

## North York Moors National Park Authority

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Monday 17 December 2018.

### **Present:**

Leslie Atkinson, Jim Bailey, Malcolm Bowes, Guy Coulson, Ena Dent, Michael Dick, Alison Fisher, Janet Frank, David Hugill, Patrick James, David Jeffels, Christopher Massey, Heather Moorhouse, Sarah Oswald, Caroline Patmore, Clive Pearson, Ted Sanderson, Andrew Scott, Jeremy Walker.

**Apologies:** None Received

### **Officers in Attendance:**

Andy Wilson (Chief Executive), Briony Fox (Director of Conservation & Polyhalite Projects), Ian Nicholls (Head of Corporate Services), Chris France (Director of Planning), Richard Gunton (Director of Park Services), Rebecca Thompson (Future Farming Policy Officer), Peter Williams (Head of Finance), Jo Swiers (Performance Officer), Richard Smith (Authority Solicitor), Lisa Dixon (Monitoring Officer), Vanessa Burgess (Committees & Customer Services Officer)

Jim Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Before moving on to Item 2 of the agenda the Chair updated members regarding on going work in relation to Defra Land Management Schemes, stating that our Authority area had been successful in securing tests and trials work. He thanked Officers and in particular Rebecca Thompson for all her hard work on this area of work so far. Scope, timescales and budget for the trials are to be confirmed.

**Action:** Rebecca Thompson/Nina Beadle to arrange an update for inclusion in Members Monthly Bulletin once more information becomes available.

### 65/18 **Minutes**

**Resolved:**

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**Heather Moorhouse arrived at 9.40am**

### 66/18 **Minutes**

**Resolved:**

That the public minutes of the Special NPA meeting held on 18 October 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

67/18 **Minutes**

**Resolved:**

That the public minutes of the Private Special NPA meeting held on 1 November 2018, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

68/18 **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from Members of the public.

68/18 **Members Interests**

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

69/18 **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:-

<b>Item No on the Agenda</b>	<b>Paragraph No</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>1,2,3,4</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>1,2,3,4</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>FOI Act 2000 Sect 36 c)</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>1 and 5</b>

70/18 **Budget Estimate 2019/20**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Finance

Pete Williams informed members of the updated proposal for the budget for 2019/20, as approved by FRASC in November together with a wider assessment of the pressures on the budget for the years thereafter.

**Andrew Scott arrived at 9.55am**

Members commented on the following areas:

- Forecasting planning income
- Replacement of Authority vehicles going forward – cleaner energy, electric vehicles

A brief discussion followed between officers and members regarding the proposed reduction of the Discretionary grants budget for one year.

Pete Williams spoke to members regarding Reserves.

**Action:** Pete Williams to provide members with more detailed information on the unallocated reserves situation.

### **David Hugill arrived at 10.15am**

Members asked about what the effect might be on communities going forward due to the reduction in community grants.

**Action:** Pete Williams to keep members informed on the point in the year at which the community grants are spent up, plus numbers of applicants continuing to apply after that time.

Members commented further on:

- Connectivity via Ryevitalise project
- Challenging times re: recruiting and retaining more volunteers, including younger volunteers

Richard Gunton informed members that the NYMNP was in a good position re: volunteers, with 40+ new volunteers having been recruited in the last 12 months. The Authority was concentrating hard of attracting younger volunteers and the Explorer club had already doubled its numbers.

**Action:** Officers to arrange an opportunity for further officer/member discussion on priority setting.

**Resolved:** Members approved the proposals for the budget 2019/20 as the basis for final preparatory work.

Members noted year 2 and 3 of the MTFs with further onward work required and in particular asked officers to do further work on the income forecasts for 2020-2022.

Members approved the reallocation of the £100k underspend on the building reserve to fund improved car park site management, as detailed in paragraph 10.

## 71/18 **Protected Landscapes Review**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive and the Performance Officer

Jo Swiers informed members that the deadline for written responses to the draft Glover Review was 18 December 2018.

Andy Wilson referred to the section on Governance highlighting the Authority's support of a mix of local and nationally appointed members, but also the Authority's sense of balance and being "up for change".

Regarding the draft response, members commented on the following areas:

- When appointing a new member, the selection panel should be able to make their recommendation to the appointing person
- Addition of a conclusion to the response
- Assumptions made on reader knowledge of the area – include more information on NYMNP designation, its special qualities and its stakeholders
- Sponsorship message – repeat/remind

- Seek more engagement from Highways, re: signage and controlling activities

Brief discussion followed on Wildlife powers and the possibility of NP's having a "greater role in wildlife" and the need for legislative review. Andy Wilson commented that public surveys show that the Public think the NP's role is to look after wildlife.

