

North York Moors National Park Authority

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Monday 25 June 2018.

Present:

Leslie Atkinson, Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, Guy Coulson, Michael Dick, Alison Fisher, Janet Frank, Christopher Massey, Heather Moorhouse, Sarah Oswald, Stuart Parsons, Caroline Patmore, Clive Pearson, Ted Sanderson, Andrew Scott, Jeremy Walker. Andy Breckon (Independent Member)

Apologies: David Jeffels, Ena Dent, David Hugill

Officers in Attendance:

Andy Wilson (Chief Executive), Briony Fox (Director of Polyhalite Projects), Rob Smith (Senior Minerals Planner), Ian Nicholls (Head of Corporate Services), Chris France (Director of Planning), Mark Hill (Head of Development Management), Richard Gunton (Director of Park Services), Joan Childs (Head of Volunteers), David Shaw (Director of Conservation), Karen Iveson (s151 Officer), Rona Charles (Senior Ecology Officer), Pete Williams (Head of Finance), Nina Beadle (Media & Communications Officer), Richard Smith (Authority Solicitor), Vanessa Burgess (Committees & Customer Services Officer)

Copies of All Documents Considered Are In The Minute Book

25/18 Election of Chair

Resolved:

That Mr Jim Bailey be elected Chair of the Authority, to take office until the Annual General Meeting of the Authority.

Jim Bailey In The Chair

The Chair thanked Members for their continuing support, in particular Malcolm Bowes Deputy Chair and Jeremy Walker, Chair of FRASC for their support over the last 12 months.

26/18 Election of Deputy Chair

Resolved:

That Mr Malcolm Bowes be elected Deputy Chair of the Authority, to take office until the Annual General Meeting of the Authority.

The Deputy Chair thanked Members for their support.

27/18 **Minutes**

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

28/18 **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from Members of the public.

29/18 **Members Interests**

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

30/18 **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of each of the items of business shown in column 1 of the following table on the grounds that each involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 specified in column 2:-

Item No on the Agenda	Paragraph No
20	1,2,3,4, & 8
21	1 & 2
22	1 & 2

31/18 **Membership of Committees and Outside Bodies**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Resolved:

a. Members agreed Membership of the Committees and Working Groups as follows:

Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee

Secretary of State Members: Mr Scott, Mr Walker, Mr Sanderson, Mr Bowes

Local Authority Members: Mr Parsons, Mr Dick, Mrs Patmore, Dr Massey, Mr Bailey

Conservation and Land Management Forum

Secretary of State Members: Ms Fisher, Mr Atkinson, Mr Sanderson

Local Authority Members: Mr Coulson, Mr Pearson, Mrs Frank

Awareness, Recreation and Business Forum

Secretary of State Members: Mr Scott, Ms Oswald, Mrs Dent

Local Authority Members: Mrs Moorhouse, Mr Hugill, Mr Jeffels

Urgency Committee

Secretary of State Members: Mr Atkinson, Mr Walker
Local Authority Members: Mrs Patmore, Mr Hugill

Development Plan Working Group

Secretary of State Members: Mr Atkinson, Mr Walker, Ms Fisher, Mr Scott
Local Authority Members: Mr Jeffels, Mr Coulson, Mrs Frank, Mrs Patmore, Mr Parsons

Management Plan Working Group

Secretary of State Members: Mr Walker, Ms Fisher, Mr Bowes
Local Authority Members: Mr Bailey, Mr Dick, Mr Pearson, Mrs Frank

Personnel Appeals Panel

Secretary of State Members: Mr Walker, Mr Atkinson
Local Authority Members: Mr Pearson, Mrs Patmore

Primary Land Users Group

Secretary of State Members: Mrs Dent, Mr Sanderson, Mr Atkinson
Local Authority Members: Mrs Frank, Mr Pearson, Mr Hugill

b. The Authority's representation on outside bodies be agreed as follows:

