

North York Moors National Park Authority

25 June 2012

On the Record

1. **Association of National Park Authorities (ANPA) and English National Park Authorities Association (ENPAA)**

- a. A copy of the draft minutes of ANPA Executive meeting held on the 24 January 2012 are at **Appendix 1**.
- b. A copy of the draft minutes of the ENPAA meeting held on the 29 March 2012 are at **Appendix 2**.

2. **Minutes from the North York Moors Local Access Forum**

The North York Moors Local Access Forum met on the 6 March 2012 and the approved minutes from this meeting appear at **Appendix 3**.

3. **Minutes of Committees and Working Groups**

The following meetings have taken place since the last report:

- Whitby Business Park Area Action Working Group – 20 March 2012
- Conservation Committee – 3 April 2012
- Access and Information Committee – 16 April 2012
- Members Training Working Group – 26 April 2012
- Standards Committee – 1 May 2012
- Primary Land Users Group – 3 May 2012
- Performance Monitoring and Management Committee – 28 May 2012

Draft minutes of some of these meetings form part of this agenda, alternatively they are available on request. Recommendations from the Standards Committee to the Authority were reported to Members at the Special Authority meeting on the 24 May 2012.

4. **Public Rights of Way Information**

Attached at **Appendix 4** is information regarding the public rights of way work undertaken using delegated powers since the last Access and Information Committee held on 16 April 2012.

5. **Ruswarp Hydro Project – Fish Monitoring Proposals**

Note of a meeting held on 9 May 2012 attached at **Appendix 5**.

NATIONAL PARKS

Britain's breathing spaces

PARCIAU CENEDLAETHOL PRYDAIN
Lle i enaid gael llonydd
PĂIRCEAN NĂISEANTA
Ăiteachan analachadh bhreatainn

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DRAFT MINUTES - UK ANPA Executive Meeting</u> <u>1pm– 3pm Tuesday 24 January 2012</u> <u>Merrell Offices, Kings Place, York Way London</u></p> <p>Attending</p> <p>Broads Stephen Johnson (Chair); John Packman (CEO) Cairngorms Jane Hope (CEO) Dartmoor Bill Hitchins (Chair) Exmoor John Dyke (Chair); Nigel Stone (CEO) Lake District Richard Leafe (CEO) Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Linda Fraser New Forest Julian Johnson (Chair) Alison Barnes (CEO) North York Moors Jim Bailey (Chair); Andy Wilson (CEO) Northumberland John Riddle (Chair); Tony Gates (CEO) Peak District Tony Favell (Chair) Jim Dixon, CEO (Lead Officer UK ANPA) Pembrokeshire Coast Tony Brinsden (Chair); Tegryn Jones, (CEO) Snowdonia Caerwyn Roberts (Chair); Aneurin Phillips, (CEO) Yorkshire Dales Carl Lis, Chair (Chair UK ANPA); David Butterworth, (CEO)</p> <p>Attending – observers, speakers and guests</p> <p>CNP Ruth Chambers; Anne Robinson (Chair) ENPAA Paul Hamblin, Director National Parks Wales Greg Pycroft, Welsh Policy Officer Natural England Catherine Graham-Harrison; David Henshilwood UK ANPA Kathryn Cook, UK Co-ordinator (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies</p> <p>Brecon Beacons Julie James (Chair); John Cook (CEO) Cairngorms David Green (Chair) Dartmoor Kevin Bishop (CEO) Lake District Bill Jefferson (Chair) Loch Lomond Linda McKay (Chair); Fiona Logan (CEO) South Downs Margaret Paren (Chair); Trevor Beattie (CEO)</p>	
Item		Agreed Actions
1.	<p>The Chair (CL) introduced Leigh Ireland from Capitalise and Emily Carr from Merrell – who gave an update on the Merrell Brand and marketing strategy.</p> <p>Introductions and apologies</p> <p>CL introduced and welcomed Linda Fraser, LLTT who was attending on behalf of Fiona Logan and gave apologies as listed on the agenda – noting that Kevin Bishop had offered late apologies due to a funeral.</p> <p>CL informed the Executive that Margaret Paren, South Downs Chair, had been awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours. The Executive passed on their congratulations.</p> <p>CL also welcomed Ruth Chambers and Anne Robinson from CNP and noted that Natural England's new Board Member Catherine Graham-Harrison (who replaces Tony Hams) and David Henshilwood would be joining the meeting later.</p>	<p>KC to pass on the Board's Congrats</p>

