

North York Moors National Park Authority

25 June 2018

On the Record

1. **National Member Induction Course**

The next course is due to take place as follows: **Tuesday 11 – Thursday 13 September 2018** – Forest Lodge Hotel, Lyndhurst, New Forest National Park. Any Members interested in attending, please contact Vanessa, Committees Officer.

2. **Members Evening Seminar**

The next Members evening seminar will take place on Wednesday 27 June, Committee Room, Helmsley. More info on this seminar can be found at **Appendix 1**

3. **Members training session – 4 July 2018**

Just a reminder that we will be holding our next members training session on **Wednesday 4 July**, the morning session, followed by lunch will focus on Communications and Marketing.

4. **Members Expenses 2017/18**

For Members' information, **Appendix 2** shows a breakdown of expenses received between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

5. **National Parks England – Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from the NPE meeting on 18 April 2018 can be found at **Appendix 3**



North York Moor National Park Authority

Members Evening Seminar

Wednesday 27 June, 5pm in the Committee Room, The Old Vicarage, Helmsley

5.00pm	Buffet, networking
	Welcome, introduction and overview of the evening
Discussion Item 1	National Park Review
Discussion Item 2	Long term options for growing the Organisation
Discussion Item 3	Financing the remainder of the current Business Plan
8.15pm	Summing up/close

National Park Authority Expenses 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018

Members	Total Basic Allowance (£)	Total Mileage Claimed (Miles)	Total Mileage Claimed (£)	Total Special Responsibility Allowance (£)
L Atkinson	£2,253.66	1844	£829.80	-
J Bailey	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	£4,507.39
M Bowes	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	£1,690.24
G Coulson	£2,253.66	1106	£497.70	-
E Dent	£2,253.66	582	£261.92	-
M Dick	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	-
A Fisher	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	-
J Frank	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	-
D Hugill	£2,253.66	425	£191.25	£2,253.66
D C Jeffels	£2,253.66	1962	£882.90	-
C Massey	£2,253.66	957	£430.65	-
H Moorhouse	£2,253.66	357	£160.83	-
S Oswald	£2,253.66	905	£407.26	-
C Patmore	£2,253.66	OK0	£0.00	-
S Parsons	£1,691.64	0	£0.00	-
C Pearson	£2,253.66	777	£349.65	-
J Ritchie	£562.02	537	£241.65	-
E Sanderson	£2,253.66	1156	£520.20	-
A Scott	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	-
J Walker	£2,253.66	0	£0.00	£743.75
A Breckon	£0.00	72	£32.40	-

**NATIONAL PARKS ENGLAND
MEETING**

**Minutes of meeting held on 18th April 2018 between 10.00 – 14.00 at The Sill, Northumberland
National Park**

Items listed in order of discussion

	Present			
	<u>Directors</u>	<u>NPOs/ Chief Executives</u>	<u>NPAs</u>	
	Jacquie Burgess		Broads Authority	
	Bill Hitchins	Kevin Bishop	Dartmoor NPA	
	Robin Milton		Exmoor NPA	
	Michael McKinley	Richard Leafe	Lake District NPA	
	Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre	Alison Barnes	New Forest NPA	
	Jim Bailey	Andy Wilson	North York Moors NPA	
	Glen Sanderson	Tony Gates	Northumberland NPA	
	Lesley Roberts	Sarah Fowler (Lead NPO)	Peak District NPA	
	Margaret Paren (Chair)		South Downs NPA	
	Carl Lis	David Butterworth	Yorkshire Dales NPA	
	<u>Contributors</u>	<u>Organisation</u>		
	Paul Hamblin (Executive Director)	National Parks England		
	Amanda Brace	National Parks England		
	Meriel Harrison	National Parks England		
	Thea Gordon-Rawlings (minutes)	National Parks England		
	David Chapman	Peak District NPA		
	Peter Luff (Item 15)	Heritage Lottery Fund		
	Ivor Crowther (Item 15)	Heritage Lottery Fund		

