

North York Moors National Park Authority

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Monday 21 March 2016.

Present:

Lesley Atkinson, Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, David Chance, Guy Coulson, Ena Dent, Michael Dick, Alison Fisher, Janet Frank, Bryn Griffiths, David Hugill, David Jeffels, Christopher Massey, Caroline Patmore, Clive Pearson, Ted Sanderson, Andrew Scott, Jeremy Walker.

Apologies:

Heather Moorhouse, Sarah Oswald

Officers in Attendance:

Andy Wilson (Chief Executive), Irene Brannon (Director of Corporate Services), Richard Gunton (Director of Park Services), Chris France (Director of Planning), David Renwick (Director of Conservation), Paul Fellows (Head of Strategic Policy), Ian Nicholls (Assistant Director of Corporate Services), Michael Graham (Assistant Director of Park Services), Rebecca Thompson (Natural Environment Team Leader), Vanessa Burgess (Committees & Customer Services Officer), Richard Smith (Authority Solicitor), Karen Iveson (S151 Officer, NYCC),

Copies of All Documents Considered Are In The Minute Book

01/16 **Minutes**

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 December 2015, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

02/16 **Special NPA Minutes**

Before confirming/signing the minutes of the Special NPA meeting, Jim Bailey informed members that his action point from the meeting had been completed and that our National Parks Partnership Representative John Kennedy was planning to visit members in due course.

The Committee Sec also apologised to Mr David Jeffels as he was noted in the minutes as being absent from the meeting when in fact he was in attendance.

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18 February 2016, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

03/16 **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from Members of the public.

04/16 **Members Interests**

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

05/16 **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
23	1,2,3 & 4
24	4
25	1 & 2
26	1,2,3 & 4

06/16 **Strategic Policy Preparation: Consultation Arrangements for the Management Plan, Business Plan and Local Plan**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Strategic Policy

The Chair introduced Paul Fellows, Head of Strategic Policy.

Paul Fellows informed members that the Authority was due to undertake work in relation to its Management Plan, Local Plan and Business Plan.

- Management Plan – internal check, plus speak to external stakeholders
- Full scale (3 year) new Local Plan, except for Helmsley and Whitby Business Park areas as they already have their own Plans
- Business Plan – format and content to be reviewed, flexibility was needed in the Plan to move the Authority forward. The Authority would be organising a series of members' seminars to assist with the process.

Regarding the Business Plan, Members were asked to note amendments to Appendix 4 (draft timetable of Key events in relation to the development of the Business Plan) on page 35 of the agenda. The page should have read as follows:

November 2016 – FRASC discuss Draft budget, Business Plan, Risk Register
December 2016 – Approval of Business Plan 2017-2020
March 2017 – Approval of Budget 2017/18, Approval of Strategic Risk Register 2017/18

Irene Brannon informed members that the focus for the plan was based on the 7% increase and on-going income generation. Irene also took the opportunity to inform members that the TEL bid had been successful and that matched funding had also been secured from the David Ross Foundation to the sum of £300,000.

Members voiced their congratulations regarding the excellent news.

Members commented/asked on the following:

- Careful phrasing of questions was required when consulting on the Management Plan
- Members welcomed the work on a new Local Plan and obtained assurances from Paul Fellows that the Authority would be able to start using some policies from the Plan prior to its examination.
- Housing provision and local need, Neighbourhood Plans and Minerals and Waste Plan
- Farm Building Policies and Mobile/Broadband coverage across the NP
- The need for the Authority to be proactive when consulting on the Local Plan, feedback from visitors and surrounding Authorities should be sought
- Reasons for the Neighbourhood Plan at Ingleby Arncliffe

Paul Fellows informed members that the only Neighbourhood Plan at the moment was Ingleby Arncliffe, but NYMNPA wasn't leading on it and regarding the Minerals and Waste Plan, the latest version should be ready for consultation in Sept. Chris France, Director of Planning informed members that progress had slowed on the Minerals and Waste Plan recently due to the fact that NYCC wanted to look at Fracking Policies in more details, plus 3000 comments had been received about the Plan, all of which needed to be read through!

