

# North York Moors National Park Authority

24 June 2013

## On the Record

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

A copy of the draft minutes of ANPA Executive meeting held on the 16 January 2013 is at **Appendix 1**.

A copy of the draft minutes of the ENPAA meeting held on the 24 January 2013 is at **Appendix 2**.

### 2. ANPA Conference 2013 Update

Following the March meeting a number of key actions have been completed in relation to the planning of the ANPA conference; in particular

#### Publicity and Branding

- the logo was redesigned to take into account Members comments and to incorporate a heart shape into the design shown at **Appendix 3**
- a flyer has been circulated providing information on the key elements of the events
- work has commenced on designing and procuring materials to make up the delegate packs, and the booking form

#### Study Tours

- additional work has been undertaken on the study tour overview and following further consultation with the landscape consultant a number of the tours have changed from the draft; the most significant changes being that the Levisham tour has been removed and replaced by a tour linking wildlife and landscape and the Cleveland Way Walk will cover the Coastal area.
- confirmation has been received from organisations involved in the study tours that they are available to assist on the day
- sub working groups have been set up to work up the detail of the Study Tours

Members agreed to assist with the Study Tours but Officers are still awaiting preferences from some Members.

### 3. Public Rights of Way Legal Events

1. Footpath 206 Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre (Whitby Holiday Park) Extinguishment and Definitive Map Modification Orders 2013
2. Bridleway 11 Cold Kirby (Cleveland Way) Definitive Map Modification Order 2013
3. Bridleways 47 Boltby, 9 Cowesby and 1 Kirby Knowle (Kirby Knowle Moor) Diversion Order 2013
4. Footpath 48 Boltby (Seta Pike) Extinguishment Order 2013
5. Footpath 579 Grosmont & Footpath 279 Goathland (The Rail Trail, Grosmont to Esk Valley) Extinguishment Order 2013
6. Bridleway 201 Grosmont, Bridleway 535 Goathland & Bridleway 202 Grosmont (The Rail Trail, Grosmont to Esk Valley) Creation Order 2013

## Background

Letters to Legal Services on:

Date	File Reference
1. 03/01/2013	EAW/5050/3/19/MOD206
2. 11/03/2013	KHG/5050/5/08/MOD 203
3. 30/05/2013	KHG/50504/18/DIV 1
4. 30/05/2013	KHG/50504/18/DIV 1
5. 15/03/2013	EAW/5050/3/15/CrExt279
6. 15/03/2013	EAW/5050/3/15/CrExt 279

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

ID	Reference	Confirmed	Took effect on	Description
1001	3/18/Cr 504	27/4/2012	9/1/2013	Stopping Up of Public Road U8123/9 Hardwick Hall Road & Public Footpath 17 Hardwood Dale and Creation of Restricted Byway 504 Hardwood Dale (Hardwick Farm)
1301	5/01/DIV 8	28/08/2012	14/05/2013	Diversion of Ampleforth Footpath 8 (Studford farm)

### c) Temporary Closure of Public Rights of Way

- (i) Public Footpath 36 Goathland (Thomasson Foss waterfall, Beck Hole). Extension to 6 month Order, dated 3 January 2013 – 3 July 2013. Reason for extension is that the necessary works to re-open the footpath have yet to be completed.
- (ii) Public Footpath 2 Hinderwell (Cliff Road to Seaton Close, Staithes). Temporary Closure Order for 6 months from 2 April 2013 to allow for sewer rehabilitation works to take place.
- (iii) Public Footpath 5 Ingleby Greenhow (Ingleby Greenhow Primary School). Emergency Closure Notice followed by Closure Order for 6 months from 16 May 2013 due to a dangerous chimney and to allow for its safe removal and replacement. (NYCC Order as path crosses outside the National Park boundary)

### d) Gates/stiles authorised under s 147 HA 80

- (i) 1.67m bridle-gate on Levisham Public Footpath 207 (Levisham Moor),
- (ii) 4' hand-gate on Public Footpath 5 Lasingham (Spaunton Moor)
- (iii) 7' gate on Public Footpath 4 Lasingham (Spaunton Moor)
- (iv) 1.5m bridle-gate on Newholm-cum-Dunsley Public Bridleway 204 (Bannial Flat Farm)
- (v) 12' gate on Hutton Mulgrave Public Bridleway 8 (Briscoe Farm)
- (vi) 5'6" gate on Hutton Mulgrave Public Bridleway 8 (Briscoe Farm)

Contact Officer:

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Head of Recreation and Access  
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#### **4. Members Evening Seminars**

Members are reminded that Evening Seminars are scheduled to take place on 31 July and 3 September 2013. These seminars provide an opportunity for Members to informally discuss strategic issues with officers to assist in sourcing the scope of future work. The agenda items will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

Contact Officer:

Vanessa Burgess  
Customer Service and Committees Officer  
01439 772700

# NATIONAL PARKS

## Britain's breathing spaces

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

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UK ANPA is an unincorporated association. VAT registration number 891 7386 75