Members commented further on the following areas:

- Enforcement not sufficient – give others more powers or increase resources
- Relationships with communities in the NP
- Potential for Tourism Levies
- Successes with Built Environment work
- Need to include information on our Visitor Centres
- Better articulate social and natural environment of NP
- Need to look after native habitats, wildlife part of first purpose of NP's

Members were encouraged to send any additional comments through as soon as possible.

**Action:** Andy Wilson and Jo Swiers to include additional information

**Resolved:** Members reviewed and commented on the attached draft response to the Protected Landscapes review as indicated above and, subject to the changes, approved it for submission.

#### 72/18 **Member Training – Verbal Update**

"Richard Smith advised members that he would be arranging Planning and Code of Conduct refresher training in the New Year. In the meantime members were reminded of **some** the key elements of the Code of Conduct:

- Keep to the Code **of Conduct**
- Always read your committee papers
- Take care regarding lobbying
- **Clearly declare the n**Nature of Interests, prejudicial or non-prejudicial
- **Stick to the material considerations**
- Be aware of conduct/demeanour with "all parties"

#### 73/18 **Draft Communications Strategy – Verbal Presentation**

Richard Gunton introduced Howard Swift, Way Design. Howard shared the key, refined recommendations of the draft Communications Strategy with members.

Members commented on the following:

- Potential visitors – urban centres around the Moors
- Sense of self – in broadest terms first, then more specific campaigns to target marginalised groups
- Special features of the NYM's including valleys

#### **David Jeffels left the meeting at midday**

- Slight changes to brand/logo – change text font
- Moor pun – usage needs to be paced

- Importance of Yorkshire brand

**Action:** Members were invited to send any additional further comments to Nina Beadle, by end of December 2018.

Final Strategy to be brought back to members at March NPA.

**74/18 Measuring the Health and Wellbeing Impact – Presenting the report by York University**

Richard Gunton presented the Health & Wellbeing report to members, stating that the findings showed that every £1 of Defra money spent equated to £7.21 in health and wellbeing benefit.

Sarah Oswald informed members that she believed the report would receive a lot of Government interest going forward and would be especially useful in the area of Social Prescribing, links with Health Service strategy. Members welcomed the report.

**75/18 Proposed Performance and Learning Review for 2019**

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive and the Performance Officer

**Resolved:** Members agreed that the area of work to be scrutinised for performance review in 2019 would be Wildlife

**76/18 Parish Forum Update**

Considered:

The report of the PA to Chief Executive

**Resolved:** Members noted the issues raised at the Parish Forums.

**77/18 On the Record**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

**Resolved:** Members noted the report

**78/18 Feedback from Lead Members on Forums**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Alison Fisher updated members on the October meeting of the Conservation and Land Management Forum which considered the Built Environment.

Sarah Oswald, tabled a paper at the meeting, updated members and encouraged them to read/note her paper.

79/18 **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

Considered:

The report of the Committees Officer

Alison Fisher advised members that she would update them on Local Government North Yorkshire, York & East Riding Housing Board matters at March NPA.

Andrew Scott briefly updated members on recent LEP items.

<b>Resolved:</b> Members noted the report
---

Before moving on to items of other business the Chair took the opportunity to thank Richard Gunton for all his hard work over the past 17 years as Director of Park Services, members wished him well for the future.

80/18 **Other Business**

The Chair ruled that the following items could be considered;

**The recording of meetings**

Andy Wilson, CEO made members aware of a recent complaint which raised a point regarding the non-recording of Authority meetings.

Brief discussion followed. Members acknowledged the point raised by the complainant. Members commented that the Authority did allow the recording and reporting of its public meetings by other parties if they wished to do so. The CEO explained that if there were no requests to look at the matter further the status quo would prevail; no member proposed that routine recording of meetings should be initiated.

**National Park Collaboration**

Jim Bailey, Chair spoke about the principles of collaboration with English Partners, stating that some areas of collaboration felt well synchronised, but there were still some issues and NP's should have the option to opt out of elements they didn't agree with. Concerns were voiced regarding Governance and control going forward including in relation to a national charity.

**Action:** A report to be put to members at March NPA confirming the principles of collaboration which should operate and proposing a basis on which the NPA would be content to work at a UK level.

..... (Chair)  
25 March 2019

**Public Summary of Items considered "in private"  
at the meeting of the Authority  
on 17 December 2018**

**Private Minutes – 1 October**

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on 1 October, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**Private Special NPA Minutes – 18 October**

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on 18 October, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**Private Special NPA Minutes – 1 November**

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on 1 November, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**Corporate Risk: Legal Action in respect of unauthorised development**

Report deferred until the New Year