<p>2. 2.i 2.ii</p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting <u>July 2011 AGM / Executive: for approval</u> The minutes were approved without comment.</p> <p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>CL noted that all action points had been followed up and those requiring further comment were noted elsewhere on the agenda.</p> <p>CL reminded Chairs that Northumberland had withdrawn their notice and thanked Tony Gates and John Riddle for their continued support.</p> <p>CL asked for clarification from NYM as to the 2013 Conference. AW confirmed NYM were happy to host the 2013 Conference.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>UK ANPA 2010-13 Work Programme – progress report CL referred Chairs to the detailed work programme update circulated with the meeting papers and reiterated that this item had been tabled for information and comment.</p> <p>KC spoke to her report highlighting the following points:</p> <p>Member Induction Course KC referred Chairs to the feedback analysis report (Sept 2011 course – Lake District) and gave a verbal update on the excellent feedback received from all 16 Members who had attended the January Induction course held the week before in the Broads. John Riddle and Bill Hitchins reiterated this commenting that their Members had given a very positive report back.</p> <p>KC asked Chairs to note that the Workshop would be held at the Royal York Hotel on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 June – KC further explained that this was later than usual due to the Welsh Government Elections mid June. KC explained that the 2012 Workshop theme ‘Engaging Local Communities’ would be discussed in more detail in the Chair’s discussion session following the meeting.</p> <p>KC reported good progress with regard to Public Engagement activities – including the impressive website statistics (Sept 2011) especially in terms of the Virtual Classroom and a significant increase in our social media followers.</p> <p>KC summarised progress with National Parks Week 2012 projects including website content development; the Winning Landscapes Competition and the iPhone app. AB queried whether anything was being done in regard to the torch relay. KC confirmed this was being flagged up through UK ANPA’s social media platforms.</p> <p>KC explained that the proposed theme for National Parks Week 2013 is ‘Activities’ – to showcase the diverse range of activities in our National Parks for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and asked Chairs to endorse the theme. Chairs agreed the theme provided lots of scope and minimised additional effort on the part of individual NPAs. The theme was approved.</p> <p>KC summarised progress with regard to the Merrell Partnership projects and circulated copies of the updated Visitor Passport. Chairs were pleased that the partnership was delivering tangible results and asked KC to continue to work closely with Merrell to ensure both parties continue to be happy with the outputs.</p>	<p>KC to circulate Jan feedback in July mtg</p> <p>KC to arrange PR for torch relay route</p> <p>KC to take forward 2013 theme with Comms group</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee – Nov 2011: CL referred Chairs to the F&GP written report and accompanying spreadsheets. KC ran through the main points of note which are summarised as follows:</p>	
<p>4.i</p>	<p>2011-12 anticipated outturn KC summarised the significant points as detailed in her written report under point 1 and asked Chairs to note the projected surplus. KC went on to explain that due to the uncertain nature of 2012/13 with regard to Dartmoor’s position and the funding agencies contributions she had sought approval from F&GP to accrue any surplus from 2011/12 and hold as a contingency for the 2012/13 financial year – should said contingency not be required the surplus shall be spent on facilitating projects such as the National Parks brochure update.</p> <p>Chairs were impressed with the tight financial control UK ANPA continued to demonstrate and congratulated the team on the positive anticipated year end position which they noted was a significant achievement in the current economic climate.</p>	
<p>4.ii</p>	<p>2012/13 Budget KC ran through the main points of note for 2012/13 highlighting that she had managed to draft the budget without a reserve requirement. CL asked BH if he could provide any update on Dartmoor’s position. BH commented that the Authority would be taking a decision shortly but emphasised that he was encouraged by the efficiency savings made throughout the year; the anticipated positive year end outturn and he governance discussions – and he would therefore be reporting this back at the next authority meeting. KC to follow up with KB/BH following February authority meeting.</p>	<p>KB/BH to confirm DNPA position</p>
<p>4.iii</p>	<p>Agency Funding</p> <p>2011/12 KC reported that the interim claim system was continuing to work well with all the funding agencies and had meant that the majority of the funding had been claimed and settled prior to the submission of the final claims.</p> <p>2012/13 KC reported that she had submitted indicative bids for all three agencies and summarised progress as follows: CCW - initial discussions had been positive and CCW were looking favourably on the three year funding arrangement suggested by KC – Chairs were pleased with this as they felt it important to establish good working relations early on with the new single environmental body and a 3 year funding agreement would provide more financial stability; NE – KC had submitted an updated MOA – but NE had not yet indicated their funding resources going forward – though KC hoped NE representatives would have some further information to divulge later in the meeting. KC explained that she had submitted an indicative bid to SNH – but emphasised that the terms and conditions had been so restrictive and onerous in administrative terms in this current financial year that it wouldn’t be a huge loss if this funding wasn’t forthcoming.</p> <p>RL commented that it was commendable that UK ANPA were maintaining constructive dialogue with the funding agencies in the context of such a desperate economic climate and congratulated KC and the team for driving this forward.</p>	

<p>5</p>	<p>Strategic Level Collaborative Working</p> <p>KC reported that she and PH had recently attended a meeting called by DEFRA in October 2011 – the objective of which had been to enable DEFRA to get up to speed on how UK ANPA; ENPAA; NAAONBs and EAI currently work together – to ensure there is no duplication of function and to identify any potential opportunities for cross organisation working. KC & PH had emphasised at the meeting that a range of work was already being undertaken collaboratively and that although they welcomed opportunities to look at further partnership working – such work would need to add value to all organisations involved.</p> <p>KC commented that last time this was raised at a Executive meeting the directive from Chairs was very clear – namely that any collaboration should be to avoid date clashes and ensure all organisations are kept informed as to each others activities. KC reiterated that Chairs had been very clear that collaboration with regard to joint events and joint marketing was not desirable or appropriate. KC sought a clear mandate on direction going forward in light of DEFRA’s renewed impetus.</p> <p>A discussion ensued. Chairs agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaboration should continue to focus upon information exchange, bridging the understanding gap and avoiding date clashes • the merits of any new opportunities for collaboration would be considered as and when they arose. 	
<p>6.</p> <p>6.i</p> <p>6.ii</p> <p>6.iii</p>	<p>Country Matters</p> <p>ENPAA: report circulated in advance. CL referred Chairs to the written report circulated in advance. PH had had to leave the meeting early and the report was noted without comment.</p> <p>Scotland: JH gave a brief verbal update on the Scottish position which was noted without discussion.</p> <p>NPW: GP highlighted a few points from his written report. The report was noted without comment.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>All Party Parliamentary Group on National Parks</p> <p>CL referred Chairs to the written report prepared by Meriel Martin. TG thanked CNP for their input into the APPG commenting that their concerns around the application of the NPPF had been well communicated and that initial indications from the Minister had been reassuring.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Agency Update</p> <p>CL welcomed Natural England representatives Catherine Graham-Harrison (Lead Board Member for the Protected Landscapes Sector) and David Henshilwood (Principal Adviser, Landscape and Geodiversity).</p> <p>CGH gave an overview of Natural England’s position confirming that the actual cut was no worse than that which was anticipated – however NE’s capacity to fund its Partners’</p>	

	<p>work programmes remained uncertain. CGH sought to reassure the Executive that in spite of the difficult situation Natural England finds itself in it remains committed to supporting the work of UK ANPA. DH reiterated that the quality of delivery UK ANPA provides is exemplary and that the way the MOA is delivered is a ‘model’.</p> <p>JR queried whether CGH or DH could be any clearer on the likelihood of funding support for 2012/13 onwards – suggesting that NPs should rank highly as a partner whose work is essential in helping support NE deliver its objectives.</p> <p>CGH responded that as in previous years an ‘all or nothing scenario’ is conceivable. CGH commented that NE remain keen to continue support for UK ANPA regardless of available funding and suggested Chairs may wish to consider other support options – such as support in the form of additional staff resources.</p> <p>KC emphasised that UK ANPA staff team was well placed to deliver the work plan objectives and that projects such as the Member Induction Course and National Parks Week were very much dependant upon continued financial support.</p> <p>Chairs as in previous meetings expressed their concern at the suggestion that the funding support may cease altogether and stressed the point that support through a staff resource would not be feasible or indeed appropriate. The Executive reiterated that the continuing relationship between NE and UK ANPA was very much dependent upon continued financial support.</p> <p>CGH confirmed that NE hoped to have further news in a few weeks time - KC to continue to liaise with NE - DH to update KC at their teleconference in March .</p>	<p>KC to continue to liaise with NE</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>China Partnership – JD reported positive progress with the partnership and spoke of plans to co-ordinate a formal launch of the partnership to tie in with the Chinese Minister for Tourism visit – which is being arranged as part of the run up to the Olympics. KC / JD to co-ordinate and report back at next meeting.</p> <p>Northern Ireland White Paper TG summarised his written report updating the Executive on legislation for National Parks in Northern Ireland. DB reported back on his presentation to Fermanagh District Council.</p> <p>IUCN Categorisation – AW recapped the position with regard to the issue of IUCN categorisation - reiterating his concerns with regard to the lack of clarity under the current system as to where AONBs, SSSIs and National Parks fit into the system. AW acknowledged that it was important for National Parks to remain in the system but voiced concerns that the revised guidance, which places a heavier emphasis on nature conservation than hitherto, may put the continued international status of our NPs at risk. AW reported that he and KB were intending to take a paper to ENPAA – but commented that there needed to be clarity on the Welsh and Scottish perspectives. JH commented that she was happy to take part & GP asked to be kept informed.</p> <p>Date / Venue of future meetings - KC reminded the Executive that the 2012 AGM/Executive would be held in the Peak District Wednesday 4 July 2012 – venue TBC.</p>	<p>KC/JD</p> <p>JH/KB /AW</p>

ENGLISH NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES ASSOCIATION MEETING

Notes of meeting held on 29 March 2012 between 1.30 to 4.00pm at St Albans Centre, London
Items are listed in order of discussion

	<p>Present</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Directors</u> Stephen Johnson John Dyke (Chairman) Julian Johnson Jim Bailey Tony Favell Charles Peck (on behalf of Margaret Paren) Carl Lis <u>Contributors</u> Paul Hamblin Meriel Martin (minutes) </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>NPOs/ Chief Executives</u> John Packman Alison Barnes (ABa) Andy Wilson Tony Gates (Item 5 only) Jim Dixon (JDi) David Butterworth <u>Organisation</u> ENPAA ENPAA </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>NPAs</u> Broads Authority Exmoor NPA New Forest NPA North York Moors NPA Northumberland NPA Peak District NPA South Downs NPA Yorkshire Dales NPA </td> </tr> </table>	<u>Directors</u> Stephen Johnson John Dyke (Chairman) Julian Johnson Jim Bailey Tony Favell Charles Peck (on behalf of Margaret Paren) Carl Lis <u>Contributors</u> Paul Hamblin Meriel Martin (minutes)	<u>NPOs/ Chief Executives</u> John Packman Alison Barnes (ABa) Andy Wilson Tony Gates (Item 5 only) Jim Dixon (JDi) David Butterworth <u>Organisation</u> ENPAA ENPAA	<u>NPAs</u> Broads Authority Exmoor NPA New Forest NPA North York Moors NPA Northumberland NPA Peak District NPA South Downs NPA Yorkshire Dales NPA	
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Item		Agreed Actions			
1.	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Charles Peck (South Downs NPA), attending on behalf of Margaret Paren.</p>				
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Margaret Paren and Trevor Beattie (South Downs NPA); John Riddle and Tony Gates (Northumberland NPA); Bill Jefferson and Richard Leafe (Lake District NPA); Bill Hitchins and Kevin Bishop (Dartmoor NPA); Nigel Stone (Exmoor NPA); and Amanda Brace (ENPAA) and Ruth Chambers (CNP).</p> <p>The Chairman noted that NPAs should send Alternate Directors when Directors are unable to attend meetings and there is an established procedure for this. The Articles of Association do contain provisions that mean if a Director does not attend for two or more consecutive meetings it is possible that they may cease to be a Director. Representation of NPAs at ENPAA meetings was important as decision making becomes much more difficult when some NPAs are not represented.</p>				
3.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>PH in his capacity as Company Secretary gave a reminder that Directors should consider for each meeting whether they have interests to be declared. There were no declarations of interest given.</p>				
4.	<p>Approve minutes from meeting held on 25 January 2012</p> <p>The minutes were approved.</p>				
5.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p><u>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)</u> Tony Gates (Northumberland NPA) joined the meeting by telephone for this item only.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that he had had a pre-arranged phone conversation with Defra Minister Richard Benyon MP on the day that the NPPF was published. The Minister ran through the response to each of ENPAA's main asks. The Chairman had thanked the Minister and recognised Defra had done their best with CLG to address our concerns. ENPAA had not issued a press release or responded publicly to the NPPF announcement. TG gave feedback</p>				

	<p>on the contents of the NPPF. ENPAA's two main asks (linking National Park purposes to the presumption in favour of sustainable development, and reinstating the reference to National Parks being afforded the highest level of landscape protection) had been sufficiently addressed. The response to the other asks were more mixed. The major development test will be watched closely. The issues around affordable housing are still unclear at present and will need further examination. On setting we would have liked to see more and so ENPAA may wish to develop a piece of work on this and individually NPAs will need to discuss setting with neighbouring authorities. The point on economic value of the environment was not a significant ask for ENPAA and had been addressed in a broader way.</p> <p>PH explained that the NPPF came into force immediately although there are transitional arrangements whereby LDFs can continue to be given full weight to relevant policies adopted since 2004, even if there is a limited degree of conflict with the NPPF. Heads of Planning will be looking at this. Advice from Government will be available through a new unit involving PINS, CLG and the LGA. MPs will be debating the NPPF when they return from the Easter recess. The APPG will be interested to hear feedback on the NPPF following on from the October 2011 meeting with Greg Clark.</p> <p>Directors expressed thanks to PH and TG for all their efforts and sensitive handling of the process which had resulted in a good outcome for National Parks. It was agreed that letters of thanks should go from the ENPAA Chairman to Greg Clark MP and Richard Benyon MP. The letters should welcome the specific changes that ENPAA had asked for and say that we look forward to working through the detail and implementation with CLG and Defra. The letters should offer to arrange visits to see the NPPF being implemented in the National Parks. Similarly PH will write to thank CLG Chief Planner Steve Quartermain and his team.</p> <p>Tony Gates left the meeting.</p> <p><u>Climate Change Adaptation Reporting</u></p> <p>PH gave an update on a Defra seminar on climate change adaptation reporting that had been held the previous week. This was prior to the publication of the NPPF (which contains a reference to the need to look at the long term implications of climate change in Plans). The seminar had been chaired by Defra Ministers Jim Paice MP and Lord Taylor of Holbeach. All NPAs submitted climate change adaptation reports which were prepared spatially for the Park area rather than the organisation. These plans are now published on the Defra website. The focus of our input to the seminar was on the need to avoid silo working and to pick up on the interrelationships between sectors. NPAs were the only local planning authorities represented at the seminar and this was picked up by Lord Krebs who chairs the Climate Change Adaptation Sub-Committee and with whom we could have further discussions. The seminar confirmed that NPAs continue to be at the forefront in responding to debates around climate change. JDi noted that the letter received from Lord Taylor in response to the reports was particularly helpful and well-informed.</p>	<p>PH / JDy</p> <p>PH</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Final Draft ENPAA Business Plan</p> <p>PH gave a presentation outlining the Business Plan and how it has been prioritised (slides available on request). The Plan covers a three year period and will be updated annually on a rolling basis. The priority for 2012/13 will be a focus on rural prosperity, delivering aspects of the Natural Environment White Paper, showcasing what NPAs do in these areas, strengthening links with the changing Defra team, and better communicating the shared Vision for National Parks. Beyond 2012/13 priorities will include preparing for the Spending Review, the development of brief policy positions and improving our links with other Government departments. ENPAA will look to the Board for support in prioritising the Plan on an ongoing basis; and to NPA staff for their assistance in delivery by providing case studies, etc. PH invited comments and reactions to the Plan and the following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emphasis on more proactive work will be helpful in engaging with Government • Work on diversifying funding sources is a priority for immediate action • There is potential for further funding cuts in this Spending Review period and the next so an evidence base and proactive work to show how we are delivering Government priorities will be valuable • We should look at the experience of other bodies (e.g. the British Waterways 	