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DRAFT MINUTES - UK ANPA Executive Meeting</u></b> <b><u>Wednesday 16 January 2013</u></b> <b><u>Via Video Conference</u></b></p> <p><b>Attending</b></p> <p>Brecon Beacons Julie James (Chair); John Cook (CEO) Broads Stephen Johnson (Chair); John Packman (CEO) Cairngorms Duncan Bryden (Chair); Jane Hope (CEO) Dartmoor Bill Hitchins (Chair) Exmoor John Dyke (Chair); Nigel Stone (CEO) Loch Lomond &amp; The Trossachs Linda Fraser New Forest Alison Barnes (CEO) Northumberland John Riddle (Chair); Tony Gates (CEO) Peak District Tony Favell (Chair) Jim Dixon, CEO (Lead Officer UK ANPA) Pembrokeshire Tony Brinsden (Chair); Tegryn Jones, CEO Coast Snowdonia Caerwyn Roberts (Chair); Aneurin Phillips, CEO; South Downs Helene Rossiter (Director of Corp. Services) Yorkshire Dales Carl Lis, Chair (Chair UK ANPA); David Butterworth, CEO</p> <p><b>Attending – observers, speakers and guests</b></p> <p>ENPAA Paul Hamblin, Director UK ANPA Kathryn Cook, UK Co-ordinator (minutes)</p> <p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Dartmoor Kevin Bishop (CEO) Lake District Bill Jefferson (Chair) Richard Leafe (CEO) Loch Lomond Linda McKay (Chair); Fiona Logan (CEO) New Forest Julian Johnson (Chair) North York Moors Jim Bailey (Chair); Andy Wilson (CEO) South Downs Trevor Beattie (CEO) National Parks Wales Greg Pycroft (Policy Officer)</p>	
<b>Item</b>		<b>Agreed Actions</b>
	<p>CL explained the video conference protocols and emphasised the benefits of meeting by video conference once a year - especially in financial terms through savings in travel and accommodation expenses and also the significant time savings - being able to conduct the business in two hours - when a meeting in London takes the best part of two days. CL said he was confident Chairs would agree that this is a very positive step forward.</p> <p>CL went on to explain that the agenda was intentionally business focused - and confirmed that the July meeting would provide more opportunity to discuss key issues and network.</p> <p>CL asked if Chairs could have a think about any themes for the Chairs discussion in July - and to either flag up at the close of the meeting or email KC.</p>	<p><b>Chairs to consider themes for July Chairs Discussion</b></p>

<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Introductions and apologies for absence</b></p> <p>CL gave apologies as listed above.</p> <p>CL welcomed Linda Fraser who was attending the meeting on behalf of LLTT and Helene Rossiter representing the South Downs. CL also introduced Duncan Bryden the new Convenor of Cairngorms NPA and welcomed him to his first UK ANPA meeting. Each NPA then introduced themselves in turn.</p> <p>CL extended congratulations to Tony Favell - Chair of the Peak District - on receiving an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List. CL explained Tony's MBE was awarded for outstanding services to politics and public service and the Peak District NPA.</p> <p>CL asked if there were any items for AOB - none were forthcoming.</p>	
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Minutes of UK ANPA Exec / AGM July 2012 – for approval / matters arising.</b></p> <p>CL referred to the minutes circulated with the meeting papers reporting that all action points had been followed up and any requiring further comment/action were noted elsewhere in the agenda.</p> <p><b>Incorporation</b> - KC asked Chairs to note that she would be prioritising the implementation of the Incorporation process in Feb/March after the January Induction Course and would draft Articles and Memorandum of Association in time for approval at JNPOG – 1 May.</p> <p><b>UK ANPA Deputy Chair role (Scotland Rep)</b> – JH reported that she had discussed this role going forward with FL but that no confirmation had yet been received. KC to continue to copy both Scottish Convenors into correspondence and seek confirmation prior to July AGM / Executive as to who would be taking on this role.</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as an accurate record without further comment.</p> <p><b>Approved: BH; Seconded: TF</b></p>	<p><b>KC to draft papers for approval at JNPOG</b></p> <p><b>KC to follow up Deputy Chair role</b></p>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>3.i</b></p>	<p><b>UK ANPA Joint Activities</b></p> <p><b>2012/13 progress report &amp; appendices tabled for comment</b></p> <p>CL referred Chairs to KC's detailed UK ANPA Joint Activities report and Appendices A – E which had been circulated in advance.</p> <p>KC reported on the positive progress made with all the Work Plan projects and highlighted the key points which are summarised as follows:</p> <p><b>Member Training and Development Work Stream</b></p> <p><b>National Member Induction Courses</b> – KC referred Chairs to the full feedback analysis from the Sept course at Appendix A which included some very positive complimentary comments. JJ reiterated that the 5 BBNPA members who had attended the Sept course had returned inspired and enthusiastic and had given excellent feedback at their recent Authority meeting. KC went on to report that everything was in place for the Exmoor course the following week and she was keeping her fingers crossed the snow would stay away!</p>	

