominee to serve as Parish Member until the Parish Council elections.

Selected Provisions from the Environment Act 1995 affecting Parish Members Schedule 7
Disqualification of Members

- 7 (1) A person is disqualified for becoming or remaining a member of a National Park Authority if he holds any paid office or employment appointments to which are or may be made or confirmed by -
- (a) the authority itself or any council by whom a local authority member of the authority is appointed;
 - (b) any committee or sub-committee of the authority or of any such council;
 - (c) any joint committee on which the authority or any such council is represented;
- (d) as respects a National Park Authority for a National Park in England -
- (i) any parish council for, or parish meeting of, a parish the whole or any part of which is comprised in the relevant Park;
 - (ii) any committee or sub-committee of any such parish council or any committee of any such parish meeting; or
 - (iii) any joint committee on which any such parish council or parish meeting is represented; or
 - (e) any person himself holding an office or employment which disqualifies him for becoming a Member of the authority.
- (2) A person is also disqualified for becoming or remaining a member of a National Park Authority if he holds any employment in a company which, in accordance with Part V of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 other than section 72, is under the control of that authority.
- (3) Sections 1 to 3A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (disqualifications of persons holding politically restricted posts) shall have effect as if a National Park Authority were a local authority for the purposes of Part I of that Act.

Further details are available from the Committees Officer, North York Moors National Park, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, York, YO62 5BP. Tel: 01439 770657.