- **Campaign for National Parks** (1 representative) – Mr Jeffels
- **Local Access Forum** (1 representative) – Mrs Moorhouse
- **Local Government North Yorkshire, York & East Riding Housing Board** (1 representative and 1 substitute) – Ms Fisher (Substitute: Mr Pearson)
- **Minerals and Waste Plan – Joint Member Working Group** (2 representatives and 2 substitutes) – Ms Fisher, Mrs Patmore (Substitutes: Mr Atkinson, Mr Pearson)
- **NYM Disability Advisory Group** (1 representative) – Ms Oswald
- **RAF Fylingdales Liaison Group** (Authority Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Chair of Planning and 2 Members) – Mr Coulson, Mr Atkinson
- **Tourism Advisory Board** (1 representative) – Mr Scott
- **Spatial Planning and Transport Board** (1 representative and 1 substitute) – Mr Scott (Substitute: Mr Pearson)
- **Welcome to Yorkshire** (1 representative) – Mr Coulson

32/18 **Changes to Standing Orders, The Scheme of Delegation, and Financial Regulations**

Considered:

The report of the Solicitor

Richard Smith, Authority Solicitor informed members that revisions to the Financial Regulations had been deferred to a later date.

A brief discussion followed between members regarding the use of the term "Chair" within the standing orders, a number of members said they would prefer that the term be changed to "Chairman". After a vote, the motion failed (5 members being in favour of changing the term to Chairman, 9 being against).

Members asked that under the section Appointments by the Authority - para 12(a) should revert back to read "openly proposed and seconded"

Members also asked that under the section Rules of Debate – para 6(h) be further amended to read “the **substantive** motion”

Action: Richard Smith to include the further amends

Resolved: members approved the revised Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation appended to Report, taking into account the further amends as indicated in the minute above, for adoption by the Authority so that they come into force on the same date as the coming-into-force of the to-be-approved revised Financial Regulations, such date to be no later than the end of the present financial year.

33/18 **Polyhalite Projects Annual Summary**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Polyhalite Projects

Briony Fox updated members on how the Authority had deployed s106 contributions in year 1 and plans for year 2 spend.

Members commented on:

- Briony’s very helpful report
- Core D Policy; 1st year targets for planting met and exceeded, Best Value for Money – Forestry
- Tourism contribution – to 2 commercial projects (Endeavour Experience, The Jack and Jill)
- Funding to Scarborough BC to promote Whitby
- Future member visits to s106 projects
- Promotion of s106 work/raise profile of NYMNPA

Briony informed members that regular meetings were being held with the Forestry Commission and the Woodland Trust and that the team had a good working relationship with both organisations. Targets outside the Core D Policy were in the Business Plan and value for money would be covered in a report later in the year.

Members commented on the helpfulness of their recent visit to Woodsmith mine and all agreed that Briony and her team had built up a good working relationship with the Sirius team.

Briony reminded members that funds could be allocated to tourism projects which were suitable to offset negative visual and economic impact in the National Park and offer additional tourism opportunities.

Funds allocated to Scarborough BC would be used this year to promote the Captain Cook Festival. A breakdown of expenditure/outcomes for this should be available in August.

Action: BF/VB to note request by members for future project visits

Resolved: Members approved the report.

34/18 Volunteer Strategy

Considered:

The report of the Head of Volunteering Team

Joan Childs delivered a powerpoint presentation to members and updated them as follows:

- All staff teams now trained on how to work with/manage volunteers
- Volunteer welcome pack now produced, available
- All volunteering requests/opportunities now handled by Volunteers team
- Volunteers Newsletter (Involved) now revamped
- The Volunteering dept is active on facebook and website – helping communication with volunteers
- proposed methodology for counting volunteering contributions

Members expressed concerns in relation to:

- risk of double counting volunteer contributions in relation to Associate group volunteering
- +20% figure – value of time given, not actual work outcome

Discussion took place on these points and the ways in which volunteer time/value tended to be under-recorded.

Action: JC to make the distinction in future presentations between our NP volunteers and Associated groups/Corporate groups volunteers.

