# **Peak District National Park Authority**

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# **MINUTES**

Meeting: Audit Resources & Performance Committee

Date: Friday 16 March 2018 at 12.30 pm

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

Chair: Cllr A McCloy

Present: Cllr F J Walton, Mrs P Anderson, Cllr J Atkin, Mrs F Beatty,

Mr J W Berresford, Cllr C Furness, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr C McLaren,

Cllr J Perkins, Cllr Mrs N Turner and Cllr B Woods

Cllr Mrs L C Roberts, Mr P Ancell and Cllr D Chapman

attended to observe and speak but not vote.

Apologies for absence: Cllr A R Favell, Cllr Mrs G Heath and Cllr D Birkinshaw.

# 14/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 19 JANUARY 2018

The minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 19 January 2018 were approved as a correct record.

# 15/18 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business for the Committee to consider.

#### 16/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Five members of the public were present to make representations to the Committee.

# 17/18 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

# Item 6

Cllr A McCloy declared a personal interest as he is a member of the Ramblers Association and has also received two emails relating to the item.

# Item 8

The majority of members had received emails relating to this item.

# Item 9

Cllr A McCloy had received three emails relating to this item.

Mrs Penny Anderson declared a personal interest as she is a member of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.

# 18/18 ACTION PLANS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF RECREATIONAL MOTORISED VEHICLES IN THEIR USE OF UNNSEALED HIGHWAYS AND OFF-ROAD (A7622/SAS)

The Rights of Way Officer introduced the report and highlighted the importance of working with partnership organisations including the Highways Authorities, the Police and user groups.

The following spoke under the Public Participation at Meetings Scheme:

- Mrs Stoney, local resident
- Mr Chris Woods, Peak District Green Lanes Association, Friends of the Peak District and the Peak & Northern Footpath Society
- Ms Patricia Stubbs, Peak Horsepower

Members congratulated the team on the 'well put together' report, particularly the graphs which were easy to understand.

Members were concerned regarding the outstanding repairs to Hurstclough Lane as mentioned by the speakers and asked that Derbyshire County Council be encouraged to carry out the necessary work. Cllr Jason Atkin agreed to raise this with the officers at Derbyshire County Council and ask them to contact the Rights of Way Team regarding carrying out the work.

Derbyshire County Council had had notice served on them to carry out the repairs on Minninglow Lane but details were not available regarding when these repairs would take place.

Members requested some changes to the Objectives for Green Lanes so that people were 'connected with nature for its enjoyment'.

Members agreed the objectives in appendix 3 of the report were good but that there was a need to ensure users are aware of the reasons why they should respect the lanes by increasing their understanding of why these lanes are important and providing a back story to highlight the history of the routes. Officers confirmed that this report is an opportunity to start to develop this.

Members raised the question asked by speakers regarding introducing more TROs as the Action Plan did not include any other than the current consultation on Wetton Hills. Officers clarified that there were no targets or plans for TROs but that there were a range of actions that could be taken on routes where problems occurred. Consideration also needed to be given as to which authority is appropriate to take action as Derbyshire County Council were also able to implement TROs and in some cases the more appropriate authority.

Officers reported that the National Trail Riders organisation had not supported voluntary restraint measures proposed by the local groups.

The Chair of the committee asked that a meeting between officers of Derbyshire County Council and the Authority's Rights of Way Team take place to discuss outstanding repairs.

The Officer recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the progress was noted and the action plans at Appendices 4, 6 and 7 of the report were approved, and that a follow-up report be brought to this Committee in March 2019

Cllr Becky Woods left the meeting at 1.23 pm

# 19/18 MOORS FOR THE FUTURE PARTNERSHIP OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018 - 2019 (SLD/CD)

The Head of Programme Delivery – Moors for the Future and Moors for the Future Programme Office Manager were present to introduce the report and answer any questions from Members.

Members had attended a 'Bogfest' event which had enabled some good discussions and highlighted the need to look at commercial opportunities and the possibility of a Charitable Trust.