<p><b>Workshop 2014</b> - KC reminded the Executive that they had agreed to discuss potential themes for 2014 at their respective authority meetings – and asked for feedback on any forthcoming ideas plus a steer as to location / venue – clarifying that the options were:  Option 1) Royal York Hotel, York - due to its convenience to public transport links  Option 2) hosted by a NPA to enable us to tag a field trip on?</p> <p>PH put forward a number of suggestions following discussion at ENPAA Team meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sustaining economic prosperity in National Parks (especially relevant for English NPAs)</li> <li>- A longer term vision for NPs in the UK</li> <li>- Resilient landscapes - how we address change, how we communicate it and adapt</li> </ul> <p>CL sought feedback on a park by park basis. The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There was unanimous support for the theme <b>Engaging the Younger Generation</b> which was approved as the official theme for the 2014 Workshop.</li> <li>- It was agreed that the Royal York Hotel was an excellent venue and highly accessible by public transport. It was therefore confirmed as the venue for the Workshop 2014.</li> </ul> <p>KC agreed to inform the All Parks Communicators and Educators groups accordingly and seek their input for the theme.</p> <p><b>Public Engagement Work Stream</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Classroom</b> - KC referred Chairs to the updated statistics for the UK National Parks website which she said demonstrated very positive progress. KC went on to explain that the development of the MICCI Project homepage was now well underway and she was pleased to report that she had been able to use some of the funding to facilitate some further school visits – these had been administered by Chris Robinson at the Peak District. KC confirmed that the MICCI pages would be live by the end of March 2013.</p> <p><b>National Parks Week 2012</b> - KC referred Chairs to the full breakdown of coverage and impact assessment in appendices Ci and Cii - highlighting that overall AVE was almost £200,000 which is comparable to last year’s final figure (without the 41 page Country Walking article worth approx 75k). KC reiterated that this was a significant achievement considering the saturation coverage around the Olympics and the fact that the team were without a Publicity Officer for the 3 months leading up to NPW.</p> <p>CL congratulated the team on an excellent campaign. JD reiterated this highlighting the fantastic coverage obtained through the Winning Landscapes Photo Competition which was a new initiative in 2012. CR reiterated this adding that the Snowdonia winning image had received some great coverage – both locally and Nationally.</p> <p><b>National Park Week 2013</b> – KC summarized progress with the 2013 campaign which was detailed in her written report. KC further explained the focus of the Merrell National promotion and highlighted the ‘Top 15’ features which Merrell were intending to sell in to key specialist lifestyle titles – these included walks; bike trails; viewpoints etc. KC also explained the National Promotion which was likely to include a poster campaign marketed through one of Merrell’s key retailers.</p>	<p><b>AJ to prov book venue June 2014</b></p> <p><b>KC to update the All Parks Groups</b></p>
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<p><b>National Parks Week 2014</b> – KC reminded Chairs that, in line with the agreed 18mth lead in period, the theme for National Parks Week 2014 needed to be agreed.</p> <p>JR suggested the 2014 NPW theme tie in with the Workshop theme ‘Engaging the Younger Generation’. NS reiterated this approach. KC suggested this theme could run throughout the 2014/15 financial year as it encompassed many of the projects in the draft work plan 2013 - 2016.</p> <p>The Executive agreed that the theme ‘Engaging the younger generation’ would run throughout the 2014/15 year and would focus on engaging young people and families.</p> <p>KC to inform UK ANPA Team / Communicators Group / Educators Group and all other interested parties of this theme and develop ideas further.</p> <p><b>Seasonal Activity</b> – KC also highlighted UK ANPA’s work on developing features on seasonal activities/ events and the Dark skies pages - launched to coincide with BBC Star gazing live coverage which had had a significant impact upon social media followers.</p> <p><b>Volunteer Awards</b> - KC reported that the inaugural Awards scheme had been very well received with 45 entries in total representing 14 of the 15 Members of our NP Family. KC extended thanks to Helen Skelton, Julia Bradbury and Emily Carr from Merrell who did a great job in choosing a winner!</p> <p>KC went on to explain that feedback from participants and winners alike had been very positive and said she would be collating feedback from the Volunteer Co-ordinators in order to develop the 2013 Awards scheme which she intends to launch in National Volunteers Week 1-7 June 2013.</p> <p>DB congratulated KC &amp; the team on the Awards Scheme commenting that it was a great project which had increased the profile of Volunteering in NPs effectively.</p> <p><b>Merrell Partnership</b> – KC explained that she and Clare O’Connor had met with the new UK Marketing Manager Simon Vingoe in November who was very positive about the partnership continuing - explaining that he would like to focus their resources and efforts on a branded National Promotion in the lead up to NPW.</p> <p>KC went on to explain that Simon had given a presentation at the Communicators meeting in London detailing his ideas and the group had therefore agreed (subject to approval) that the National promotion should take precedence and that we should not take the Visitor Passport re-print or National Park T-Shirts idea any further.</p> <p>KC asked Chairs to note that Merrell had been through some particularly challenging times over the past few months with one of their main retailer’s going into liquidation and in spite this had continued to support the partnership albeit via a different route to that originally anticipated. KC reiterated that Merrell were very keen to re-focus their efforts in terms of the partnership and its potential impact and that they had committed to working closely with KC to develop a National Promotion which would have a significant impact. KC said she hoped Chairs would agree this was a very positive development and asked for their approval.</p> <p>SJ commented that at an Individual level NPAs see very little direct financial benefit from the Merrell Partnership.</p>	<p><b>KC to take forward EYP theme</b></p>
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<p>3.ii</p>	<p>KC responded – reminding Chairs that the Exclusivity Clause had been a point of contention for many months and that Chairs had been insistent when the Partnership agreement had originally been signed that this clause would be applicable solely to the UK National Park Family and the BBS Brand and should not in any way affect individual NP sponsorship / partnerships arrangements either existing or potential.</p> <p>JR responded – reminding Chairs that at a National Level we get a lot out of the Partnership and emphasising that he felt strongly that it should continue and that the Executive should fully support KC in developing to Partnership to its full potential.</p> <p>CL reiterated this and asked that Chairs formally approve KC developing the National Promotion with Merrell and signing the agreement (including revised remit) for a new term.</p> <p>Both points were APPROVED.</p> <p>Proposed: JR Seconded: TF</p> <p><b>UK Awareness Survey 2012</b> – KC referred Chairs to the report at appendix E – explaining that in most categories awareness remains buoyant which considering the financial climate is much bleaker than in 2007 is a positive result. KC highlighted that 96% of people thought that every child should experience a National Park first hand – which was a great statistic. KC further explained that she had circulated the report to the Comms Team / Educators and was intending to issue a National release shortly. KC asked Chairs/CEOs to encourage their NPA communications teams to make the most of the feedback at a local level.</p> <p><b>2013/16 work programme</b></p> <p>CL directed Chairs to the draft Work Plan for the next three years - circulated with the papers explaining that it required a formal stamp of approval.</p> <p>KC explained that she had carried forward all the key projects into the forthcoming work plan as agreed at the July 2012 meeting. KC further explained that since that meeting she had further developed the Special Qualities project Chairs had agreed and split it into two parts – Mission Explore: National Parks and Special Qualities online features – extended content.</p> <p>KC went on to explain the first part of the project – Mission Explore: National parks – focuses on our key target audience ‘young people and families’ and endeavours to engage directly with them. KC explained that she had sought feedback from NP Visitor centres on the current printed material offering – namely the UK National Parks Brochure and the Visitor Passport – and they don’t get much call for either of them – therefore indicating they are no longer fit for purpose. KC suggested that in order to engage directly with a younger audience whatever we produce needs to be fun and interactive! She summarised the idea as follows reiterating that it had only recently arisen – and needs some thinking through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the general idea is to work with the Geography collective to produce a Mission : Explore - National Parks book (and e-book) – covering ‘missions’ similar to those activities we already have on the virtual classroom.</li> <li>- The Geography collective have worked with different partners including National Geographic and Thames Water and have produced a series of 4 books – including</li> </ul>	<p><b>KC to sign redrafted agreement and develop National promotion</b></p> <p><b>Chairs / CEOs to make the most of the results at NPA level</b></p>
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	<p>Camping; On the road; and Food. They are educators by profession and the key messages they seek to convey are very similar to ours – ie – the food book teaching kids to think about where their food comes from and to eat local and responsibly (all in a fun way of course).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daniel Raven Ellison from the Geography Collective came and gave a presentation at our Communicators meeting in London in December and the group were in favour of developing this idea. KC will also be emailing the Educators team to make them aware.</li> <li>- In terms of cost – £7k ballpark to do a print run of the book plus approx £2k towards the development of the online content and functionality.</li> <li>- The aim would be to launch the book in Summer 2014 – which would fit in really well with the ‘Engaging the Younger Generation’ theme.</li> </ul> <p>KC sought formal approval from the Executive to develop a business case/project plan for the idea, use the funds accrued for the publications budget line (originally intended to reprint the NPs Brochure) and take the project forward with the Educators /Communicators and F&amp;GP.</p> <p>This was approved. CL proposed; BH seconded.</p> <p>CL proposed that the 2013-2016 Work Plan be formally approved in its entirety. This was also approved. TF proposed; JR seconded.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>4.i</b></p>	<p><b>Report of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee – Dec 2012</b> CL referred Chairs to the F&amp;GP Written Report and two spreadsheets</p> <p><b><u>Anticipated outturn 2012/13 (current financial year).</u></b></p> <p>KC asked Chairs to note the key points under point 1 of the report and was pleased to report that a breakeven position is forecast at year end which included the accrual of sufficient funds to cover Incorporation expenses, the Special Qualities project and give some flexibility in the 2013/14 budget which had been pared right back to achieve a breakeven position with out using the reserve.</p> <p>JD congratulated KC and the UK ANPA team for managing to reach such a positive end of year position again this year - in spite the particularly challenging climate. CL reiterated this.</p> <p>CL asked for formal approval of year end forecast including approval to accrue the current surplus / plus any additional surplus made between now and the year end to the 2013/14 budget. This was unanimously approved. <b>BH ratified. CL seconded.</b></p> <p><b>4.2     <u>2013/14 Budget – for final approval</u></b></p> <p>KC asked Chairs to note the significant points under point 2 of the report and asked for formal approval of the budget including the 2013/14 subscriptions which remained at the reduced rate of £7k. The Budget and subscriptions were approved without comment. <b>CL ratified. JR seconded.</b></p>	