	<p>restructure) to see if there are lessons to be learned from how they have engaged with Government departments and other partners including NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes at CNP will impact on ENPAA's work • The Business Plan will be intelligence-led and timetables may need to be adjusted accordingly • NPAPA reports will offer one source of case studies for sharing good practice • There is currently no indication of what proportion of funding will be spent on each of the six aims. PH will undertake an exercise to show this largely based around a breakdown of staff time as this is the biggest area of expenditure • Local MPs are a valuable source of support and NPAs should encourage them to join the APPG on National Parks. We could also make better use of our connections with local government • National Parks are popular with the public and have plenty of supporters. We should be building on this by providing positives that enable Government to champion National Parks. This will require further thinking on interactions between ENPAA / UK ANPA / CNP • We should consider whether there are major events that we will want to plan ahead e.g. a period of celebration of National Parks to galvanise support from Ministers and others <p>The Business Plan was approved and it was agreed that a further discussion on how ENPAA can promote the collective achievements and work of NPAs will take place at the AGM in July.</p>	<p>PH</p> <p>PH</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Government Priorities for National Parks</p> <p>DB gave a reminder of discussions that had taken place with Defra Minister Richard Benyon MP and Tanya Arkle around providing information on Government priorities for National Parks. This would feed in to NPA plans and give Defra a clear line of sight for reporting. DB read out a letter that had been sent today from Tanya Arkle to all Directors that set out the Government priorities while noting that this was not a definitive list of actions. The priorities are largely what was expected and are broad enough to allow for the flexibility that individual NPAs require.</p> <p>Additionally the ENPAA Chairman had written to the Minister Richard Benyon MP with information about NPAs' work on sustainable development. In his response the Minister had mentioned that at the last face to face meeting, time had not allowed for discussion of an annual collective review. The Minister meets with Arms Length Bodies for reviews on a quarterly basis but thinks NPAs require a different approach and has suggested that NPAs present a summary annually when the Minister attends the ENPAA meeting. It was agreed that this would be a good arrangement provided that sufficient time is allowed to enable a two way conversation with the Minister. The Chairman will respond to this effect.</p>	<p>DB / JDy</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>National Parks Governance consultation</p> <p>The Chairman explained that previous discussions had favoured individual responses rather than a joint ENPAA response. The direct elections pilots were discussed and there was a shared concern around the lack of clarity on how success would be defined and monitored. It is still unclear whether the efficacy of the pilots will be looked at in terms of the administrative running of direct elections or whether they are of value overall to National Parks and have a benefit in furthering the purposes. The policy driver was local accountability but it was not clear how this would be measured. There is also some uncertainty around future costs as Defra will pay the cost of elections for the pilots but there is no agreement to fund the costs of any subsequent elections.</p> <p>It was agreed that, given that these issues will affect all NPAs directly or indirectly, the ENPAA Chairman should write to Defra to ask for clarity on how efficacy will be evaluated and future costs.</p>	<p>PH / JDy</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Staff Handbook Policies</p> <p>ENPAA staff left the meeting for this item.</p>	