The report highlighted the three main areas of focus for the project which are:

Communication – including

- Moorlife 2020 project
- Bogtastic Van now up and running and starting to visit sites
- Citizen Science
- Land Managers Events

Science & Monitoring – including:

- Evidence Gathering
- Successful grant bids which are enabled by the evidence
- Moorland Bird Breeding Survey

Conservation & Land Management – biggest year of work for the programme including the Defra Restoration Fund work.

Members congratulated the Moors for the Future Team for a great report and on achieving 15 years of project work which continues with a stable team. The Community Science project funding was due to end in December 2018 and ideas on how to extend the project were welcomed from Members.

The Head of Programme Delivery confirmed that the work at Moss Rake East is being carried out by specialist contractors and project managed by the Moors for the Future team.

The Head of Programme Delivery clarified that if the money for the core funding deficit was not found the operational plan would still be delivered but business development costs reduced to maintain work within budget.

The Officer recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Operational Plan is supported and is recommended to the Moors for the Future Partnership's Strategic Management Group.

Cllr Colin McLaren left at 1.40pm during the discussion of this item.

# 20/18 PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR 2018/19 (YEAR 3 OF THE CORPORATE STRATEGY) (A91941/HW)

The Head of Strategy & Performance was present to introduce the item and answer questions from Members.

The Priority Actions had previously been discussed with Members at a workshop and comments had been incorporated into the document.

The Officer recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

# **RESOVLED:**

Members approved the priority actions for 2018/19 at Appendix 1 of the report.

# 21/18 DEVELOPMENT OF MILLERS DALE STATION (ES)

The Director of Commercial Development & Outreach and the Head of Visitor Experience Development were present to introduce the item and answer questions from Members.

Head of Visitor Experience Development explained that it was proposed to develop the site in two phases as detailed in the report with the second phase dependant on external funding. The Authority will invest a maximum of £370k in Phase 1.

Members raised the issue of stakeholder consultation which did not appear to have taken place. The Director of Commercial Development & Outreach clarified that full consultation was not anticipated in relation to the Phase 1 element; the opportunity to provide feedback would available via the planning process. Full consultation would take place in relation to Phase 2 and would be an integral element of this element of the initiative. Members noted that there is currently an issue with roadside parking. An agreement has been reached with Derbyshire County Council to paint white lines under the viaduct to try and reduce this problem and it was hoped that the proposed increase in parking spaces would help. There is the potential to increase interaction of Rangers with visitors to increase understanding of parking issues.

Members asked for clarification regarding the number of car parking spaces that would be created. The Head of Visitor Experience Development explained that there would be an overall increase of 20% with 18-20 new spaces and some re organising of the current spaces which may also increase the number of spaces.

Members noted the need to preserve the building and its history. It was confirmed that the plans did not increase the footprint of the current building and the refurbishment would be in keeping with the history as a railway station.

Phase 2 of the plans for Millers Dale Station will be presented to this committee in due course.

The Officer recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. pproved borrowing of up to £370,000 to contribute to a capital project with a total value of up to £657,000 (Phase 1)
- 2. In respect of urgent works identified through the site condition survey, approved substitution of up to £130,000 of the borrowing referred to in Resolution 1, from either revenue resources or the capital fund, should funds become available as set out in paragraph 32 of the report.
- 3. That the Authority may, subject to compliance with procurement standing orders, enter into contracts for the delivery of Phase 1
- 4. Approved development of long term plans for Millers Dale Station (Phase 2)

#### 22/18 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2018

The exempt minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 19 January 2018 were approved as a correct record.

Mr James Beresford left the meeting at 2:35pm

#### 23/18 APPROVAL TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR CLEANING ALDERN HOUSE (EF)

The Officer recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

#### **RESOLVED**:

In accordance with the Authority's procurement standing orders Members approved awarding a contract for the cleaning of Aldern House.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm