

North York Moors National Park Authority

21 September 2015

Parish Forum Update

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the issues and actions arising from the last round of Parish Forum meetings and to enable them to raise any issues arising from the Forums.

2. Issues and Actions Arising

- 2.1 A list of main issues raised at the last round of Parish Forum meetings is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 The issues raised will be used to help inform Members and Officers about local Priorities and concerns which will be used in Customer Service Excellence and service delivery decisions.

3. Financial and Staffing Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial or staffing implications.

4. Contribution to National Park Management Plan

- 4.1 Communities will be better able to influence the delivery of services and decisions affecting the National Park under policy C1 of the National Park Management Plan where local views will be sought in developing policies, priorities and activities in the National Park.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 That the issues raised at Parish Forums be noted.

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Background documents to this report

| | File Ref. |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Northern Parish Forum File | 1031/6 |
| 2. Coastal Parish Forum File | 1031/7 |
| 3. Western Parish Forum File | 1031/8 |
| 4. Southern Parish Forum File | 1031/9 |

Issues Raised at the Coastal, Western, Northern and Southern Parish Forum Meetings.

All Parish Forums considered the following items:

- a) A presentation from NYCC Stronger Communities Team on how they can support communities on various projects with grants up to £15k such as community transport, combatting rural isolation, support volunteering opportunities and strengthen community initiatives. They will attend the Joint Parish Forum on 30 September together with the NYCC Community Transport Officer.
- b) Andy Wilson updated all Forums following the York Potash Planning Committee meeting.
- c) Andy Wilson updated all the Forums on the results of the Parish Member Elections.

1. Coastal Area Parish Forum

Agenda Items

- Closure of public toilets by Scarborough Borough Council – Jane Mortimer indicated that this item had not yet been considered by committee but will report back when it has been.
- High cost and provision of vehicle activated signs - Jane Mortimer offered to contact Highways and Scarborough Borough Council's representatives (particularly the Hinderwell Parish) to find out future use of the signs – Jane Mortimer reported back that this scheme is unlikely to proceed.
- Mobile phone masts in Hinderwell Parish – Arqiva have been contacted by the Authority to find out the current situation. Arqiva are looking in to it and will report back.
- A discussion was held on how support could be given to dairy farmers who are struggling to keep going with a suggestion that a farmers' cooperative or network could help but that the situation is a large, long term, economic change nationwide. It was indicated that the Traditional Boundary Scheme grants were available (not dairy farmer specific) or possible funding through LEADER may be available.
- An illustrated talk on the Sea Life, See Life project was given by Gareth Dockerty (Project Co-ordinator) and Catriona McLees (Head of Promotion and Tourism).
- Richard Thompson gave his final report and was thanked for his contribution to the Authority over his 12 years as a Parish Member.

2. Western Area Parish Forum

- An update was given on the Kirkby Bank Trod. Following the working group's report NYCC Rights of Way Department is to start a consultation on a Traffic Restriction Order.
- The recent government announcement for tenants being given the Right to Acquire their properties from Housing Associations was discussed. The National Park family is looking in to this as to how it may affect National Parks. It was suggested that all Parishes write to their local MP for clarification and to make them aware of the concern within National Parks, also Malcolm Bowes and Terry Sutcliffe to prepare a letter from the Forum to the relevant minister.
- The verges near the Lion Inn had been cut back 8 metres either side of the road, it was suggested that this could have been done by the landowner to prevent fire risk and make sheep more visible to road users.
- A request for a future meeting to discuss encouraging respect for the countryside with signage/education.

3. Northern Area Parish Forum

- A discussion on attracting visitors to the National Park through the Northern Gateway was held. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged between Richard Gunton, Guisborough Town Council and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council to discuss action plan for ideas/funding/marketing/signage. This should be followed by an open public meeting to discuss implementation of an action plan.
- A suggestion was made that Guisborough area should be included in the route for the next Tour de Yorkshire and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council should be lobbied to invest funds in this.

4. Southern Area Parish Forum

- The Convenor indicated that Arqiva are investigating two possible mast sites for the Mobile Infrastructure Project at Hutton le Hole and Levisham. Two 15m mock poles will be put up as part of the pre-application process.
- It was suggested by the Forum that Village Green/Common Land re-registering be discussed at the next meeting with Jim Bailey as a contributor/lead on the discussion.
- It was suggested that Parishes collate a list of work/supplies required and share information so that group purchasing of services/goods to perhaps save money for example on grass cutting, lighting and on bulk buying of salt/grit for winter road preparation.
- Winter Road Preparation – some aspects of road repairs/white lines done by NYCC outside contractors had not been carried out correctly. It was suggested that Sharon Fox be contacted both on an individual parish basis and also be invited to the Joint Parish Forum to discuss winter road preparation/deterioration of road edges/general highways issues.
- Concern was expressed over the demise of Tourist Information Centres (particularly Pickering) and the importance of not losing the familiar  logo which is recognised worldwide. Many TIC's are now being moved to Tourist Information Points located in alternative premises such as libraries, shops, etc which have to adhere to certain criteria to be open year round, 7 days a week and will display the logo. Pickering tourist information point will not be located in the library as this will place too much extra work on the volunteers who are to operate the library – it was emphasised that Pickering library is to remain open.