	<p><b>Agency funding</b> – KC reported that she had originally agreed with Andy Wilson that NYM would apply directly for funding from the Agencies but that following receipt of a letter from NE – the funding would now be incorporated into the UK ANPA MOA increasing the MOA from £24k to £27k to incorporate a conference bid of £3k. KC reminded Chairs that NE are suffering hard times and Landscape and Biodiversity function are to suffer a 20% cut which it is likely will be passed on to all partners. KC reiterated that she had emphasised the importance of the UK National Parks programme to NE and reinforced how it helps NE realize some key NE objectives which she hoped this together with our excellent performance to date will stand us in good stead.</p> <p>The rest of the report was noted without further comment.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>5.i</b></p> <p><b>5.ii</b></p> <p><b>5.iii</b></p>	<p><b>Country Matters</b></p> <p><b>ENPAA:</b> PH gave a verbal update on the key areas of focus currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit England Partnership statement to be agreed shortly - which it is hoped will strengthen links with the Tourism Sector.</li> <li>- Valuing England’s National Parks Report – important project to highlight the social and economic benefits of England’s National Parks and reiterate their intrinsic value.</li> </ul> <p><b>Scotland:</b> DB referred Chairs to JH’s written report and summarised the highlights as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2013 – is an exciting and challenging year as it is the Year of Natural Scotland and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cairngorms NP;</li> <li>- Positive news on the finance front which has enabled many ‘shovel ready ‘ projects to happen.</li> </ul> <p><b>National Parks Wales:</b> AP spoke to the NPW report he had drafted explaining that Greg Pycroft was on Paternity Leave until April. AP asked Chairs to note the report as read and asked for questions. TG asked about Sue Essex’s input as a strategy lead. AP responded that SE was acting as a critical friend – and her input was hugely valued.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>All Party Parliamentary Group on National Parks</b></p> <p>PH referred Chairs to the written report drafted by Meriel Martin and asked Chairs to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- changes to the Officers of the Group following the 2012 AGM;</li> <li>- the recent Sustainable Transport meeting;</li> <li>- the plans for a Food and Farming meeting in early 2013</li> <li>- the action ENPAA and CNP are taking to increase membership of and participation in the APPG</li> </ul> <p>JD emphasised that the success of the APPG was very much dependant upon NP engagement and encouraged NPs to make an effort collectively to ensure the Group continued to achieve positive results.</p> <p>DB requested a more detailed brief on the APPG and its remit. PH / DB to discuss follow up after the meeting.</p>	<p><b>PH/DB</b></p>

