

North York Moors National Park Authority

25 September 2017

Reports from Members on Outside Bodies

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To consider reports from Members attending meetings on outside bodies as representatives on the Authority.

2. Background

- 2.1 It has been agreed that Members attending meetings of bodies where they are representing the Authority should present a report, either verbal or written, on the issues discussed.

3. Campaign for National Parks

- 3.1 David Jeffels report can be found at **Appendix 1**

4. Spatial Planning and Transport Board

- 4.1 Andrew Scott to give a verbal update at the meeting

5. Financial and Staffing Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or staffing implications.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 There are no legal implications.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 That the report be noted.

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Campaign for National Parks

There are currently a number of major issues being tackled by the CNP Council and staff, not least biodiversity, wildlife and the decline in the state of nature in some areas.

CNP is currently working on its new Strategic Plan and what proposed policies it should contain. The issues above and further in this report will doubtless be pursued at the CNP conference shortly.

Improving access to the park for the public through public transport and community buses is seen as a major challenge but one which will be addressed in the new plan.

Also of significant concern to CNP is the threat of major developments on the edge of NPs and their potential impact on the image of NPs. CNP is supporting local societies which have expressed concerns at such developments.

Probably the biggest concern both now and in the future is Upland Farming. CNP set up a working group, of which I was a member, to look at the current state of upland farming and its future, especially in the light of Brexit.

It is felt these farmers need business advice to enable NPs to continue to be protected and defended while at the same time be forward looking, CNP is working with the National Trust and CPRE in particular on this issue, together with road and housing schemes which could also have an impact on the image and landscape of NPs.

Specifically, CNP wants focus to be put on delivering environmental benefits and for future environmental schemes to be locally tailored and delivered.

It also envisages a significant expansion in woodland in the right places and with the appropriate trees within upland NPs.

CNP says that sufficient resources should be provided to enable NPAs to carry out what will be a major role in the future land management of NPs.

The management of the uplands, such as those in the NYMNP, relies heavily on public money and the £3.2 billion that UK farmers currently receive through the Common Agricultural Policy is unlikely to flow to our farmers in the future.

CNP is also concerned about the potential impacts of the loss of EU designations such as Special Areas of Conservation. It is thought by the CNP council that for important areas of landscape and wildlife in NPs to be safeguarded, it is essential that protection of natural resources, including nature, air, soil and water, are maintained and possibly even enhanced, after the UK leaves the EU.

Many of these issues will be highlighted during the CNP conference in the New Forest next month, which I shall be attending.

If anyone has queries on this report, or other matters relating to CNP, please don't hesitate to contact me.

DAVID JEFFELS

NYMNPA representative on CNP