
AGENDA ITEM No. 2

MINUTES

Meeting: **Audit, Resources and Performance Committee**

Date: 24 January 2014 at 10.05am

Venue: The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Chair: Mr C Pennell

Present: Mrs F Beatty, Clr D Birkinshaw, Clr G Claff, Clr C Furness,
Clr D Greenhalgh, Mr Z Hamid, Clr P Harrison, Clr S Marshall-Clarke,
Clr A McCloy, Mr G D Nickolds, Clr Mrs N Turner.

Apologies for Absence: Clr Mrs B Beeley, Clr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Ms S Leckie,
Clr Mrs L Roberts.

1/14 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 8 November 2013 were approved as a correct record.

2/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair reported that the following four people had registered to speak, however one was unable to attend:

- Mr M Irving, on behalf of motorcyclists
- Mr C Woods, Secretary of the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance and also speaking on behalf of Friends of the Peak District, Peak Horsepower and various individual members of the Ramblers Association.
- Mr R Hickin, Technical Director and National Right of Way Officer, Trail Riders Fellowship Ltd (absent)
- Clr P Brady

3/14 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members made a declaration of interest:

Item 6

- Mr C Pennell, personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of Friends of the Peak District
- Clr A McCloy, personal interest as a member of the Ramblers' Association and a paid contributor to the Ramblers' Association national magazine. He had never written about the subject of off-roading for the publication
- Clr D Greenhalgh, personal interest as a member of the Peak District Local Access Forum. He had not attended any meeting where this item had been

discussed nor had he been lobbied

- Cllr Mrs N Turner, personal interest as a member of the Local Access Forum. She had taken no part in the consultation or any discussions
- Cllr S Marshall-Clarke, personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of Derbyshire County Council

Item 7

- Mr C Pennell, personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of Friends of the Peak District
- Cllr A McCloy, personal interest as a member of the Ramblers' Association and a paid contributor to the Ramblers' Association national magazine. He had never written about the subject of off-roading for the publication
- Cllr D Greenhalgh, personal interest as a member of the Peak District Local Access Forum. He had not attended any meeting where this item had been discussed nor had he been lobbied
- Cllr Mrs N Turner, personal interest as a member of the Local Access Forum. She had taken no part in the consultation or any discussions
- Cllr S Marshall-Clarke, personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of Derbyshire County Council

Item 8

- Mr C Pennell, personal non-prejudicial interest as the Deputy Chair of the Moors for the Future Partnership, elected to that position by the Authority's Members
- Mr G Nickolds, personal non-prejudicial interest as the Chair of the Moors for the Future Partnership, elected to that position by the Authority's Members. Mr Nickolds declared that he was in receipt of a pension from Severn Trent Water Company who are mentioned as beneficiaries and partners in Moors for the Future projects

Item 9

- Mr C Pennell, personal non-prejudicial interest as the Deputy Chair of the Moors for the Future Partnership, elected to that position by the Authority's Members
- Mr G Nickolds, personal non-prejudicial interest as the Chair of the Moors for the Future Partnership, elected to that position by the Authority's Members. Mr Nickolds declared that he was in receipt of a pension from Severn Trent Water Company who are mentioned as beneficiaries and partners in Moors for the Future projects

Item 10

- Cllr A McCloy, personal interest as the co-owner of a cycling website
- Mr P Harrison had received communication from the Peak Park Parishes Forum

Item 11

- Mr C Pennell stated that in the complaints section of the report, items 363, 365, 368 and 370 related to him and he would leave the room if members wished to discuss the items.

The Chair began the meeting by making everyone aware that it was being filmed by the BBC for a local news programme. Members of the public including the speakers had the opportunity to choose not to be filmed.

The Chair announced that Cllr Ms E Wilcox had resigned from the Authority and that Ms S Leckie had a temporary leave of absence until the summer of 2014.

Cllr Mrs N Turner was warmly welcomed back after a period of absence necessitated by her husband's illness. Members were pleased to hear that he was making a good recovery.

The Chair showed two awards that had been made to Authority volunteers. There had been 44 nominations from all of the UK national parks and the Authority gained an award for Volunteer of the Year and also for its Group Volunteers, which was given to the Authority's volunteer Rangers. The Rangers gave their £1K prize to charitable causes. Congratulations were extended to all concerned.

4/14 6. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) AT THE ROYCH (A76224/SAS)

This report provided information on the repairs that were undertaken by Derbyshire County Council as the Highway Authority during October/November 2013. Members considered whether these had an effect on the decision made in July 2013 to proceed to make a permanent traffic regulation order (TRO) on the section of the Roych route that is concurrent with the Pennine Bridleway National Trail.