	<p><u>Organisational change</u> Directors were supportive of the need for introducing this policy change but queried whether the terminology was written for an organisation of more than 2.5 staff. DB said the issues in the draft at Annex 1 were universal and were simply about ensuring fairness and consistency in the approach. However, whilst content with this answer Directors requested the Lead Officer contact Ian Nicholls to ensure the policy was fit for purpose for the needs of a small organisation such as ENPAA. It was agreed that the Lead Officer contact Ian Nicholls before finalising the policy.</p> <p><u>Staff Progression</u> DB outlined the reasons behind the introduction of this policy. It was simply to put a process onto the books which enabled, from time to time, a comparison of salary levels to ensure they were fair and just. There was support for the principle of introducing the policy but concerns as to how benchmarking would take place. The issue was finding comparable roles and views were expressed that these were unlikely to be found in the NPA family. It was suggested that a better benchmark would be against small voluntary organisations in the London area; others were opposed to this action. It was also suggested that the exercise of benchmarking be undertaken at this time, but again, others were opposed to this. The Chairman said he was uncomfortable about taking a decision without further information being provided and, in any event, he felt there needed to be more Directors present when the matter was considered. It was agreed that the Lead Officer contact Ian Nicholls for further discussion and a report be made to the AGM on progress.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Changes of key personnel within Defra update</p> <p>DB gave an update, explaining that Defra Director Robin Mortimer is moving to a new role and will be replaced by Sarah Hendry. Deputy Director Tanya Arkle is also moving to a new role and was due to be replaced by Andrew Slade, however he is now going to a job elsewhere so cover arrangements are being put in place and ENPAA Directors will be informed when there is more information on this. DB suggested that as well as using National Park visits for the new officials to showcase good practice, the visits also provide an opportunity to go through governance arrangements and ensure that these are well understood. It is important that officials understand the hybrid nature of NPAs as organisations and where they fit into their portfolios. It was agreed that DB and PH should develop a process for this. PH noted that Robin and Tanya will remain within Defra in relevant briefs so some contact will continue, and it was agreed that the Chairman and DB should ensure that we have thanked Tanya for her work.</p>	<p>DB / PH</p> <p>JDy / DB</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>ENPAA relations with Local Government Association</p> <p>DB explained that currently NPAs are in different positions. Generally the relationship with LGA has deteriorated since NPAs became independent. Discussions over the past 6 months have resulted in a proposal with two parts, which together constitute an arrangement that is 'all or nothing' i.e. all NPAs need to participate in order for it to go ahead. DB has written to NPOs asking whether they were happy for him to continue discussions with LGA on behalf of ENPAA and the response had been positive. Defra are aware of the discussions. The two elements of the proposal are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A joint subscription arrangement to be paid through ENPAA, with NPAs benefiting from an agreed list of services. Currently most NPAs are members and pay subscriptions, however two NPAs are not members (New Forest and South Downs) and two have given notice of their intention to cease membership as of 2013/14 (Broads and Northumberland). 2. Relocation of ENPAA's office base to Local Government House, Westminster. <p>JJ stated that the New Forest NPA would be content, in principle, to join and saw merit in organisational join-up and the relocation, subject to getting a good deal on the cost of subscriptions. CP stated that the South Downs NPA would also support the proposal in principle and would welcome work to provide further clarification of details as the proposal had potential implications for image, independence and budget. SJ explained that the Broads Authority had given notice in order to save money but would be content to be members provided there is benefit to ENPAA and the membership is no more costly than the current</p>	

	<p>subscription. It would be beneficial for ENPAA to be able to move from the current accommodation.</p> <p>LGA have asked for a decision from ENPAA by the end of May in order to sign off the agreement at their Assembly in June to take effect in 2013. Directors agreed that this deadline could not be met as a decision would need to be taken at the ENPAA AGM in July once more details are available and we have a clear offer from LGA. It was agreed that further negotiation is needed on the detail of costs and services and that DB should continue discussions with LGA to this effect. DB would inform Directors promptly if the fact that we cannot sign up in time for the May deadline means that LGA may take the proposal off the table entirely.</p>	DB
12.	<p>Sustainable Development consultation update</p> <p>JB noted that the definition of sustainable development was important. The NPPF affirms a role for National Parks but we could do more to set out what sustainable development means for NPAs on the ground. If the Circular is changed at any point then our definition of sustainable development could be lost. PH agreed that it would be helpful to have a discussion with officials to follow up on the NPPF, but we would need to recognise that NPAs most likely take subtly different approaches to sustainable development.</p>	ABr
13.	<p>Notes of E-NPOG Meeting 10.01.12</p> <p>These were received without discussion.</p>	
14.	<p>Notes of E-NPOG Meeting 08.03.12</p> <p>These were received without discussion.</p>	
15.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>CL requested that consideration be given to starting meetings earlier in order to get through business in the time allocated.</p> <p>ABa gave an update on preparation for the APPG meeting on 24 April on the theme of Forestry and Woodlands. A task and finish group has reflected on our response to the Independent Panel and their Interim Progress Report, and identified five key messages to provide a framework for the meeting. MM asked that Directors and NPOs let her know if they are able to attend as currently attendance from NPAs is low.</p>	ALL
16.	<p>Dates of future meetings</p> <p>JDi requested confirmation of the timings for the AGM to be held in the Peak District and explained that Mathew Parris would speak at the evening dinner.</p> <p>The meeting dates were noted as:</p> <p>a) 24 April – APPG meeting on the theme of woods and forests b) 4 July – UK ANPA Executive Meeting and AGM (Peak District) c) 5 July – ENPAA Board Meeting and AGM (Peak District) d) 10 October – ENPAA Board Meeting (venue tbc)</p>	PH



North York Moors

Local Access Forum

North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate,
Helmsley, York, YO62 5BP

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on 6 March 2012.

Present: J Batt, S Borman, B Briggs, Mrs C Cook, Mrs C Cussons, P Hay, Mrs J King, Lady E Kirk, Ms A Peacock, S Scoffin, Mrs N Taylor, G Winn Darley

Apologies: J Bateman, P Cody, Mrs M Mitchell

Officers in Attendance: Richard Gunton (Director of Park Services), Karl Gerhardsen (Head of Recreation and Access), Sarah Blakemore (Access Officer), Fiona Farnell (Committees Officer)

Copies of All Documents Considered are in the Minute Book

01/12 Minutes

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2011, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the word 'Deputy' being added before the word 'Chair' at minute 38/11.

The Chair informed Members that Paul Cody had stepped down as a Member of the Forum due to taking up a new post within the Forestry Commission.

