

AGENDA ITEM No. 10

MINUTES

Meeting: **Urgent Business Items Sub-Committee**

Date: 30 May 2003 9.15 am

Venue: Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire

Chair: Mr A D Hams

Present: Mrs A Ashe, Mr A Brown, Cllr J A Bull, Cllr G M Doughty,

Apologies for Absence: Mrs L Crowe Cllr D B Taylor

5/03 URGENT BUSINESS

It was agreed that two reports from the Acting National Park Officer be tabled for considered as urgent business.

**REPORT THE ACTING NATIONAL PARK OFFICER
URGENT BUSINESS**

6/03 GRANT TOWARDS FUNDING GREATER PEAK DISTRICT SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT MARKETING PROJECT (A.8535/CB)

The Sub Committee considered an urgent report requesting approval of the acceptance of funding from the Countryside Agency towards this project and expenditure on behalf of partners over 2 years.

RESOLVED:

That the funding from the Countryside Agency for the Greater Peak District Sustainable Transport Marketing Project, amounting to £9,500 in 2003-4 and £17,500 in 2004-5 be accepted and the expenditure over 2 years as set out in the report be approved.

REPORT THE ACTING NATIONAL PARK OFFICER

7/03 NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES REVIEW – GRANT ALLOCATION (A.197/JNT)

The Sub-Committee considered a proposed response to a report from Sarah Woller as consultant to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Department for Transport about future grant allocations for National Park Authorities. The opportunity given by Alun Michael as Environment Minister to comment by 6 June was welcomed.

It was felt that it should be emphasised to government that any new formula should not be used as a mechanism for reducing the grant to the Authority and redistributing this to other National Parks Authorities. Any grant allocation should be based on the needs of individual Authorities that should be identified and justified in the annual Best Value Performance Plans.

Other comments made by Members for the refinement of the final response will be agreed in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and the Chairs of the Policy and Resources Committees. The timetable meant that a joint response by National Park Authorities was unlikely to be achieved.

RESOLVED:

1. That the opportunity to comment on the National Park Authorities Grant Allocation report be welcomed.
2. That comments be forwarded to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs by the Acting National Park Officer and Chief Finance Officer based on the report and the appendices and in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and the Chairs of the Policy and Resources Committees.
3. That the Authority's response be shared with other National Park Authorities and the Association of National Parks Authorities, with a view to highlighting areas of common ground and the scope for a joint response.

8/03 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item to avoid the disclosure of exempt information under Section 1000 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 A paragraph 8 "Information relating to expenditure likely to be incurred by the Authority in a contract for the supply of services".

REPORT THE ACTING NATIONAL PARK OFFICER
URGENT BUSINESS

9/03 MOORS FOR THE FUTURE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT – LETTING OF CONTRACTS

Mr Hams declared a personal interest in this matter as Chair of the East Midlands Regional Lottery Fund Committee.

Approval was requested to waive Standing Orders to enable a contract to be let to a specialist supplier who was the only contractor able to meet the detailed specification for the work and timing for its implementation. Details of the costs were included in the report.

RESOLVED

That Standing Order - Contracts 2.3 (1)(b) be waived and approval be given to the Acting National Park Officer to let a contract for moorland restoration seed supply to the contractor named in the report provided that this is within budget and is acceptable to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Meeting ended 9.45 am.