

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

MINUTES

<u>Meeting:</u>	National Park Authority Meeting
<u>Date:</u>	6 February 2009
<u>Venue:</u>	Aldern House Baslow Road Bakewell Derbyshire
<u>Chair:</u>	Mr N Bajaria
<u>Present:</u>	Mrs A Ashe, Miss P Beswick, Mr C Carr, Ms P Coleman, Clr Mrs T Critchlow, Clr A Marchington, Clr C McLaren, Clr J Muir, Mr C Pennell, Mrs L C Roberts, Clr R Wilkinson, Clr Mrs B J Wilson.
<u>Apologies for absence:</u>	Clr T Bagshaw, Clr Mrs J Bevan, Clr A Favell, Clr Mrs H M Gaddum, Prof J Herbert, Mr G Nickolds, Mrs K Potter, Mrs S Prince, Clr Mrs I Ratcliffe, Mr L Rix, Clr Mrs J A Twigg, Clr Mrs S Roberts, Clr Mrs D Ward, Clr Mrs D Wilde.

2/09 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair mentioned that Leigh Rix would be leaving as a member of the Authority in April. Roger Clarke a Natural England Board member had been appointed as his replacement.

A meeting had been held with ENPAA and Huw Irranca-Davies MP the new Minister with responsibility for National Parks. Matters discussed were the Sub-National Review, the 60th Anniversary of the National Park Act and direct elections to National Park Authorities.

A meeting had been held with Helen Phillips the Chief Executive of Natural England and Lynn Crowe the link Board member.

The Chair of the Environment Agency Lord Smith had visited the National Park and a meeting will be held with the Regional Director in March.

He drew Members attention to the following key issues for the future:

The Court of Appeal decision on the Longstone Edge case was expected in March.

Members' workshops for the Minerals Strategy and the Transport Action Plan.

A presentation at the July Authority meeting by Natural England on the Joint Accord.

The Local Development Framework will be considered at the June Authority meeting with formal adoption at the October meeting.

A special meeting of the Authority will be held on 31st July to consider the Recreation Strategy and the Landscape Strategy.

3/09 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 5th December 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4/09 MATTERS ARISING

84/08 MATTERS ARISING

MINUTE 68/08 AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES – CHESHIRE COUNCILS (A.11/EWJ/JBD)

The Chief Executive reported that an Order changing the membership of the Authority had not yet been made

86/08 PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2008-2011 (A.5792/PS/AG)

It was reported that the Climate change action plan had been distributed to all the relevant partners.

5.1 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair reported that there was one item of urgent business that will be considered after item 8.2 on the Agenda.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE and CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

5/09 7.1 BUDGET 2009/10 (A137/PN)

This report presented the final budget proposals for 2009/10, following three workshops in September, October and November 2008, and a final workshop on the 9th January 2009, during which financial planning and priorities for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 were considered.

The Authority is required to set a balanced revenue budget for the 2009/10 financial year. This year will be the sixth year that National Park Grant has been funded directly at the 100% level from central government, as part of a continuing extension of the original three year trial. During this period the Authority's levying powers remain but are not being used, and our constituent local authorities are not paid corresponding amounts in their own Revenue Support Grants. This report concludes year 1 of the three year budget planning process started in Autumn 2008.

It was reported that an e-mail had been received from Professor Herbert supporting the proposals.

Members expressed appreciation of the process through the workshops that had enabled a consensus opinion on funding priorities to be reached.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the base budget for the 2009/10 financial year shown in Annex 1 and 2 of the report be approved.**
- 2. That the additional allocations and savings proposed in Annex 3 of the report be agreed for incorporation into the budget.**

3. **That the related staffing proposals identified in Annex 4 of the report – extensions and changes to existing posts and proposed new posts - be approved.**
4. **That the financial position of the Authority in respect of planning for the following 2010-11 and 2011-12 financial years be noted.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6/09 8.1 THE FUTURE OF SPITS (A8536/TN)

This report proposed that the Authority withdraws from the South Pennines Integrated Transport Partnership (SPITS), from the end of this financial year, with consequential recommendations withdrawing the Authority's role as the accountable body and Project Officer host.

In addition the report proposed a new way of working, with a focus upon the emerging National Park Sustainable Transport Action Plan.