<p>7</p>	<p><b>Any other urgent business</b></p> <p><b>2012/13 Meeting and Events Listing</b> - Circulated in advance for information – noted without comment.</p> <p><b>China Partnership</b> JD gave a verbal update on plans to progress the partnership – reporting that he is due to speak at a conference in Tokyo in early February and planning to incorporate a visit to the China Partnership HQ and the Visit Britain China Office. JD agreed to keep Chairs posted as regards progress.</p> <p><b>Date / Format of future meetings</b> – CL reported that following the success of the July 2012 AGM/Exec which was hosted by the Peak District KC was planning to approach the Lake District to host the meeting in July 2013 and incorporate a field trip and Chairs' discussion session in order to maximise the value of our time together. CL asked if Chairs wanted to put forward any ideas for the Chairs Discussion Theme at this point. None were forthcoming and therefore CL asked for Chars to have a think and feedback by email to KC.</p> <p><b>UK ANPA Chair – July 2013 onwards</b> - CL reminded Chairs that he would be stepping down before the July AGM having completed his three year term (and 9 yr term in YDNPA) and asked for volunteers to get in touch before then so he could identify a successor.</p>	<p><b>Chairs to feedback discussion themes to KC for July 2013 AGM</b></p> <p><b>Chairs to volunteer for UK ANPA Chair role</b></p>
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**ENGLISH NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES ASSOCIATION  
MEETING**

**Notes of meeting held on 24 January 2013 between 11.00-16.00pm at One Birdcage Walk,  
London**

**Items listed in order of discussion**

<b>Present</b>			
<u>Directors</u>	<u>NPOs/ Chief Executives</u>	<u>NPAs</u>	
Stephen Johnson	John Packman	Broads Authority	
Bill Hitchins	Kevin Bishop	Dartmoor NPA	
John Dyke (Chairman)	Nigel Stone	Exmoor NPA	
Julian Johnson	Alison Barnes (ABa)	New Forest NPA	
Jim Bailey	Andy Wilson	North York Moors NPA	
John Riddle	Tony Gates	Northumberland NPA	
Tony Favell	Jim Dixon (JDi)	Peak District NPA	
Charles Peck (in place of Margaret Paren)	Trevor Beattie	South Downs NPA	
Carl Lis	David Butterworth	Yorkshire Dales NPA	
<u>Contributors</u>	<u>Organisation</u>		
Paul Hamblin	ENPAA		
Amanda Brace (ABr)	ENPAA		
Meriel Martin (minutes)	ENPAA		

<b>Item</b>		<b>Agreed Actions</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>  The Chairman welcomed all present, and congratulated TF on his being awarded a MBE in the New Year Honours. The Chairman welcomed Charles Peck (South Downs NPA), attending in place of Margaret Paren.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>  Apologies were received from Margaret Paren (South Downs NPA).	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>  There were no declarations of interest.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Approve minutes from meeting held on 5 October 2011, London</b>  The minutes were <b>approved</b> subject to an amendment to delete "and LGA" from the second paragraph under item 9.	<b>MM</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>  <u>ENPAA Office Relocation</u> PH gave an update, explaining that the move to Local Government House would take place on 31 <sup>st</sup> January. The new office would offer a superior location and facilities. There would be some inevitable disruption around the time of the move but this would be kept to a minimum. PH explained that confirmation of the new phone number was awaited, and following this MM would circulate the new contact details.	<b>MM</b>