The Chief Executive asked for member's comments re: Appendix 2 page 32 of the agenda, relating to Status- Relationship to other Plans and Policies. All agreed that the appendix should be amended to read as follows:

Under Development Plan Document – The Local Plan will be informed by **at least** three key policy influences.

It was agreed that the Plan should also include Social and Environmental elements and not just Economic.

Resolved: Members noted the content of the report, with the incorporated amendments

approved that Officers undertake the proposed 'light touch' check that the Management Plan remains fit for purpose and report back at a later meeting

agreed the approach to the review of the Business Plan and instructed Officers to arrange at least two evening seminars over the forthcoming months.

Members agreed to the publication of the 2016 Local Development Scheme attached at Appendix 3.

07/16 **Business Plan 1 Year**

Considered:

The report of the Senior Management Team.

Resolved: Members commented on the content of the report and approved the 16/17 Business Plan in the Appendix.

08/16 **Budget Estimate 2016/17**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services and the S151 Officer

Irene Brannon gave members a short presentation, saying that the 7% increase to the Defra grant was welcome news and the future was now looking more positive. Irene also advised members that the costs for the Sutton Bank Play area would be closer to 20K, rather than the 16K shown in the presentation.

Members commented on the following:

- Funding for ROW maintenance
- Car Park charges
- Congratulations to all Authority Staff for the way they managed the budgets through the recent difficult times

Resolved: Members noted the proposals for the budget 2016/17 and contents of the report, and approved the budget including the allocation of reserves in section 5.

09/16 **Treasury Management and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance**

Considered:

The report of the Treasurer.

Karen Iveson, s151 Officer, NYCC, updated members saying the Authority had approx. £2 million available for investment at the moment, so everyone was trying hard to improve investment returns and she would report back any opportunities to members.

Resolved: Members, as recommended by the Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee on 1 February 2016:

approved the Annual Treasury Management Strategy for 2016/17 as detailed in the Appendix, including the Prudential Indicators set out in Section 3, and the Minimum Revenue Provision policy set out in Section 9 of that Strategy.

adopted the Annual Investment Strategy agreed by the County Council for 2016/17.

approved the affordable borrowing limit of £603.3k for 2016/17, under section 3(i) of the Local Government Act 2003 as set out in Paragraph 3 (iv) of the Appendix.

confirmed the delegation to the Treasurer, as agreed in previous years, for the following matters:-

a) any need to effect changes between the separate agreed limits for borrowing and other long term liabilities (such as finance leases) in accordance with option appraisal, value for money or other relevant factors. This applied to the Prudential Indicators in paragraph 3(iv) and 3(v) of the Appendix.

b) decisions to borrow from the PWLB and money markets at the most advantageous rate, as set out in Paragraph 6.3 of the Appendix.

10/16 **Risk Management Update**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services

Resolved: Members approved the contents of the report and the Appendix.

11/16 **Interest Group to Speak to Member – Care Farming**

The Chair welcomed Robin Asquith, who ran a local care farm (Hayshed) offering work placements/farm visits to those with disabilities and mental health problems.

Robin gave members a short presentation on his work.

Members commented/asked about the following:

- Brilliant work and excellent presentation
- Financing of the project
- Training opportunities/Links with Schools and Askham Bryan College

Robin informed members that financing came via Local Authorities, the NHS or direct payments from individuals. Training opportunities ranged from a few weeks to 4 years plus. The farm had its closest ties with Special Schools but did have informal links with other Schools and Askham Bryan College. Hayshed was the only care farm in the NP area.

The Chair, Members, thanked Robin for his time and congratulated him on the excellent work being done by the Hayshed.

12/16 **Devolution/Spatial Plan**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive.

Andy Wilson, Chief Executive gave members a verbal update and a map presentation on the subject of Devolution.

Member discussions took place around the following:

- Need for the NP to have a voice in the devolution process
- Retention of powers of National Parks as devolution areas take shape
- The NP brand, important not to lose identity
- The need to keep members actively in the loop

Resolved: Members commented on the issues raised.