The Rights of Way officer introduced the report and reminded Members of the need to have regard to paragraphs 1, 15, 16 and 18 of the report and the associated appendices whilst considering and making their decision.

Of the three members of the public who had registered to make representations on this item, Mr R Hickin was unable to attend. The Chair agreed that Mr M Irving could make the representation on Mr Hickin's behalf.

The following made representations under the Public Participation Scheme:

- Mr M Irving, representing motorcyclists and also reading out a letter from Mr R Hickin, Technical Director and National Right of Way Officer, Trail Riders Fellowship Ltd, in his absence
- Mr C Woods, Secretary of the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance and also speaking on behalf of Friends of the Peak District, Peak Horsepower and various individual members of the Ramblers Association.

The Chair responded to personal comments made in Mr Hickin's letter. He emphasised that his personal, non-prejudicial interest in the item had been confirmed by an independent complaints process.

Cllr P Harrison stated that he was an independent member representing the parishes of the High Peak, and was not influenced by the Chair or other members.

Cllr D Greenhalgh joined the meeting at 10.20am. He declared a personal interest as a member of the Peak District Local Access Forum. He had not attended any meeting where this item had been discussed nor had he been lobbied.

The resolution as it appeared in paragraph 17(i) on page 3 of the report was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Authority should proceed to make a Permanent Traffic regulation Order under Section 22 BB(2)(a) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that will have the effect of prohibiting use by mechanically propelled vehicles at all times on the section of the Roych Clough track that is concurrent with the Pennine Bridleway.**

5/14 7. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER AT CHAPEL GATE (A76221/SAS)

This report presented the outcome of the publication of proposals under Regulation 5 of the National Park Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England) Regulations 2007 for a permanent traffic regulation order (TRO) on Chapel Gate.

The Chair welcomed the quality of the consultation responses. He acknowledged the work of officers in managing the scale of this consultation and thanked them for the thoroughness and clarity of their report.

He emphasised that the Authority is not adopting a principle of denying the use of all trails to any particular user group. Instead, each case is being considered objectively. Parliament had given power to National Parks to issue TROs in "appropriate circumstances" in order to deliver their special purposes.

The Rights of Way officer introduced the report and reminded Members of the need to have regard to paragraphs 2, 47, 49 and 50 of the report and the associated appendices whilst considering and making their decision.

It was noted that Members had visited and walked the route on 16 January 2014 and notes of the site visit were tabled at the meeting. The site visit was attended by Derbyshire County Council who advised on the extent of the scheduled works to the route.

The following made representations under the Public Participation Scheme:

- Mr M Irving, representing motorcyclists and also reading out a letter from Mr R Hickin, Technical Director and National Right of Way Officer, Trail Riders Fellowship Ltd, in his absence
- Mr C Woods, Secretary of the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance and also speaking on behalf of Friends of the Peak District, Peak Horsepower and various individual members of the Ramblers Association.

The Director of Corporate Resources read out the remainder of Mr Hickin's letter that Mr Irving had not had time to finish during the three minutes he had under Item 6.

Members queried the use of the term "invalid carriage" in the report and were informed that this term was currently used in and defined in The Use of Invalid Carriages on Highways Regulations 1988.

Members considered the report and the options set out in paragraph 49 of the report. The resolution as it appeared in paragraph 49(i) on page 9 of the report was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the Authority proceed to make a Permanent Traffic Regulation Order under section 22 BB(2)(a) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that would have the effect of prohibiting use by mechanically propelled vehicles at all times on the Chapel Gate route (subject to specified exceptions and replacing the term “water companies” with “statutory undertakers”)**

A break was taken between 11.03 and 11.23am.

6/14 8. THE MOORS FOR THE FUTURE PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS PLAN TO 2020

The Moors for the Future Partnership manager introduced the report. He stated that the words at the beginning of the Executive Summary had been amended following comments from partners and also the table on page 27 had been removed as it was incorrectly set out.

He highlighted the fact that the emphasis of the Business Plan was on sustaining the Core Team. Partners such as the Environment Agency and Natural England were less able to provide financial support because of government cuts.

The Chief Finance Officer expressed confidence in the current business model and confirmed it as viable and sustainable.

Recommendations 1 and 2 were moved and seconded.