The following Members declared personal interests in this item:

Mrs A Ashe	Member of Peak Park Transport Forum
Clr Mrs T Critchlow	Member of Derbyshire County Council
Clr R Wilkinson	Member of Derbyshire County Council
Clr Mrs B J Wilson	Member of Peak Park Transport Forum as a member of Derbyshire County Council

It was reported that an e-mail had been received from Anne Robinson on behalf of the CPRE.

Nikki Wright, Staff Committee member, made a representation to the meeting on behalf of the SPITS Project Officer.

RESOLVED

1. **That the Authority's withdrawal from the SPITS Partnership on 31st March 2009 be approved.**
2. **That the Authority's withdrawal as the accountable body and project officer host for SPITS on 8th April 2009 be approved.**
3. **That the transfer of any remaining funds from the SPITS partnership to the original funding partner or, should one be interested, another accountable body for the partnership be approved.**
4. **That the transfer of any remaining funds from the SPITS partnership due to the Authority, to the Peak Connections Partnership be approved.**
5. **That the same level of funding for the Sustainable Transport Action Plan in 2009/10 as the Authority's contribution to the SPITS Partnership in 2008/9 (£5,400) be approved.**

7/09 8.2 UPDATE ON THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN (A6604/JBD)

This report updated Members on research into the economy of the National Park and the consequences of the economic downturn for the National Park. It sought approval for a number of actions.

It was reported that references in the report to the Regional Economic Council should be the Regional Economic Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

1. That the East Midlands Development Agency be thanked for its work in funding and undertaking the study *The Contribution of the Peak District National Park to the Economy of the East Midlands* and that the study be launched alongside the new *Live and Work Rural* programme in April 2009.
2. That the Regional Development Agencies, local authorities and others are encouraged to do further research into the full economic contribution of the Peak District National Park to local, regional and national economies.
3. That the Chair of the Authority writes to the Leaders of Constituent Councils, copied to the relevant Council members of the Authority, offering to support the framework of partnership-based activities at paragraph 15 in the report (discussed at the Constituent Council's Conference in January 2009) as the basis of our joint work in 2009.
4. That Officers continue to develop detailed proposals with the regional bodies and partners for an enhanced capital programme of public works in the National Park that is in line with the Authority's asset management, business and capital plans.
5. That the outline priorities for public spending for the period covered by the Regional Funding Advice consultation (2011-15) are approved as set out in paragraph 19 of the report and that these are relayed to regional bodies as the views of the Authority.

URGENT ITEM

8/09 5.1 REPRESENTATION ON EAST MIDLANDS LEADER'S BOARD (A971/JBD)

The meeting was advised of progress towards establishing a Leader's Board in the East Midlands and support was sought for the specific proposals for including the Authority in a Joint Board charged with preparing and delivering the Integrated Regional Strategy. Significant political negotiations have only very recently led to a proposal which the Authority must now formally consider.

It was reported that an e-mail had been received from Professor Herbert supporting the proposals.

RESOLVED:

1. That proposals to include the Peak District National Park Authority as a member of the Joint Board (jointly with 5 members of the East Midlands Development Agency Board and 5 members of the East Midlands Leader's Board) charged with developing and delivering the East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy be supported as the minimum level of representation compatible with our statutory function and legislation.
2. That discussions continue with local authorities to find effective ways of the Peak District National Park Authority engaging in the wider work of the East Midlands Leader's Board.

3. That efforts are made to secure appropriate involvement in the other three regional Integrated Regional Strategies.

STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT

9/09 9.1 PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADOPTION OF TECHNICAL APPENDICES TO THE AUTHORITY'S DESIGN GUIDE (RJB)

The meeting was requested to delegate to the Planning Committee responsibility for the adoption of the Technical Appendices to the Authority's Design Guide

RESOLVED:

1. That the Planning Committee be authorised to consider and adopt the Design Guidance notes to the Authority's Design Guide.
2. That Standing Orders be amended to reflect this addition to the functions of the Planning Committee.

10/09 10. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be received:

Planning Committee 14th November & 12th December 2008
Services Committee 28th November 2008
Audit & Performance Committee 24th October 2008

11/09 11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item Nos. 12, to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Paragraph 3 "Information relating to the financial affairs of the Authority"

Part B

12/09 12. EXEMPT MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Exempt Minutes of the Services Committee held on 28th November 2008 be received

The meeting closed at 12.45 pm.