



North York Moors

Local Access Forum

North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate,
Helmsley, York, YO62 5BP

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Monday 12 Dec 2016

Present: Les Atkinson, David Brewster, Mike Conlon, Catriona Cook, Catherine Cussons, Alison Fuller, Helen Gundry, Muriel Mitchell, Terry Ratcliffe, John Richardson, George Winn-Darley

Apologies: Val Arnold, Michael Dick, Peter Hutchinson.

Officers in Attendance: Vanessa Burgess (VB), Karl Gerhardsen (KHG), Richard Gunton (RHG), Mark Hill (MH)

Visitors: Cath Bashforth (FC), Tim Burkinshaw (SBC)

Copies of All Documents Considered are in the Minute Book

Richard Gunton, Director of Park Services welcomed everyone to the meeting then asked members to elect a Chair and Deputy Chair for the coming year

15/16 **Election of Chair**

Catriona Cook was elected Chair.

16/16 **Election of Deputy Chair**

George Winn-Darley was elected Deputy Chair.

17/16 **Public Minutes**

One correction was noted to the public minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 13 June 2016**, Catherine Cussons had been noted as being present at the meeting, but she had in fact sent her apologies and wasn't present at the meeting. Following this correction the minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

18/16 **Matters Arising**

From the minutes:

National Trails Funding Update – National Trail managers have been told to expect 5% cut in future funding. Hoping to hear more from Natural England in January 2017. A six month settlement at 95% in place until longer term funding agreed.

National Park Funding – Funding protected for 4 years with a 1.7% increase each year.

Port Mulgrave – NP Officers meeting with National Trust and Land Agent mid-December to discuss further. All parties are aware of the high demand usage and the need to sort.

TRO – Lonsdale and Coleson Banks, KHG has asked Thirsk area office for more information, but hasn't heard back yet.

Mowing of road verges – Members asked Officers to find out the law relating to this issue and report back at the next LAF meeting.

Action: Officers to investigate and report back

From the agenda:

Malton-Pickering Cycle Route – Meeting on 16 Dec to discuss further. Members agreed the LAF should support, encourage the work being undertaken to achieve the correct surface solution.

White Roads Feedback – KHG informed Members that the White Road information needed to be sent to OS by Jan 2017. Alison Fuller had already kindly surveyed all of OL 27 map, she offered to complete the outstanding survey work required for the South West corner of the NP.

Action: KHG to raise the specific NP issues nationally and write to NYCC regarding White Roads Situation as discussed on page 11 of the Dec agenda. Members requested that KHG re-word Point 1b prior to the letter being sent to NYCC.

Action: Alison Fuller to complete the survey work for the South West corner of the NP

Action: Terry Ratcliffe to request NYCC provide the LAF committee with a map showing all the UUR's/RoW

19/16 **Threats and Potential – Fracking, Potash**

Mark Hill updated members:

Fracking – No fracking permitted from surface of NP. Minerals & Waste Plan excludes drilling from outside and under the NP as well. NYCC are still awaiting high court judgment on Kirby Misperton. The Authority has sent comment to NYCC on transport, movement and faulting. Tourism elements are to be picked up via Policy.

Potash – S106 - £175 million planning gain. The Authority is expecting to be consulting on applications early in the New Year. Highways off site works are due to be carried out in Feb 2017, with site works due to commence in April 2017. The Authority has advertised for two posts to help cope with increased work load. The new bridleway will not be physically provided until the end of the mine site works, and the landscaping is being finalised. Sirius has set up 2 forums to help handle any issues. Sirius will make some monies available to fund community projects.

Action: Potash Sub group to be set up to look at possible Community Fund uses. Members – H Gundry, G Winn-Darley, T Ratcliffe and M Mitchell to arrange an initial meeting to discuss

Action: VB to make Potash a recurring agenda item for the foreseeable future

Action: KHG/VB to arrange a Potash site visit to take place after the June 2017 meeting

Before moving on from Item 7, Mark Hill updated members on the runway issue at South Moor Farm (creation of a grass airstrip) advising members that the Authority was now in receipt of a 4th Planning application, having previously turned down three earlier applications.

