

North York Moors National Park Authority Special Authority Meeting

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Thursday 15 September 2016.

Present:

Leslie Atkinson, Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, Guy Coulson, Ena Dent, Michael Dick, Alison Fisher, Janet Frank, David Hugill, David Jeffels, Heather Moorhouse, Sarah Oswald, Clive Pearson, Ted Sanderson, Andrew Scott, Jeremy Walker.

Apologies:

Christopher Massey, Caroline Patmore, John Ritchie

Officers in Attendance:

Andy Wilson (Chief Executive), Irene Brannon (Director of Corporate Services), Karen Iveson (NYCC, s151 Officer), Sandra Langthorne (NYCC, Finance), Rob Walker (Auditor - KPMG) Vanessa Burgess (Committees and Customer Services Officer)

Copies of All Documents Considered Are In The Minute Book

04/16 **Scrutiny Minutes**

Members asked about the Devolution issue.

Andy Wilson advised members that the Authority was waiting to hear back from the CLG. Michael Dick informed the meeting that the Teesside Devolution deal was still a possibility. All agreed that the Devolution situation should continue to be monitored.

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the Scrutiny meeting held on 11 July 2016, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

05/16 **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from Members of the public.

06/16 **Members Interests**

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interests relating to any agenda item prior to its consideration.

07/16 **Statement of Final Accounts**

Considered:

The report of the Finance Manager.
Sandra Langthorne, NYCC Finance, updated members.

- Auditors were satisfied with the Statement of Final Accounts.
- No accounting adjustments post FRASC.
- Authority in good position going forward, working closely with budget managers.

The Deputy Chair of the Authority, Malcolm Bowes commented on the good position of the Authority and commended all staff on their work.

One member asked if there were still any issues with outstanding debtors.

Sandra Langthorne advised members that there had been a couple of debtors which had caused some concern in previous years, but there were no longer concerns and debtors were now followed up regularly.

Resolved: Members approved the Statement of Final Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2016.

08/16 **Letter or Representation/External Audit Report**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services.

Irene Brannon, updated members.

Rob Walker, Auditor KPMG, advised members that the Letter of Representation was a standard model document taken from Auditing Standards.

One member queried the sentence 'A list of uncorrected misstatements is attached to this representation letter' at point 4 of the letter, page 72 of the agenda.

The Auditor/Officers agreed this sentence could be removed as there were no uncorrected misstatements.

Resolved: Members; a) Authorised the Treasurer and Chair to sign the letter of Representation at **Appendix A**, subject to the removal of the sentence indicated above on behalf of the Authority.
b) Noted the Auditor's Report on that 2015/16 Audit included as **Appendix B** to this report.

09/16 **Other Business**

The Chair ruled that the following two items could be considered as a matter of urgency

- Proposed changes to the members evening session and training day planned for October
- Pylon at Blue Bank

The Chief Executive invited members to feedback on a proposal to cancel the members evening seminar meeting and members training day due to take place on 17 and 26 October respectively and instead take part in joint sessions on 7/8 Nov with members of Northumberland NP.

Members commented positively on the idea of a joint visit with members from Northumberland NP and agreed to the cancellation of the two October dates.

Officers asked members for informal advice regarding the Pylon issue at Blue Bank. Andy Wilson spoke of delegated authority to vire funds, to be used to encourage the repositioning of the Pylon.

Members agreed to the authority progressing this, but requested that Officers aim to negotiate the best deal and bring the issue back to committee if costs become excessive.

Resolved: Members agreed

- a) to the cancellation of the evening seminar on 17 Oct and the training day on 26 Oct in favour of a joint visit on 7/8 Nov with members of Northumberland NP
- b) to delegated authority to vire money to be used to encourage the repositioning of the Pylon at Blue Bank, officers to negotiate the best deal possible, issue to be returned to committee if costs become excessive.

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3 October 2016

(Chair)

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