Item		Agreed Actions
1.	Welcome and introductions 1.1 On behalf of the NPE Board, the Chair thanked Tony Gates, Glen Sanderson and their team at Northumberland NPA for organising and hosting the meeting. 1.2 The Chair welcomed David Chapman, Deputy Chair of the Peak District NPA, to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies Apologies were received from Trevor Beattie (SDNPA), Sarah Bryan (ENPA) and John Packman (Broads Authority).	
3.	Declarations of Interest There were none. Andrew Herbert LDNP – NP ag group meeting June meeting	
4.	Approve minutes from meeting held on 25 January 2018 An amendment to a sentence in p.5 of the minutes, to reflect the current role of Caroline Nokes MP as Minister of State for Immigration, was suggested and approved.	TGR
5.	Matters Arising	

	There were none.	
6.	Urgent Business notified to the Company Secretary There was no urgent business.	
7.	Preparation for meeting with Peter Luff – TG/MH/PH 7.1 On the 11 th of April MH had attended a meeting regarding the HLF Strategic Funding Framework consultation. HLF had received a range of over 1500 responses, and a major theme which had emerged was whether HLF should be aspiring to lead the sector when there are others who already have a role to play. The consultation had highlighted that nature and environmental heritage were top priorities for funding by stakeholders. MH had emphasised the important role of NPAs in bridging the artificial divide between natural and cultural landscapes. 7.2 HLF were reflecting on the targeting of funding towards particular groups and geographies. MH highlighted that not many others will be advocating for investing in rural areas, the way that NPAs do. She envisions a future with a more flexible mixture of grant funding and packages, adding that these could function as a springboard for the 2019 Year of Action for the environment. She added that HLF are a good supporter of NPAs and had funded projects that NPA's might find it hard to secure funding for from other sources. 7.4 ABA suggested that it could be worth discussing the idea of NPAs becoming brokers for partnerships for HLF, through which NPAs could deliver future funding.	
8.	Chair's Report 8.1 The Chair highlighted the official designation of the Lake District NP as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as having been the major event since the last NPE Board Meeting. She congratulated Mike McKinley and Richard Leafe for their work on achieving this status. 8.2 The Chair will be meeting Lord Gardiner on the 10 th May [Post Meeting Note: now 13th June]. She had recently met with Peter Kyle MP and Baroness Jones of Whitchurch, the Shadow Defra Minister in the Lords, who she was going to meet again for a visit to a farm cluster and to explore the delivery of high quality drinking water to Brighton. 8.3 The Chair was proposing to meet with Highways England, as a member of the Shadow Board for Highways England SE, to discuss mitigation and compensation for road schemes.	
9.	Lead NPO report and Business Plan Update 9.1 The lead NPO had been engaged in lots of dialogue with Defra regarding the 25 Year Environment Plan (25YEP). She had emphasised that NPAs were well placed to help on landscape and heritage, including on the development of metrics. Defra had accepted SF's offer for help and some NPOs will be picking up this work. Important areas to note were: the planning net gain principle, the 2019 Year of Action for the environment, and the development of a new environmental watchdog-style body. On the 21 st Century Review of NPs/AONBs most conversations had been about asking what a good outcome for National Parks would look like? SF had been emphasising the importance of enhanced landscapes, a more diverse profile of visitors, and thriving communities. 9.2 GS asked whether a timescale had been given for the woodland creation grant scheme. ABA shared that the conversations NPE was having with the Forestry Commission put us in a good position to engage with FC on the scheme but that there were no further details at this stage.	