After much discussion LAF members said that as a forum they were against the application, but all agreed that should the application prove successful on this occasion that conditions should be attached to the decision regarding the following:

Light pollution, tranquillity, that the nearby bridleway should not be fenced in, signage/red flag usage in indicate when the air strip was in use. Improvements made to the sight line of the area by way of tree felling/no replanting and agreement that planes will fly the length of the air strip prior to landing, so as to heighten awareness of nearby users that plane activity is imminent.

Chris France, Director of Planning at the Authority has offered to do training sessions with RTPi inspectors re: NP's and their special qualities.

20/16 **Permissive Access**

Catriona Cook expressed a non-prejudicial interest as a farmer who receives funding

Government are being lobbied regarding funding for access. Members agreed the LAF would debate the issue again, if funding was made available.

Action: Catriona Cook to share with Regional Access Forum and other Yorkshire LAFs

21/16 **SUSTRANS – proposals for the resurfacing of the Scarborough to Whitby railway line**

Tim Burkinshaw spoke on behalf of SBC, advising LAF members that SBC was now in receipt of a Draft Cinder Track Restoration Plan from SUSTRANS, but that at present there was no money in the Council's budget to action any work. It was SBC's desire to promote a multiple user route and it was not the Council's intention to simply tarmac the whole track.

The brief to SUSTRANS was to look at the track on a section by section basis, including topography, drainage, widening etc. A full consultation exercise had taken place, but additional post draft consultation would also be carried out. SBC intend to apply for Coastal Communities funding to assist with the work.

Action: SUSTRANS to be invited to present/discuss the Cinder Path work with LAF at June 2017 Meeting

22/16 **Guidance on running organised events**

KHG informed members that the relevant information was held on the Authority's Website and that the Authority only really need to be notified in relation to large scale events, number information on which could also be found on the Authority's website.

Action: KHG to add motorised vehicle event participant numbers information to the relevant table on the Website.

Action: KHG to further investigate the use of an online events calendar

Action: KHG to circulate events guidance to all LAF members

Cath Bashforth left the meeting at 12.10pm

23/16 **Moorsbus**

Helen Gundry informed members of the news that there are to be increased train services to Malton Station within the next 18 months. Whilst this may mean more people arriving at Malton, there were still issues for people wishing to access the NYMNP.

Moorsbus is currently managing to recoup half its costs. One member suggested that the donations information on the Moorsbus website could be moved to the top of the page to make it more prominent/encourage more donations.

24/16 Traffic Regulations

The following points were discussed:

Coleson Banks and Lonsdale Plantation – 18month TROs for works, but none commenced yet.

Seggimire Lane – permanent TRO quashed due to incorrect procedure having been followed. Experimental TRO now in place closing route to motors except motorbikes, with voluntary restraint sought to prevent uphill motorbikes. Route monitoring being undertaken and KHG to press for safety and user conflict to be considered as well as sustainability.

Newton Bank - permanent TRO consulted upon and objections to be considered at NYCC committee in Jan 2017

Mill Lane, Raisdale to Scugdale – 18 month TRO for works proposed

Kirby Bank - permanent TRO being consulted upon now

General frustration at absence of traffic signs on ways subject to TRO as police then unable to take enforcement action. Recent example given of motorbikes encountered on a closed, but unsigned route in Troutsdale.

Action: KHG to include information on 18 month closure and use of volunteers in his White Roads correspondence to NYCC

25/16 Askham Bryan – Bridle-gate trials

KHG shared the key points from the report with LAF members. A revised British Standard is due in early 2017.

26/16 NE Festival of Climbing

Mike Conlon informed LAF members that the 2017 NE festival of Climbing was to take place within the NYMs, so hopefully showcasing the area. Mike also updated LAF members on some recent repair work which had taken place at Scugdale.

27/16 National Grid Environmental Enhancement grants

KHG informed members that a funding bid had been submitted for surfacing to a standard similar to a Class 1 forest road, on a wet bridleway at Silton.

28/16 How to design infrastructure to avoid conflict

Helen Gundry shared an interesting article from the web with LAF members, she also updated members on the work of the Ryedale Cycle Forum.

29/16 Items for Future Meetings

TEL Update, Potash Update, Sustrans Cinder Track work, Disability Action Group Update, Legal situation on mowing grass verges, NPE funding (miles without stiles), Drone Policy, Potash site visit, Funding opportunities.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13 June 2017, 10am - Falling Foss Tea Garden.

..... (Chair)
13 June 2017