6.	<p><b>ENPAA Business Plan and Resources Update</b></p> <p>PH apologised for the late circulation of the paper, which was owing to IT problems. The paper was a summary and a full report would be brought to the March ENPAA meeting for Directors to review progress during the first year of the Business Plan. PH reminded Directors that the Plan contained a lot of proactive work, which had been a clear intention. There had been a lot of reactive work generated in recent months by Government activity, and this had impacted to some degree on progress.</p> <p><u>Aim 1: To identify how NPAs will collectively contribute to achieving the Vision for National Parks in England</u></p> <p>PH explained that Objective 1.1 had been the subject of a lengthy discussion during the Away Days in October 2012. Everyone was aware of ENPAA's resource constraints, and it was felt that delivery of the Vision will be achieved through the activities of NPAs. A recommendation would be brought to the next ENPAA meeting to remove the need to prepare an Action Plan from the Business Plan. The discussion had reinforced the important place of the Vision in ENPAA's work. On Objective 1.3 which related to resourcing, a programme of work had been developed and had expanded from what was originally envisaged for this objective. SJ asked what collective reporting would take place on how the Vision is being delivered. PH stated that individual NPAs were seeking to embed the Vision in their work programmes. It was <b>agreed</b> that information from NPAs about Vision delivery would be collated and distilled into a collective document on a regular basis.</p> <p><u>Aim 2: To identify and help share good practice between National Parks in England and demonstrate how NPAs deliver Government's priorities and agendas</u></p> <p>PH stated that three priority areas had been identified as a focus for demonstrating NPAs' good practice and added value. These were food and farming; positive planning; and reconnecting people and nature. Work was beginning to collate case studies and develop documents. NS noted that broadband was an example of where Government does not see that NPAs are delivering priorities.</p> <p><u>Aim 3: To provide an efficient and effective means of two-way communication with a range of organisations in the Government, public, charitable and private sectors, for the benefit of National Parks</u></p> <p>PH reported that for Objective 3.1 stakeholder analysis had been undertaken and there was ongoing work to meet key partners/ stakeholders, though this had been squeezed by other priorities such as the Growth and Infrastructure Bill. Some good progress had been made on Objective 3.2 via the Shared Outcomes Agreement though this was sporadic. ENPAA has not agreed medium term priorities with NAAONB yet, but those with an interest are confident that we are working together. The Chair indicated he felt this was important work. Objective 3.3 is planned in for later in the Business Plan programme. TG stated that room needed to be found in the Business Plan for the partnership work with Visit England, and suggested this should come under Aim 3.</p> <p><u>Aim 4: To ensure the role of England's National Park Authorities in delivering a range of public benefits and Government objectives including the Vision for National Parks, is well understood by ministers and officials in key Government departments</u></p> <p>PH explained that ENPAA's work on Objective 4.1 was being taken forward via the Value of National Parks research, rather than the Defra working group. For Objective 4.2 material had been produced on how NPAs contribute to NEWP delivery. And communication with officials has been maintained. Objective 4.3 was about trying to engage key people. PH stated that Love Your National Parks fitted under this Aim and was potentially an expanding area of work. The Chairman stressed the importance of engaging Ministers and senior officials. JDi noted that a great success of ENPAA had been its ability to give a strong, technical, combined message, and this had strengthened the position e.g. with CLG. JJ suggested that there was also a role for ENPAA in aiding join-up between departments. PH explained that the ENPAA staff team would be meeting the Defra team the following week, and raising how National Parks could be used to help Defra work with other departments. ABa suggested a 'shopping list' of what is wanted from other Departments and PH suggested this was addressed by Objective 5.3</p>	PH/MM
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	<p><u>Aim 5: To communication the collective views of NPAs in England clearly to decision makers in Government and elsewhere, thus helping to influence the direction taken by public decisions and policies with regard to National Parks and the management and enjoyment of the countryside</u></p> <p>PH reported that ENPAA had responded to a number of consultations, and that the Growth and Infrastructure Bill had been a significant area of work under this Aim. On Objective 5.2 ENPAA had provided opportunities for discussion among NPAs on sustainable development (including a policy seminar) but the consultation had not materialised. On governance, it had been agreed that this would be taken forward at individual National Park level. For Objective 5.3 the policy positions developed would be concise and punchy with clear asks. This work was being programmed for later in the Business Plan period. The following points were raised during discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was important to get presentation right and show what we can achieve rather than be seen as trying to present policy</li> <li>• Suggestions should be tangible and action-focused and consider creative ways that National Parks could be used</li> <li>• We should be forward-looking and identify potential opportunities across a wide range of policy areas where we could contribute to agendas</li> <li>• It was important for Government to see the fruits of long-term investment in National Parks</li> </ul> <p>PH explained that it was important to consider the activity across all of the aims as complementary. A careful approach was always needed but equally Ministers welcomed new ideas. Sometimes there will be things happening that will impact on National Parks and in these situations we need to be able to articulate how this should be addressed. It was <b>agreed</b> that PH would reflect on suggested approaches to engaging Ministers including inviting Ministers from other departments to ENPAA meetings; asking Richard Benyon MP to engage colleagues from other departments in visits; and inviting Ministers and MPs to informal discussions in Portcullis House.</p> <p><u>Aim 6: To develop its staff, procedures and systems to maximise the effectiveness of the organisation and its work on behalf of the National Park Authorities in England</u></p> <p>PH reported that some potential cost reductions had already been identified and work was underway on income generation. The re-brand would take place in April 2013 at the earliest. It was <b>agreed</b> that a checklist of things ENPAA is doing as part of Business Plan delivery would be brought to meetings with a traffic light or similar system to clearly show progress and enable monitoring.</p>	<p>PH</p> <p>PH</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Northumberland Membership</b></p> <p>The Chairman explained that Northumberland NPA remains in discussions over its future membership of ENPAA. JR had called the Chairman on 12<sup>th</sup> December to inform him that at the Northumberland NPA meeting of the same date, the Authority had not decided to recall its notice. Subsequently in January a meeting involving JR, the ENPAA Chairman and Deputy Chairmen, TG, DB and PH, had taken place in London. The Chairman explained that the paper presented a recommended solution.</p> <p>JR confirmed that unfortunately NPA members did wish to continue their position of serving notice on ENPAA. This stemmed from a strong determination to achieve a 30% reduction in all budgets. JR reminded Directors that he was the only Director who had not accepted the 5% reduction during the ENPAA review. The situation had come about after the NPA served notice to leave the LGA, and this opened up the question of notice periods and membership of other organisations. Notice had been served on the LGA, ENPAA and UK ANPA. In the particular case of ENPAA, members were not content with the 5% reduction or the two year notice period for withdrawal. There was also a desire for greater clarity on the methods of operation of ENPAA. JR and TG had done their best to explain this and Northumberland NPA staff, when asked, had been very supportive of ENPAA and felt it would be a loss to cease membership.</p> <p>BJ noted that the meeting in London had recognised the importance of keeping Northumberland NPA as a member of ENPAA. The recommendations in the paper include an undertaking to look at the way that ENPAA is funded. SJ confirmed that the</p>	

