

## North York Moors National Park Authority

24 September 2012

## Parish Forum Update

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the issues and actions arising from the Joint Parish Forum meeting held on 17 July 2012 and to enable them to raise any issues arising from the Forum.

**2. Issues and Actions Arising**

- 2.1 A list of main issues raised at the Joint Parish Forum meeting is in the **Appendix 1**. The event was extremely well attended and a number of positive comments about the evening were received.
- 2.2 The issues raised will be used to help inform Members and Officers about local priorities and concerns which will be used in Customer Service Excellence and service delivery decisions.

**3. Financial and Staffing Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial or staffing implications.

**4. Sustainability Appraisal**

- 4.1 A Sustainability Assessment is not required because the report is an administrative issues report.

**5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

**6. Recommendation**

- 6.1 That the issues raised at the Joint Parish Forum be noted.

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**Background documents to this report****File Ref.**

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|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Northern Parish Forum File | 1031/6  |
| 2. Coastal Parish Forum File  | 1031/7  |
| 3. Western Parish Forum File  | 1031/8  |
| 4. Southern Parish Forum File | 1031/9  |
| 5. Joint Parish Forum File    | 1031/10 |

### Issues raised at the Joint Parish Forum meeting held on Tuesday, 17 July 2012.

The Joint Parish Forum meeting began with the last opportunity to view the Inspired Landscape Exhibition at The Moors National Park Centre and followed by the meeting where the following items were discussed. The meeting was chaired by Mrs Beryl Thompson, Chair of the Northern Area.

**1. Illustrated Talk on the Decline of the Honey Bee by Dr Giles Budge, FERA**

Dr Giles Budge outlined his background in research (epidemiology/genetics) carried out at the National Bee Unit at FERA, Sandhutton, York. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

**2. Presentation on Affordable Housing and Housing Policy by Chris France (Director of Planning) and Sarah Housden (Planning Policy Manager)**

The presentation will be available on the Authority website. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

- Policy regarding conversion of redundant rural buildings was discussed.
- A guidance note on change of use to holiday lets and residential use to local needs housing will be produced to explain the planning issues and policies relating to these uses. This will be sent to all parish councils in due course.
- The Planning Policy Manager advised of a Planning Training evening for Parish Plans to be held on 13 September 2012. This will focus on the new 'Neighbourhood Plans' idea introduced by the Localism Act. Parishes will shortly receive further information on this.

**3. Open Question Time with Jim Bailey (Chairman) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive)**

Questions were raised relating to the Ryedale Gas planning inquiry and the proposed potash mine. The Chief Executive indicated that the National Park Authority had been disappointed with the result of the gas inquiry. The well head in the Park was not desirable but is well screened, the large processing plant close to the Park boundary is however a different issue. The Authority had asked for the NPPF to include protection of the setting of National Parks but this had not been done. A close examination of the Inspector's Report is to take place to see if there any grounds for a legal challenge but early indications are that there are none.

With regard to potash, it had been made clear to prospective applicants that it is essential to show alternative sites have been investigated and clear evidence produced for the siting of major development within National Park boundaries. If no alternative site can be found, then applicants must show plans to minimise the impact of such development.

A question was raised about the review on Governance of National Parks. The Chief Executive explained that Authority Members had suggested a reduction in member numbers by 2. The outcome of the Governance Review is still awaited.

### Future Forum Meetings

**Northern** - Tuesday, 6 November 2012 at Kildale Village Hall @ 7.00 pm

**Southern** - Tuesday, 13 November 2012 at Hutton le Hole Village Hall @ 7.00 pm

**Western** - Tuesday, 20 November 2012 at Chop Gate Village Hall @ 7.15 pm

**Coastal** - Thursday, 29 November 2012 at Hinderwell Village Hall @ 7.00 pm