13/16 **Yorkshire Coast – Proposed Destination Business Improvement District
Other Business**

Considered:

The report of the Director of Park Services

Richard Gunton gave members a presentation and a summary of his report. The Chief Executive informed members that Sir Gary Verity, Welcome to Yorkshire was supportive of NYMNPA's involvement in the DBID.

Discussion followed and members agreed the key concerns as set out in the report and added the following comments:

- Concerns about multiple branding
- No outline objectives, what will it be for?
- £20,000 a lot to contribute
- May be beneficial to speak to York as they have recently voted for a bid

After further discussion, it was agreed that the NP should engage positively and seek satisfactory resolution of the key concerns set out in the report. Accordingly, it was agreed that the Recommendation should be amended as follows

Resolved: Members agreed principles within which officers can continue discussions and negotiations regarding a Destination Business Improvement District for the Yorkshire Coast, or potentially other areas.

It was agreed that this Authority's support for the process, including a contribution of up to £20,000, would be contingent upon the key concerns set out in the report being satisfactorily addressed

Officers were instructed to report back to Members regarding the negotiations and with a recommendation as to whether the Authority should support the process.

14/16 **This Exploited Land**

Considered:

The report of the Natural Environment Team Lead and the Director of Conservation

Resolved: Members approved the process developed for delivering grant via 'This Exploited Land' Landscape Partnership Scheme described in paragraphs 3.1 – 3.4

15/16 **Kettleiness Hedgerow Boundary Restoration Project**

Considered:

The report of the Land Management Advisor

Rebecca Thompson, Natural Environment Team Leader presented the report to members on behalf of John Beech.

Members commented on the following:

- Contribution is significant, does the Estate also contribute?

- Is the hedge the only benefit to the NP?
- Does NP have control over the management of the work?
- Are there other sites up for consideration?
- Could the tenant farmers obtain Stewardship funds from this work?

Rebecca Thompson informed members that Mulgrave Estate would be contributing £4,300 for ground preparation work, plus the cost of ongoing maintenance and loss of land. The work was a unique, large scale opportunity for connectivity work in the NP. The agreement would run for 10 years and grant money would be paid on satisfactory completion of the work, including an agreement to monitor. The tenant farmers would be unable to claim funding.

Resolved: Members approved the financial contribution of up to **£55,000 from conservation grant budgets** towards the restoration and reinstatement of the traditional hedgerow network at Kettleness to improve habitat connectivity and improve the landscape.

16/16 **Trust Update Verbal by Andy Wilson**

The Chief Executive informed members that he hoped a meeting would be organised in April for all trustees to attend and said there had been huge enthusiasm from those hoping to be the remaining trustees.

17/16 **Large Scale Recreational Events 2015**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Recreation and Park Management

Resolved: Members noted the report.

18/16 **Update on Catchment Partnerships – Derwent and Esk & Coastal Streams**

Considered:

The report of the Catchment Partnership & the Natural Environment Team Leader

Jeremy Walker updated members on recent progress, specifically highlighting the recent high profile coverage in relation to the Slowing the Flow project.

Jim Bailey, Chair, congratulated/thanked all concerned. Alison Fisher informed members that the next CLM Forum topic would be Water Management and Natural Flood Risk Management.

Resolved: Members noted the report.

Andrew Scott left the meeting at 1.05pm

19/16 **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Resolved: the report was noted.

20/16 **On the Record**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Resolved: the report was noted.

..... (Chair)
27 June 2016

**Public Summary of Items considered "in private"
at the meeting of the Authority
on 21 March 2016**

Private Minutes

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 December 2015, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Malcolm Bowes left the meeting at 1.10pm

Collaboration agreement with NYCC for the provision of Financial Services

The Chief Executive advised members that the collaboration agreement with NYCC for Financial services had now been agreed. The Chief Executive thanked NYCC for their support.

Appointment of Interim s151 Officer

Members approved the appointment of both the s151 Officer and the Deputy s151 Officer, both appointments take effect until March 2017.

Update on the Visitor Centre Business Plans and Working Group Meetings

The Assistant Director of Park Services gave members an update on progress. Members were very supportive and approved the output of the Working Group, the timetable and the commissioning of the feasibility study.