Resolved: Members approved the proposed methodology for counting volunteering contribution as set out in 11.1 – 11.7 of the report.

Michael Dick left the meeting at 12.05pm

35/18 Review of Planning Charges for Pre-Application Advice

Considered:

The report of the Director of Planning

Chris France updated members and advised on 4 amends to his report:

- 1) Agricultural Development – below 1000sqm - £40/1000sqm and above £60
- 2) Section 106 Agreements – Same flat rate fee of £600 but hourly rate on top of this rises from £50 to £75
- 3) Additional questions on a Search rises from £3 to £5 per Question
- 4) Explained that the “Director of Planning’s discretion” applied to the Advice to Strategic Partners and would only apply if the project was either a joint one with the NPA or supported by the Management Plan

Resolved: Members agreed to increase the schedule of charges for pre-application advice and other non-statutory parts of the Authority’s planning service as set out in the table in section 4.4 of the report, including the amends

listed in the minutes above, with effect from 2 July together with the exemptions included in section 5.1.

36/18 **Oral Update on Hydraulic Fracturing**

Andy Wilson, Chief Executive informed members that the Authority was still awaiting information on the minerals enquiry and legal advice and hoped to provide members with more information later in the year.

Chris France, Director of Planning reminded members of some of the key points of information in relation to Hydraulic Fracturing:

- Shale Gas resources covered a large part of the National Park extending south of the Esk Valley, and continuing beyond the Vale of Pickering into the Yorkshire Wolds.
 - Environmental Audit Committee 2015 – Recommended to prohibit fracking in NP's & other protected areas
 - Infrastructure Act 2015 – No associated hydraulic fracturing above 1200m in Protected Areas
- Onshore hydraulic fracturing Regulations 2015 – No surface development within protected areas

Andrew Scott left the meeting at 12.35pm

- Government response June 2016 – not normally be appropriate in NP's, save in wholly exceptional circumstances
- Minerals & Waste Joint Plan – aimed to improve protection to NP not provided for in legislation
- EIP 6 key policy areas – “visual sensitivity zone”, EIP ended mid- April
- Joint ministerial written statement issued in May, Authority currently responding
- 2 companies already have PEDL licences in and around the NYMNP

37/18 **Lead Member Feedback on Forums (Verbal – Alison Fisher – CLM, Sarah Oswald – ARB)**

Alison Fisher updated members on the recent work of the CLM which focused specifically on the issues/restructuring of the Authority's Conservation dept and agreed to circulate the minutes of the last CLM to all members.

Action: Alison Fisher to circulate the minutes of the last CLM meeting to members

Sarah Oswald updated members on the recent work of the ARB, particularly in relation to Easy Access routes and also the Health & Wellbeing Study (York University).

Christopher Massey left the meeting at 1.05pm

Before moving on to the next item on the agenda, Jim Bailey, Authority Chair mentioned the Voluntary Rangers recent AGM, specifically the issues raised regarding the levels of litter in our NP.

Resolved:

38/18 **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer.

An additional report was tabled at the meeting – Disability Advisory Group update, by Sarah Oswald.

Resolved: Members noted the report and appendices

39/18 **Parish Forum**

Considered:

The report of the PA to Chief Executive

Resolved: Members noted the issues raised at Parish Forums.

40/18 **On the Record**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Resolved: Members noted the report

41/18 **Appointment of Director of Park Services**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Corporate Services

Members thanked Richard Gunton, Director of Park Services for all his hard work/commitment to the NYMNP

Resolved: Members delegated powers to make an appointment to the Director level post described in the report to the panel as outlined in 3.3.

..... (Chair)
1 October 2018

**Public Summary of Items considered "in private"
at the meeting of the Authority
on 25 June 2018**

Private Minutes

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Private Special Authority Minutes

Members agreed that the private minutes of the Special Authority meeting held on 17 May 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

CEO's Review Panel

Members agreed the proposal.

Other Business

The Chair updated members on a recent staffing matter.