recommendations recognise that this is a particular problem to be dealt with in the short term; and a better wiser look is needed for the longer term. The Chairman explained that Northumberland NPA next meets on 20<sup>th</sup> March. It is critical to keep together as the ENPAA family, and the recommendations presented will enable JR to demonstrate that he has secured some movement on this issue. The Chairman invited comments and the following points were raised:

- JDi stated that paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 do not give a sufficient rationale to explain to other NPAs who are also in very difficult financial circumstances. The Chairman stated he was not sure this could be provided, and this was a judgement for Chairs to make. Northumberland NPA is the least funded in terms of grant received and so the flat fee means proportionally it is paying more than others. JDi agreed this was a rationale for a medium-term review but not a one-off change
- CL noted that there are times when the views of individual NPAs and those of ENPAA are not in line. What is imperative is staying together and with this in mind Yorkshire Dales NPA would be comfortable with the reduction proposed
- JB stated that there was a clear need for Northumberland NPA to show movement had been secured, however this was a strain on others. A funding review could become bogged down in formulas and send a negative message. The result can be that those who pay most have extra votes. The Chairman explained that the review would be short and sharp. The recommendations in the paper represent a line in the sand and ENPAA would not offer more. The deep concern of Directors that all NPAs should stay together should be communicated on 20<sup>th</sup> March
- JJ noted that it was difficult to understand why Northumberland NPA members have been so persistent in this. JJ stated a firm belief that ENPAA should keep 100% together as an organisation. This should not open the floodgates and result in others asking for a reduction. JR explained that he had always said personally he felt that subscriptions should be the same for all, however members were not in agreement on this. Every budget line was being closely scrutinised
- TF congratulated those involved on the solution that was being proposed. It was crucial for ENPAA to speak with one voice and the amount involved was far outweighed by the value of this. However, if subscriptions were to increase in future this would not be accepted by the Peak District NPA. All NPAs have had to make similar cuts to their workforce. ABa stated that this message concerning the circumstances of all NPAs needed to be taken back to Northumberland NPA
- BH supported the one-off reduction, stating that NPAs should help one another. BH stated that he was happy with the idea of a light touch review
- CP questioned whether, if it is agreed that this is a one-off case, there was a need to review the funding mechanism. Concerns about the review were echoed by TF. The Chairman explained that the review was required to satisfy the questions that had been raised by Northumberland NPA. A review would not necessarily result in changes to the funding mechanism if there proved to be no appetite for changes. DB would be the Lead Officer for the review, which would result in an options paper being brought back to the ENPAA Board for decision

ABa suggested that the wording of the first recommendation should be amended to read “due to the response of NNPA to the current financial situation” and this amendment was **agreed**. The recommendations (listed below incorporating this amendment) were **agreed** en bloc after being moved by BJ and seconded by the Chairman.

- Due to the response of NNPA to the current financial situation their subscription, for 2013-14 only, to be reduced from £17,910 to £13,250
- During the next 12 months, a review to be undertaken into the different options which might be available to ENPAA for how subscriptions are paid by NPAs
- The notice period which all NPAs need to give to end their membership of ENPAA to be reduced from ‘at least 12 months’ to ‘at least 9 months’
- The ENPAA Director to provide NNPA with more clarity/detail to assist them in understanding how ENPAA makes decisions and how NNPA influences these decisions

The Chairman thanked JR for his work on this and stated that the ENPAA Board looked forward to hearing the result at the next meeting. JR thanked the Directors for their consideration and re-stated his firm belief that ENPAA is much stronger together.

