

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

MINUTES

- Meeting:** National Park Authority Meeting
- Date:** 4 October 2013 at 10.00am
- Venue:** Aldern House Baslow Road Bakewell Derbyshire
- Chair:** Clr A Favell
- Present:** Mrs F Beatty, Clr Mrs B Beeley, Miss P Beswick, Clr D Birkinshaw, Clr P Brady, Clr D Chapman, Clr G Claff, Clr C Furness, Clr Mrs H Gaddum, Clr D Greenhalgh, Mr Z Hamid, Clr Mrs N Hawkins, Clr Mrs G Heath, Clr H Laws, Ms S Leckie, Clr A McCloy, Clr S Marshall-Clarke, Mr G Nickolds, Mr C Pennell, Clr P Rippon, Clr Mrs L C Roberts, Clr Mrs N Turner, Clr Mrs J Twigg, and Clr Ms E Wilcox.
- Apologies for absence:** Mr P Ancell, Clr P Harrison, Mr R Helliwell, Clr C Carr, and Clr Mrs K Potter.

45/13 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair reported that the National Parks UK Conference held in the North York Moors National Park on 25 – 27 September had been a success and had included discussions on the planning changes which would be covered under item 11 on the agenda. It was also noted that Paul Hamblin from National Parks England was present and would be speaking to Members about the work of his organisation at the end of the meeting.

He also welcomed Mary Bagley to her first meeting of the Authority following her appointment as Assistant Director Enterprise and Field Services, and reminded Members that they were invited to attend the Annual Parishes Day event to be held on 12 October at the Whitworth Centre in Darley Dale.

With the consent of the Chair Mr C Pennell advised the meeting that that the Authority's Monitoring Officer had recently received and determined a complaint that alleged that he had breached the Members' Code of Conduct by not declaring his membership of Friends of the Peak District as a personal and prejudicial interest when considering matters relating to Traffic Regulation Orders at meetings of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee. While the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with an Independent Person, had determined that his interest was not prejudicial, she had concluded that there were two occasions when he had not declared a personal interest. Mr Pennell therefore offered his apologies to the Authority and its Members for not declaring his personal interest as a member of Friends of the Peak District in items relating to Traffic Regulation Orders considered at meetings of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 9 November 2012 and 3 May 2013. Mr Pennell confirmed that he had been a member of Friends of the Peak District for many years but did not have any part in their policy making process and his

membership was only through providing financial support to the organisation.

46/13 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2013 were approved as a correct record

47/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present to make representations to the meeting.

48/13 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared interests in items on the agenda as follows:

Item 7

- Cllr Godfrey Claff, personal prejudicial interest as a member of High Peak Borough Council where he would be involved in decisions relating to the Rural Business Advisor Post. It was noted that he would leave the room during any discussions on that specific matter.

Item 8

- It was noted that all members had received an email from Cllr Chris Furness who was also a Member of the Authority.
- All Members present declared a personal interest as they were required to comply with the approved Code of Conduct in carrying out their duties as Members of the Authority.

49/13 7. BUDGET PLANNING: ALLOCATION OF ONE OFF EXTRA RESOURCE (A137/RMM)

The Director of Corporate Resources presented proposals to approve one off additional resource allocations to priority areas, in the context of budget planning for 2014/15 and beyond.

The recommendations in the report were moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To approve the proposals in Appendix 1 for the allocation of one off additional resources to priority areas with the subsequent implementation including staff establishment changes being delegated to RMT and managers in accordance with Standing Orders to be effective as soon as possible.**
- 2. To appoint the following four members to form a reference group for consultation on the expenditure plan of the £45k proposed to support the Enterprise Plus programme:**

**Mr Christopher Pennell
Cllr Lesley Roberts
Cllr Chris Furness
Cllr Godfrey Claff**

3. **To include participation in the reference group as an approved duty for the purpose of claiming travel and subsistence expenses.**

Mr Z Hamid arrived at 10.15am during consideration of this item.

50/13 8. AMENDMENT TO MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT – RECOMMENDATION FROM THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2013 (A.111/JS)

The Head of Law presented proposals to amend the Members' Code of Conduct to reflect the latest report from the Committee on Standards in Public Life, following a review of the arrangements for dealing with standards allegations under the Localism Act 2011 considered by the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee on 20 September 2013.

A motion to defer consideration of the proposed amendments, and ask Officers to carry out a comprehensive review of the Code of Conduct for consideration by a group of members was moved and seconded, put to the vote and lost.

The recommendation from Audit Resources and Performance Committee was moved and seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

To amend the Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Appendix 1.

51/13 9. MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT (A.111/RC)

Members considered a report setting out proposals for the annual programme of Member learning and development events to cover the period January to December 2014.

The Deputy Chair encouraged all Members to attend the member development event to be held on 29 November where an external facilitator had been appointed to help Members address issues identified in the 2012 Members Survey.

The recommendations set out in the report were moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. **To approve the proposed Member learning and development events programme for January to December 2014 at appendix 1.**
2. **To continue to record Member learning and development activities in terms of hours and include personal learning and development by Members outside of events organised by the Authority, with the target of 20 hours per Member in every 12 months.**

52/13 10.1 AMENDMENTS TO PART 2 OF STANDING ORDERS AND THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING/WHISTLE-BLOWING POLICY (A111/AGM)

It was noted that paragraph 10.5 of the policy would be amended to remove "An Authority Member" from the list of possible contact points.

Subject to the proposed amendment to paragraph 10.5, the recommendations set out in the report were moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the amended Confidential Reporting/Whistle-Blowing Policy as set out in appendix 1, subject to an amendment to paragraph 10.5 to remove the words "An Authority Member".
2. To amend section v of paragraph 2.12 in Part 2 of Standing Orders – Contracts to delete a reference to the "prevention of Corruption Acts 1889 and 1916" and replace it with the "Bribery Act 2010".
3. To authorise the Head of Law, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, to amend Standing Orders and Authority Policies to reflect any approved changes in job titles and changes to legislation if those changes do not have a significant effect on operational matters.

53/13 11. AUTHORITY RESPONSE ON PROPOSED PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (A.610/BJT)

The Director of Planning presented a report assessing the impact on National Parks of proposals set out in Government consultation on proposals to remove the need for planning permission for the change of use from agricultural buildings to dwelling houses. It was confirmed that a copy of the Authority's formal response would be sent to the Members of Parliament for constituencies located in the National Park.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved and seconded, put to the vote and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED:

1. To endorse the assessment on the impact of the Government's proposed changes to permitted development as set out in the report and confirm that it be used as the basis for a response to Government seeking National Park exemption from those changes.
2. To authorise the Director of Planning to prepare a final a response, following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Planning Committee.

The meeting ended at 11.20pm.