The Chair proposed the addition of a third recommendation agreed by the mover and seconder, that the Authority’s management team should consider how best and at what level to secure commitment to the business plan from individual contributing partners.

Members acknowledged the enormous achievements of the Moors for the Future Partnership and staff and also thanked the Senior Performance Officer and other officers for their work and contribution to giving members a clear and objective overview.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the Audit, Resources and Performance committee support the Moors for the Future Partnership Business Plan and recommend it to the Moors for the Future Partnership’s Strategic Management Group.**
2. **That Members note that achieving the Business Plan to 2020 depends upon Authority financial support at the present level being continued in future Authority budgets.**
3. **That the Authority’s management team consider how best and at what level to secure commitment to the Business Plan from individual contributing partners.**

7/14 9. MOORS FOR THE FUTURE OPERATIONAL PLAN 2014-2015 (SLD/CD)

The recommendation was moved and seconded with the addition of a second recommendation that the Moors for the Future Team be congratulated for their achievements in 2013/14.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Audit, Resources and Performance committee support the Operational Plan and recommend it to the Moors for the Future Partnership's Strategic Management Group.**
- 2. That the Moors for the Future Team and the Moors for the Future Partnership be congratulated on their achievements in the year 2013/14.**

8/14 10. PEDAL PEAK II APPROVAL FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE (A85632/RG)

This report sought approval to accept a Department for Transport Linking Communities Fund for £225,000 via Derbyshire County Council, as required by the Authority's Standing Order 7.C-2. Approval for the spending of these monies was also sought in accordance with standing orders.

The following made a representation under the Public Participation Scheme:

- Cllr P Brady

Cllr P Harrison declared that he had received a note from the Peak Park Parishes' Forum expressing concern over the increase in numbers of cyclists on the trails and the subsequent impact on other users.

The Assistant Director of Policy and Partnerships reminded members that the Authority's early commitments to work on cycling can be found in the National Park Management Plan and the Sustainable Transport Action Plan. The latter sets an action to develop a cycle plan and work started on this in late 2012. A key stage was the Cycle Summit in February 2013 when a wide range of organisations identified gaps in the route network and other cycle development opportunities. The opportunity to bid for funding for the DfT followed shortly afterwards with bids having to be submitted by 30 April 2013. The Authority co-ordinated the development of a package of routes to form the basis of the bid, which entailed a partnership with Derbyshire County Council, Staffordshire County Council, Barnsley Metropolitan Council and Sheffield City Council. The package of schemes was based on consultation that had been carried out as part of the initial scheme proposal not as part of the DfT grant opportunity, since the timescale was too tight to preclude this. However, a great deal of effort has been taken to work with parish councils and many other organisations to provide a good opportunity for consultation on the draft cycle strategy, which starts on 17 February.

The recommendation was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the receipt of a Department for Transport grant of £225,000 from Derbyshire County Council be approved to support cycling in national parks; and that these monies be spent in accordance with the elements identified in Paragraph 9 of the report.**

9/14 11. 2013/14 QUARTER 3 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT (A91941/WA)

This report provided Members with monitoring information for the end of Quarter 3 (October - December 2013) for review of performance against the Authority's 2012-15 Corporate Objectives, including the corporate risk register and complaints. It also highlighted other significant issues for Members to note.

The Director of Corporate Resources drew Members' attention to Objective 3 and confirmed that the Director of Planning was finalising a "basket of indicators" to include the result of surveys of parish councils and planning agents.

It was noted that under Objective 4(b), the percentage reduction had changed to 20% from 30% and that in view of the Authority no longer having a dedicated Climate Change officer, Members should remain focused on the aims despite the overall green status.

Members queried the reduction in cycle hire receipts especially as the report also said hire numbers had increased under Objective 12 and were informed that an analysis had begun. The matter would be considered further by the Budget Monitoring Group following the meeting. A report analysing the cycle hire income was requested to be submitted to the next Audit, Resources and Performance committee on Friday 21 March 2014.

The recommendations with the addition of a fifth recommendation to bring the cycle hire analysis to the next meeting were moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Quarter 3 Corporate Performance Return given in Appendix 1 be agreed.**
- 2. That the complaints and information requests shown in Appendix 1 be agreed.**
- 3. That the proposed amendment to Success Factor 4b be approved.**
- 4. That the changes to the risk register given in Appendix 2 be agreed.**
- 5. That a report analysing the fall in cycle hire receipts in the light of increased cycle hire numbers be submitted to the next Audit, Resources and Performance committee on Friday 21 March 2014.**

The meeting ended at 1.05pm.