PH  
DB  
PH  
PH

8.	<p><b>ENPAA / Visit England Partnership Statement</b></p> <p>TG explained that the partnership statement had been drafted in the context of Visit England's strategic framework and the Vision for England's National Parks. The statement was about joint working at a national level, and marketing was identified as a priority for Year 1. ABr and Duncan Wise (Northumberland NPA) had met with Visit England the previous week to discuss marketing and already real opportunities were resulting. There are no specific financial resources in the statement; the capacity to deliver will need to be embedded in the ENPAA and Visit England Business Plans. Depending on what is agreed, there could be future financial implications. NPAs will need to consider the implications of the statement for their own work. The paper outlines the fit with Defra and showing we are delivering on the key Government priority of rural growth. Defra has shown close interest and is very supportive. Preliminary discussion have taken place about a joint Ministerial launch in the North York Moors during English Tourism Week (March), with Lady Cobham of Visit England. The statement is about growth; embedding sustainable tourism; and demonstrating partnership. TG explained that the version with the paper required three minor amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 3, bullet 5: Remove "which for limited... swift return" and insert "and"</li> <li>• Priority 4, bullet 4: Add "champion promotion of National Parks as part of England's offer in international marketing"</li> <li>• Last bullet in document: After "visitor" in first line, insert "economy"</li> </ul> <p>TG, ABr and Duncan Wise were thanked for their work on this. The statement was <b>approved</b> subject to the amendments above.</p>	TG
16.	<p><b>Preparation for meeting with Richard Benyon MP</b></p> <p>It was <b>agreed</b> that the agenda would be re-ordered so that the Growth Agenda discussion would take place after discussion on delivery of Defra's agenda and the breadth of NPAs' work. JDi reported that the Minister would be visiting the Peak District on 4<sup>th</sup> March to launch the Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Growth and Infrastructure Bill - Update</b></p> <p>PH gave a brief update on the progress of the Bill. On Clause 6 (modifying Section 106 agreements) NS had very effectively put the case to the House of Commons Scrutiny Committee. Government had introduced an amendment to take this out in relation to rural exception sites. PH thanked NS for his work. NS noted that other housing and planning authorities were grateful that ENPAA had shown leadership and taken action on this. PH explained that Clause 8 (broadband infrastructure) was likely to be discussed in the House of Lords on 30<sup>th</sup> January. There was cross-party support for an amendment to remove Clause 8. ENPAA was waiting to see the result. The case on evidence had already been won but this was a political point. ABa stated that the New Forest District Council had also written to Government to oppose Clause 8. On Clause 1 (Secretary of State's decision-making powers) PH noted that much debate had been generated. Lord Judd had asked for advice from ENPAA with a view to tabling an amendment for Report Stage.</p>	
	<p><b>Reflections on meeting with Richard Benyon MP</b></p> <p>Potential opportunities for engaging Secretary of State Owen Paterson MP and other Ministers were discussed. It was recognised that there may be good opportunities for Ministers to attend events that are already planned in National Parks. It was <b>agreed</b> that NPOs should distil how best to follow up, and following this PH would draft a letter to Richard Benyon MP.</p> <p>If the next ENPAA Board meeting ended up being at Local Govt House, then PH should see if the Secretary of State might meet the Chairman informally over lunch.</p>	<p><b>ALL NPOs / PH</b></p> <p><b>PH</b></p>
9.	<p><b>Governance Review</b></p> <p>PH explained that a Written Ministerial Statement on this was likely to come out in the next</p>	

	4-6 weeks. JJ noted that a response to a question from Julian Lewis MP stated that primary legislation would be required for some elements.	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>RDPE Review – ENPAA Engagement</b></p> <p>KB noted the importance of RDPE funding in National Parks. The current RDPE programme runs out at the end of this calendar year. It is unlikely that negotiations about the new programme will reach agreement before the summer, and it could be January 2015 or 2016 before the new programme starts. At present there is no information on transitional arrangements. The current situation means there could potentially be no new agri-environments schemes from the end of 2013 until January 2016. KB has been discussing with Defra the potential for greater synergy of the axes, and the role of NPAs. Uncertainty still exists over CAP greening. There is a risk of narrow targeting based on SSSI condition not an ecosystems approach; abolishing RDAs has centralised delivery; and the IT systems are centralised. There are encouraging signs from Defra in discussions to date, and KB would bring a written report to the next ENPAA Board meeting in March. KB was thanked for his work in this area.</p>	<b>KB</b>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>Valuing England’s National Parks Project Update</b></p> <p>ABr reported that Cumulus Consultants had been contracted to undertake the project. Cumulus have previously carried out similar work for the Cotswolds AONB and have also been used by Defra in the past. An inception meeting would be taking place immediately following the ENPAA Board meeting. NPOs had agreed to provide a named contact in each NPA for the project.</p>	<b>NPOs</b>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Notes of E-NPOG Meeting 08.11.12</b></p> <p>The notes were received without discussion. PH explained that the notes of the 8<sup>th</sup> January E-NPOG meeting would be available at the March ENPAA Board meeting.</p>	
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><u>Undergrounding electricity transmission infrastructure</u> AW noted the significant success of ENPAA and other bodies in getting the initial amount of funding available for undergrounding existing electricity transmission infrastructure in protected areas increased. Ofgem had proposed an initial fund of £100m for the next price control review period but this had been increased to £500m following consultation. MM agreed to send a briefing note to ENPAA Directors.</p> <p><u>Forestry</u> ABa stated that the Government response to the Forestry Panel report was due to be published on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January, and that there could be press interest around this.</p>	<b>MM</b>
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Dates of future meetings</b></p> <p>The dates for future meetings were noted as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) 21 March – ENPAA Board meeting (London)</li> <li>(b) 3 July – UK ANPA Executive meeting and AGM (Lake District)</li> <li>(c) 4 July – ENPAA Board meeting and AGM (Lake District)</li> <li>(d) 2 Oct – ENPAA Board meeting (London)</li> </ul>	



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