

Special North York Moors National Park Authority

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Thursday 18 February 2016.

Present:

Lesley Atkinson, Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, Guy Coulson, Alison Fisher, Janet Frank, Bryn Griffiths, David Hugill, Christopher Massey, Heather Moorhouse, Caroline Patmore, Clive Pearson, Ted Sanderson, Jeremy Walker.

Apologies:

David Jeffels, Sarah Oswald, Andrew Scott, Ena Dent

Officers in Attendance:

Richard Smith (Authority Solicitor), Vanessa Burgess (Committees and Customer Services Officer)

Copies of All Documents Considered Are In The Minute Book

01/16 Public Question Time

There were no questions from Members of the public.

02/16 Members Interests

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

03/16 National Parks Partnership

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive.

Jim Bailey, Chair of the NP Authority introduced the National Park Partnership report to members and provided them with some additional background information on the subject.

Richard Smith, Authority Solicitor explained to members the reasoning for the change in legal basis, as indicated at 4.1 and 4.2 of the report and informed members that the Authority had also received the confirmation referred to at 4.3 of the report supported by legal advice on the matter from a QC. Accordingly Mr Smith suggested that the recommendation could omit the final sentence "**subject to them receiving confirmation that the proposed LLP arrangement will accord with recent changes to the Environment Act 1995**".

Members raised the following:

- Would narrowing the trading scope to a Partnership unacceptably restrict available activities? Members were satisfied that wider non-trading activities could be carried out and appropriate management of the Partnership would specifically address trading scope.

- Were other structures, such as Company by guarantee with charitable status considered? Members were satisfied that appropriate consideration had been given to other options during the lengthy negotiation process between prospective Partners in which appropriate professional advice was obtained..
- That potential for some tensions between the NYMNPA Trust and the Partnership existed. Members were satisfied that this was inevitable and would have to be addressed by appropriate management of both the Trust and the Partnership.
- That commercial leads for the Partnership included people from commercial, financial and technical backgrounds.
- The possibility of inviting John Kennedy, the Partnership Board member, to come to speak to NYMNPA members.

Action: Jim Bailey to investigate the possibility of a visit by John Kennedy.

Resolved: That the North York Moors National Park Authority reaffirms its commitment and membership of the National Park Partnership on the basis previously agreed but as a Limited Liability Partnership and authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman, to complete the necessary documentation.