02/12 Matters Arising - Huddle

S Scoffin and the Committees Officer showed Members 'Huddle'. Which is a discussion forum which has been set up by Natural England to be used to stimulate discussion and idea sharing/problem solving between Local Access Forums. Some of the functions potentially needed a little more work but the idea was overall a good one. The Chair asked for a member to become the 'huddle champion' for the forum.

Members agreed for the next item to be brought up the agenda.

03/12 Review of National Park Authority Committees and Advisory Groups

Considered:

The report of the Director of Park Services.

The Chief Executive informed the Forum that Members of the Authority had agreed the new committee structure at their meeting in December, which included reducing the Local Access Forum to two meetings a year but that it was anticipated that the two new forums 'Conservation and Landscape Management' and 'Awareness, Recreation and Business' that had been agreed had the potential for members from the Local Access Forum to be invited to attend meetings if their 'interest' was the topic to be covered.

Members made the following comments:

- Concerned that only two meeting a year would be disjointed.
- Worried that expertise would be lost.
- Communications would need to be increased
- Would need to find a way of responding to consultations.
- The Authority needed to remember 'access for all' not just tourism.

The Member representative on the Forum informed Members that it was not the intention of Members of the Authority to lose expertise but to encourage greater involvement within the new forums. Allowing Members to engage more with people outside the Authority while trying to reduce finances also.

The Chief Executive noted that more electronic communication may be possible to try to keep members of the forum up to date.

In answer to a question from a Member the Chief Executive noted that the rationale behind the decision was to ensure that many decisions continue to be delegated to Officers, that the Planning Committee still maintained its decision making role, that the full Authority took strategic decisions that there was a greater degree of involvement of external interests and that more scrutiny took place.

The Chair asked for all Members to email the Committee Officer with their expertise/interests.

Recommendation:

That Forum members gave their views on the proposed review of Committees and groups.

04/12 **Response to NYCC's Unsurfaced Unclassified Roads Policy Consultation Draft on the Use and Management of such Routes in North Yorkshire**

Considered:

The report of the Head of Recreation and Access

The Director informed Members that this was an important consultation as the issue of unsustainable use of green lanes had been frequently raised during the consultation on the new National Park Management Plan and the policy proposed a way forward for the County Council who had responsibility for management of these routes.

Members noted that this consultation had been long awaited and that a response needed to be sent from the forum.

The Chair noted that the best way forward was to form a working group to discuss the consultation and response in detail. Officers requested that any response be formulated ahead of the Access and Information Committee due to be held on the 16 April.

Recommendation:

1. That Members note NYCC progress with the UUR Policy
2. Agree a response to the UUR Policy Consultation Survey

Resolved:

1. That Members noted NYCC progress with the UUR Policy
2. Agreed that a Working Group be set up to agree a response to the UUR Policy Consultation Survey.

05/12 **Consultation of Proposed Variation of CROW Act Directions – Barkers Crag/Live Moor/Snotterdale and Raisdale Moor**

Considered:

The report of the Access Officer

Members agreed that it was a sensible way forward.

Resolved:

That the Forum agreed to the proposed variation to directions at Barkers Crag and Raisdale Moor to extend the restrictions for a period of 6 years.

06/12 **LAF Conference at Newcastle – (verbal report Catriona Cook)**

Mrs Cook noted that it was a good conference which was well attended and good for networking. Items covered included:

- Communications with LAF's by Natural England and Defra
- Rights of Way Review Committee
- Paths for Communities Fund – could include elements of bridleways, project running for 2 years, local communities to apply.
- White Paper
- ROWIPs – to be looked at again
- Defra – down from 92 arms length agencies to 36
- Local Nature Partnership – LAF's to be consulted
- National Nature Reserves – consultation to follow on proposals to offer open access

07/12 **Sutton Bank – Visitor Centre and area in General - (verbal update)**

The Director of Park Services presented this item and informed Members that the centre was undergoing a total revamp with a new exhibition and redesigned shop all due to be open for Easter. Negotiations were ongoing with a mountain bike company to use the old exhibition space for retail and cycle hire to make the most of what the surrounding area offered for cyclists both on and off road. Discussions with landowners were also taking place regarding development of a new 'family cycle route'. An Easy Access route was also currently being constructed with a viewing platform which would also be ready for Easter. Sutton Bank had also being given 'Dark Skies Discovery Status – Milkyway class'

The Director answered Members questions as follows:

- It was hoped that the family route would take in some of Cliff Plantation and be approximately 4km in length.
- Signage for other users on the rights of way would be carried out
- A formal opening of the centre would take place in May
- Money to fund the work had come from the Heritage Lottery funded Lime and Ice Project.
- Car parking charges would be staying the same this year at all bar one of the Authority's car parks, however a review of permits was taking place.

08/12 Report back from the National Park Authority (verbal Steve Scoffin)

Mr Scoffin updated Members as follows:

- The Management Plan consultation process had finished, with a draft document being taken to the March meeting of the Authority.
- Catrion McLees (Head of Promotion and Tourism) was now in post.
- A Landscape Partnership Bid from the Heritage Lottery Fund on industrial heritage was being pulled together by a number of officers with consultation evenings being carried out in the near future with residents. This project has a development period of approximately 18 months.

