

North York Moors National Park Authority

24 June 2019

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 has written an update on recent CNP matters. This can be found at **Appendix 1**

4. **NYM Disability Advisory Group**

- 4.1 The Minutes of the last DAG meeting can be found at **Appendix 2**

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

Much of the Council meeting held on May 23 focussed on the work of Natural England, the Government's conservation agency, with one of its senior officials, JO RUSSELL, highlighting the new the Government's new 25 Year Plan. She welcomed the green infrastructure standards and the opportunities in the plan, to protect NP landscapes.

"Landscape strategies are so important to NP development plans" she said.

Jo also spoke about the need to protect heritage coastlines. The Glover Review and what she described as "strengthening the duty to have regard to the purposes" of both NPs and AONBs. She believed the new plan provided the opportunity to upskill the role of NP members.

DOUGLAS CHALMERS, the Friends of the Lake District, urged a more joined up approach with Natural England and similar bodies.

One of the main interests in the meeting was an address by the newly appointed Chief Executive of CNP, CORINNE PLUCHINO, who has come to the role after a distinguished career as a civil servant, and working in the Armed Services, and as a senior official with Marie Curie and other charity and public service bodies. In an impressive presentation despite having only been with CNP for a couple of weeks, she spelled out her ideas. Brexit she said, provided opportunities but also potential risks to NP landscapes.

She believed there was an opportunity for the public to learn more about NPs by giving them a higher profile, especially building on the success of the Mosaic programme which in the NYMNP was certainly a big success.

Corinne said she aims to focus on the role and strategy of CNP over the next three to six months adding "I want to get out to learn about NPs.

(Perhaps NYMNPA could consider inviting Corinne to our park)

She said she was anxious to get the public more involved in NPs and seeking to change their behaviour on such issues as the way people travel to and in them b working in partnership with other organisations. One of her aims, said Corinne will be to improve communications with the public. In the early stages of her new role she wants to see CNP respond to OFGEM regarding the funding to remove pylons in NPs, and to tackle radioactive waste management.

CNPs annual conference and AGM will be held in London in November and will be a celebration of the 70th anniversary of NPs. I have indicated that I plan to attend.

If any Member of NYMNPA has any queries or would like more information please let me know.

David Jeffels (NYMNPA Representative)

North York Moors Disability Advisory Group

54th Meeting – Friday 12 April 2019

Present:

Danny Boyes (Chairman), Paul Hepworth, David Brewster, Ann Ruddick, Julie Atkinson, Rob Cooper.

In Attendance:

Debbie Trafford, Michael Graham, Ian Nicholls, Donna Magson

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the new members of the group and everybody introduced themselves, explaining their reason for being at the meeting.

2. Apologies

John Goss, Ryan Chenery, Sarah Oswald, Denise Ross, Ian Lawson, Terry Sutcliffe, Ann Boyes

3. Notes from the Meeting Held on 25 January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2019 were noted and agreed.

4. Matters Arising

- **Recruitment** – Ian is speaking to NYCC about encouraging people with disabilities to apply for vacancies with the NP.

There was a discussion about there being fewer disability career advisers in Job Centres and that disabled people need to get a job first before being able to access the Access to Work Scheme (<https://www.gov.uk/access-to-work>)

<https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/careers-and-work-disabled-people#nine>

- **Volunteer Leader for Disabled People** – Debbie Trafford mentioned that while walks specifically aimed at those with mobility difficulties had been organised in the past, these had been poorly supported. It was suggested that the walks need to be promoted more (in the right places) and be able to demonstrate that the walks are accessible and give people the confidence to be able to attend.
- **Improve Accessibility at Road Crossings** – Saltersgate – Highways won't allow a crossing to be built while there is a national speed limit in place, but road signage will be put in place to slow drivers down. Across the road from the car park there are some steps as you go onto the walk around the Hole of Horcum. It is planned that, with the help of s106 money, the steps will be removed and a bridleway put in its place so it will be accessible for everyone.
- **Guided Walk – Bank Top Rosedale** – Debbie said that she was planning to organise a guided walk for Disability Advisory Group members (with anybody else that they wish to bring along) on 5 July 2019. The route is 1 mile out and back and level. Tom Mutton, Land of Iron project manager will talk about the mining industry and old railway line.

Action - DT to send Invite.

- **Wheelchair Access at Sutton Bank** – Michael Graham noted that the access to the toilet door is being widened.
- **Audit of Accessible Routes** – Debbie Trafford/Julie Atkinson/Ann Ruddick/Rob Cooper/Paul Hepworth and David Pontefract are to meet to discuss accessible routes.

5. Land of Iron - Progress

Tom Mutton came along to the meeting to update members on the Land of Iron Project.

Improvements to footpaths from the East Kilns to Reeking Gill will be completed by July – September time. This will include a boardwalk across a flooded part of the old railway line which will provide good access and the chance to view the range of habitats that have become established during the 90 years since the railway was abandoned. The boardwalk will be 160 metres long and be made of recycled plastic costing £30,000. David Brewster and others strongly welcome the initiative, saying that this would be hugely beneficial.

The Moors Centre at Danby is currently undergoing renovations ahead of the install of the interpretation, with final rounds of editing or wording for the exhibition currently underway. The official opening is scheduled for Sunday 21 July 2019, where a number of project partners are expected to be present with stalls and activities.

Photos attached of some of the interpretation

A group from Add-Venture in Learning (www.add-ventureinlearning.org.uk) will be coming to the Park for a residential from 19-23 August where Tom Mutton will be giving a talk on 20 August 2019.

Add-Venture in Learning provides residential courses giving access to life-long learning for visually impaired people. They are run by a Committee of ten people, all volunteers.

6. Access Matters

At Sutton Bank, the Authority has a funding bid in for a longer cycling trail which will enable a wider group of people to access the shorter bike trails. Sutton Bank bikes don't have adaptive bikes for hire (although they do have electric bikes) due to issues with adequate storage.

Ryevitalise project – David Brewster mentioned that this was a fascinating project and that the grant funding had now been secured. There would be improvements made during the course of the project on access to the path network adjacent to the river.

Valuable feedback has been received on Cod Beck access route (**see email from Terry Sutcliffe**). The route has been developed in partnership with Yorkshire Water. Forge Valley – the local community interest group with support from the National Park and Scarborough BC, is continuing with progress towards making a significant funding bid which will pay for a replacement boardwalk.

7. **Update on Tramper Scheme Progress**

Ian Nicholls updated on the tramper scheme which was discussed at the previous meeting.

1 available at Ravenscar from Easter

1 available at Sutton Bank later this year/early next year.

Action – IN to bring further update to next meeting

8. **Work with Disabled Volunteers**

Ryan Chenery supplied detailed notes which were circulated with the agenda

The number of disabled volunteers has increased significantly in the last 12 months, largely achieved through good partnership working.

9. **Any other Business**

Debbie Trafford mentioned that one of our volunteers Jim Hall, goes to old peoples' homes and gives a virtual guided walk to the residents. He supplies photos and a soundtrack and talks residents through the walk. This has gone down really well and creates a lot of conversation and people reminisce about the places he talks about.

Action – DT to supply Julie Atkinson with contact details for Jim.

Danny updated the Group on the work that he and Ian Lawson were doing in a voluntary capacity providing advice to Scarborough BC's planning applicants on how to make their buildings accessible. He said that while some commercial operators were not interested in receiving advice, a number were and made changes to internal design to meet the needs of those with disabilities.

10. **Time, date and location of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the Moors National Park Centre, Danby on Friday 26 July 2019.