	<p>9.3 DB asked whether Defra officials were working on a timescale for the implementation plan and whether it would be made public. SF shared that the intention was to have annual reporting on the 25YEP but agreeing the metrics to measure progress was the current focus. Defra were working on prioritising the 200 or so actions laid out in the plan and NPE were looking for key contacts for engagement so the lead policy NPOs have clear conduits.</p>	
10.	<p>Priorities from 25 Year Environment Plan</p> <p>10.1 The Executive Director introduced the paper and highlighted that it aimed to use a transparent way of agreeing our collective priorities. The NPE Chair would be writing to Lord Gardiner (as agreed at the last Board meeting) to share NPE's priorities for the delivery of the 25YEP.</p> <p>10.2 It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Chair will emphasise to LG that NPAs can be a key delivery agent for a lot of what is in the plan; b) The list of priorities for NPE, which were selected from the actions set out in 25YEP, will not be ordered from highest to lowest and instead will be given equal/non-fixed weighting; c) 41, 45 and 46 will be added to the list of priorities for NPE; d) The list will be shared with LG as one that NPAs can collectively help Defra with but that there are other areas incredibly important to individual NPAs which those individual authorities can offer help on; and e) There are wider issues that NPAs and NPE will not want to lose sight of in the context of the 25YEP. <p>10.3 It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Lord Gardiner, taking into account the above. And PH will work with NPOs to identify leads within Defra and amongst NPOs for delivering on the agreed priorities.</p>	<p>PH/MP PH/ NPOs</p>
11.	<p>NPE Refocused Business Plan</p> <p>11.1 The Executive Director introduced the paper, highlighting the continuity in terms of NPE's mission statement, the proposed focusing of the resources aim around public sources of income, the addition of a 4th strategic aim and the need to be more reactive as an organisation given the dynamic policy environment.</p> <p>11.2 RM requested more clarification on how NPE works with other organisations.</p> <p>11.3 JBa suggested that communications from NPE could be improved, for example by restarting the newsletter, which PH confirmed was on the organisation's agenda.</p> <p>11.4 It was agreed that the word "new" would be removed from the last line on paragraph 3 of page 10 in the business plan.</p> <p>11.5 With this change, the Board agreed the new NPE Business Plan 2018/19-2020/21.</p>	<p>PH PH</p>
12.	<p>NPE Ways of Working and subscriptions</p> <p><i>NPE staff except the Executive Director left the meeting for this item.</i></p> <p>12.1 The Lead NPO introduced this item and explained the rationale and objectives behind the options being presented; the discussions and decisions that had been taken to date; and elaborated on how NPE currently works.</p> <p>12.2 The Executive Director provided a presentation to highlight the different options that were being presented to the Board.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NPA subscription to NPE would be fixed at £21,300 for the next three financial years, subject to final agreement by three NPAs/BA. • A paper on the function, achievements and efficiencies of NPE would be provided to Chairs/ NPOs of the three NPAs who had asked for it. • The need to follow NPE's HR policies was noted. • The Board delegated responsibility for which staffing option to pursue to the Executive Director, Lead NPO, and Chair and for them to keep chairs and NPOs informed as they progressed with implementing the changes. 	<p>ALL</p> <p>PH</p> <p>PH/SF/MP</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>NPE/Forestry Commission Accord</p> <p><i>NPE staff re-joined the meeting for the remainder of the items.</i></p> <p>13.1 ABa and MH commented on the timeliness of the Accord with Forestry Commission (FC) given Ministerial interest and the 25 Year Environment Plan. FC had been supportive of refreshing the Accord from the start. The FC Area Directors had been brought in, and the Tree and Woodland Officers Working Group had been actively involved and consulted all the way through the development of the Accord. A concise, high-level document giving an overarching framework that provides the flexibility for relationships and activity to be locally tailored and locally appropriate had been developed.</p> <p>13.2 A workshop will take place on the 21st of May with NPA and FC representatives to begin conversations about local delivery.</p> <p>13.3 The proposed amendments were agreed, with the addition of a suggestion by JBu to adjust the wording to “these woodlands demonstrate the high standard of management...”, and a proposal from ABa to add the words “open habitat”.</p> <p>13.4 ABa confirmed that a review process of the Accord will take place annually.</p> <p>13.5 The Accord was approved by the NPE Board and it was agreed that AW would have delegated responsibility to negotiate any final changes necessary, coming from FC.</p> <p>13.6 The Accord will be jointly launched in a National Park during National Parks Week in July 2018.</p>	<p>AW</p> <p>AW</p> <p>AW/ ABa/ PH</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p>Engagement with MPs/Peers</p> <p>This item was not recorded.</p>	
<p>15.</p>	<p>Farming and Rural Development Policy</p> <p>15.1 KB introduced the paper and indicated that 8 NPAs had submitted offers to pilot Environmental Land Management (ELM) in their NPs, and that the remaining two would be happy to as well.</p> <p>15.2 KB was certain that NPE would want to support the public benefits aspiration of the Government's Health and Harmony paper but emphasised that while there seems to be a large focus on enhancement, the need to conserve and maintain what is already important needs re-stating.</p> <p>15.3 KB highlighted how the use of language surrounding the proposed new scheme had changed from a <i>universal</i> to a <i>national</i> scheme, and the possible implications of this. NPE's response would need to reinforce that there is merit in having local flexibility and targeting. Additionally, he noted the lack of reference to rural development in Health and Harmony and suggested that there is a strong argument for NPAs to have a key role in facilitating rural development.</p>	