09/12 DFT Consultation on changes for Traffic Regulations and order Regulations

The Head of Recreation and Access presented this item and noted that a joint response would be sent by all the National Parks' Access Officers .

The proposal includes stopping advertising orders in local newspapers and instead placing them on authority websites and notifying local councils which the Officer noted would save the Authority money.

A Member noted that they hoped that the changes would happen.

10/12 Letter from Richard Benyon MP

To note the letter for information purposes.

11/12 Items for Future Meetings

- Paths for Communities Fund
- CLA Report
- Progress on ROWIPs

12/12 Other Business

The Chair noted that Paths for Communities Fund would be discussed at a future meeting but noted that the project would be launched in April 2012; aimed at rural communities and that there was no need for match funding at the present time.

.....(chairman)
12 June 2012

Public Rights of Way Information

a) Public Rights of Way Legal Events

1. Bridleway 207 Goathland (Moss Dike) Diversion Order 2012
2. Footpath 203 Eskdaleside-cum-Ugglebarnby (Throstle Nest) Definitive Map Modification Order 2012
3. Footpath 504 Loftus (Boulby PotAsh Mine) Diversion Order 2012
4. Footpath 202 Cold Kirby (Sutton Bank) Diversion Order 2012
5. Bridleway 39 Hartoft (Rock House) Diversion Order 2012
6. Bridleway 100 Hartoft (Rock House) Creation Order 2012
7. Bridleway 11 Sneaton (Mortar Pit Farm) Diversion Order 2012
8. Footpath 15 Whorlton (Huthwaite Green) Definitive Map Modification Order 2012

Background

Letters to Legal Services on:

Date	File Reference
1. 16 April 2012	EAW/5050/3/15/DIV 207
2. 24 April 2012	EAW/5050/3/12/MOD 203
3. 25 April 2012	EAW/5050/1/03/DIV 504
4. 3 May 2012	KHG/5050/5/08/DIV 202
5. 3 May 2012	KHG/5050/5/15/DIV 39
6. 3 May 2012	KHG/5050/5/15/DIV 39
7. 14 May 2012	EAW/5050/3/33/DIV 11
8. 31 May 2012	KHG/4/28/MOD 15

b) Public Path Orders taking effect after their date of confirmation

ID	Reference	Confirmed	Took effect on	Description
1294	3/14/DIV 23	12 January 2012	19/3/2012	Diversion of Glaisdale Footpath 23 at Oakley Walls.
1288	3/10/DIV 19	12 January 2012	3/2/2012	Diversion of Egton Footpath 19 at Shortwaite Farm, Lealholm.
1285	5/10/DIV 27	1 March 2012	22/5/2012	Diversion of Ebberston & Yedingham Bridleway 27 at Bickley
1243	4/02/DIV 17	13 September 2011	1/6/2012	Diversion of Footpaths 17 Carlton in Cleveland and 18 Faceby (Meeks Farm)

c) Temporary Closure of Public Rights of Way

- (i) Public Footpath 36 Goathland (Thomason Foss waterfall, Beck Hole) from 22 May to 11 June 2012 and then 12th June to 2nd July 2012. Due to danger to the public from a rockfall below a rocky outcrop where the footpath is. 6-month Order extension likely to follow these Notices.
- (ii) Public Footpath 67 Danby (Easton Lane, part of the Esk Valley Walk) from 1 June to 17 June 2012. Due to danger to the public from machinery involved in repairing a bridge on the adjacent Whitby to Middlesbrough railway line. Extension likely as works are behind schedule.
- (iii) Public Footpath 37 Glaisdale (Rake Lane) from 1 June to 17 June 2012. Due to danger to the public from machinery involved in repairing a bridge on the adjacent Whitby to Middlesbrough railway line. Extension likely as works are behind schedule.

Contact Officer:

Karl Gerhardsen, Head of Recreation and Access. Tel: 01439 772700

Ruswarp Hydro Project – Fish Monitoring Proposals

Members will recall that as part of the installation of a hydro turbine on the River Esk at Ruswarp Weir (supported by a loan from the National Park Authority Sustainable Development Fund) a new fish pass is being installed and the Environment Agency have agreed to carry out fish monitoring for a three year period. This is to determine the effect of the turbine on fish passage.

On 9 May a meeting was held between the River Esk Action Committee (REAC), Esk Energy and the National Park Authority to discuss a recent report on baseline fish monitoring at Ruswarp carried out prior to installation of the turbine (commenced 4 June 2012). REAC members expressed their great concern that the turbine might be allowed to operate before a good baseline was established. It was agreed that a greater number of fish needed to be tagged and tracked to constitute a reliable baseline and this was a priority for the Environment Agency to pursue. The NPA has offered its assistance in this. Members should be aware that to do this may require the turbine, for instance, (which is due to be commissioned in September), to be shut down for small periods around spring tides and high water flows by agreement with Esk Energy Ltd. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

Meanwhile, officers remain frequent contact with the EA and a meeting with representatives from REAC is planned.

For further information contact Michael Graham.