	<p>15.4 There was some concern regarding expiring Higher Level Stewardship schemes and the need to roll forward existing schemes to provide continuity and ensure large areas of protected landscape did not come out of schemes. This line was likely to attract support by the NFU and was being considered by the National Trust.</p> <p>15.5 KB confirmed that there is no money for pilots until after December 2019 and that these will be paid for from the capping of basic payment schemes.</p> <p>15.6 It was suggested that the NPE Chair meet with George Eustice to make the case for short term extensions to HLF schemes, and for local flexibility in future schemes, with pilots in National Parks.</p> <p>15.7 The NPE Board agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Endorse the comments on 'Health and Harmony' outlined in para 3.3 and Annex I as building blocks for the NPE response to the Command Paper b. Support the Chair of NPE in securing a meeting with Ministers to make the case for National Parks as test-beds for the new scheme (subject to the outcome from the workshop on 9 April) and to raise our concerns about the transition period and potential options to mitigate this risk c. Approve the proposal to do further work on wider rural development in National Parks 	<p>KB/ PH</p> <p>PH/ MP</p> <p>KB</p>
<p>16.</p>	<p>Meeting with Peter Luff, Chair of Heritage Lottery Fund</p> <p>16.1 The Chair welcomed Peter Luff (PL) and Ivor Crowther (IC, Head of HLF North East) to the meeting. PL introduced himself and IC and confirmed that the HLF Board is "absolutely committed" to the natural heritage sector. He added that the Board is committed to maintaining their allocation of 25% of HLF money to natural heritage, listing parks, landscapes and biodiversity as examples of areas of focus.</p> <p>16.2 PL stated that declining heritage lottery is currently the elephant in the room. Time and effort was being given to raising awareness of the good causes that lottery ticket sales support. HLF would want to provide funding for things that were popular and made a positive difference.</p> <p>16.3 The NPE Chair stated the NPA's commitment to partnership work. She emphasised the cultural heritage value of NPs and the commitment of NPAs to this in addition to the natural environment. She then added the importance of keeping in mind all isolated communities, both rural and urban. KB stressed the importance of HLF money for opening doors for landscape partnership schemes in the development phase. He thanked PL and IC for the helpfulness of HLF staff.</p> <p>16.4 PL and IC explained that Camelot and the National Lottery Promotions Unit are responsible for publicising achievements, and that there had been a shift in the perception of what HLF does through the stories told by the Camelot website.</p> <p>16.5 PL responded positively to the idea of NPAs acting in partnership with HLF as convenors top fund delivery of smaller projects. This was partly because HLF has a small team, for example it has 12 members of staff for the whole of the North East. TG shared that Northumberland NPA had past experience of the convenor role through distributing Sustainable Development Funding. They had been successful in accessing communities who had not previously been reached.</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p>E-NPOG Notes 07 03 18</p> <p>The notes of the meeting were noted, without discussion.</p>	

