

**Peak District National Park Authority**

**Tel: 01629 816200**

Fax: 01629 816310

E-mail: [customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk)

Web: [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk)

Minicom: 01629 816319

Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire. DE45 1AE



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**MINUTES**

Meeting:	<b>National Park Authority Meeting</b>
Date:	Friday 5 December 2014 at 10.00 am
Venue:	The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell
Chair:	Clr Mrs L C Roberts
Present:	Mr G Nickolds, Mr P Ancell, Cllr P Brady, Cllr C Carr, Cllr G Claff, Cllr A R Favell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr D Greenhalgh, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr P Harrison, Cllr Mrs N Hawkins, Cllr H Laws, Ms S Leckie, Cllr S Marshall-Clarke, Cllr A McCloy, Ms S McGuire, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Mrs E Sayer, Cllr Mrs J A Twigg and Cllr D Williams
Apologies for absence:	Mrs F Beatty, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr D Chapman, Cllr Mrs H Gaddum, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell and Cllr Mrs N Turner

**50/14 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair confirmed that all Authority staff had been invited to join Members after the meeting for mince pies and coffee.

**51/14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD**

The minutes of the meetings of 8 September 2014 and 3 October 2014 were approved with the following amendments:

8 September: Mr R Helliwell had given his apologies

3 October: Mr R Helliwell and Ms S Leckie had attended the meeting.

**52/14 URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no Urgent Business to report.

**53/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No-one had registered to make representations to the Committee.

**54/14 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Member declarations of interest.

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## **55/14 7. NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN - REPORT FROM ADVISORY GROUP (AN)**

The Chair welcomed Mrs Dianne Jeffrey, independent Chair of the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group.

Mrs Jeffrey explained the role of the Advisory Group in bringing together delivery partners to monitor what is happening. The 96 actions set had been divided into 5 signature programmes. There had been a 100% attendance at meetings which reflected the commitment and enthusiasm of the Group, which met three times per year.

Having viewed "Project Wild Thing" in April 2014, the Group decided to make the signature "Inspiring Generations" the theme of its annual conference in the summer of 2015. Following a workshop in October 2014 which was attended and addressed by the Duke of Devonshire, a number of pledges were made which the Group will follow up – for example, the National Trust had pledged to include 50 activities for 2015 at the Longshaw Visitor Centre, in order to stimulate interest in the outdoors.

A transport summit was proposed to take place in March 2015 in the context of cuts to transport funding. The Advisory Group would be exploring its potential to lead on advocacy and would meet the wider commercial community and local government partners to consider how to deliver a sustainable transport network for both residents and visitors.

Key achievements and outstanding issues were highlighted relating to each of the five signatures in turn, with a note that work had begun on developing a wider focus for number 4 "Community Led Planning", to continue over the next two years.

Members welcomed these proposals and urged that community transport be included. It was noted that an opportunity now existed to develop flexible community services with possible transPeak links to Sheffield, Manchester and other large conurbations bordering the National Park. Members suggested that Patrick McLoughlin, Minister for Transport, and representatives of the Northern Powerhouse cities should be invited to the transport summit to consider the implications of the potential developments advocated by the Chancellor in his Autumn Statement.

Mrs Jeffrey thanked Authority officers for their helpful facilitation of Advisory Group meetings.

Members suggested that local universities would be useful partners with a significant interest in the Park. Mrs Jeffrey asked Officers to approach local universities with proposals for their involvement.

Members requested clearer and more specific emphases on cultural heritage issues, particularly assets, geo diversity and the earth sciences. More needed to be said in the Management Plan about the appreciation and understanding of cultural heritage assets. Mrs Jeffrey accepted this view and proposed that after the transport summit, the Advisory Group would add to its agenda the proposal to agree what cultural heritage means and divide up the areas to be examined. The membership of the Group would also be considered in terms of its cultural heritage knowledge base.

The recommendations were moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

Cllr Mrs K Potter did not vote as she had left the meeting briefly during the debate.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the summary report of performance made on the NPMP from Spring 2013 to Autumn 2014 (as set out in Appendix a) be received and that the progress and actions to address underperformance be noted.**
- 2. That the recommended NPMP delivery plans from April 2015 to March 2016 (as set out in Appendix b) are agreed.**
- 3. That the amendments to the on-line NPMP (as set out in Appendix c) are accepted and that responsibility is delegated to the Chief Executive to oversee the amendments to the on-line NPMP, in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Group and in full consultation with the Chair of the NPMP Advisory Group.**

**56/14 8. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING AND 2015/16 BUDGET PROPOSALS (A137/ RMM )**

The Director of Corporate Resources reported that formal notification of the National Park Grant Settlement for 2015/16 had not yet been received but was expected by Christmas.

The 2 Member workshops of 2014 had been positive and records of the discussions had been circulated to Members.

It was proposed that Recommendation 3 be amended to include the Vice Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance committee.

With this amendment, the recommendations were moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the current proposals for the approach to the Authority's medium term financial planning challenge, which will be refined as new information comes to light, are noted.**
- 2. That the 2015/16 budget proposals for reductions and income given at Appendix 1 shall take effect from 1 April 2015 or as soon as possible after that if implementation has to take longer.**
- 3. That the proposal to reallocate £42K per annum (as soon as resources are released in accordance with Appendix 1) in increasing our capacity and performance on giving and sponsorship is agreed; with details on how this will be used to be decided by Resource Management Team in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit, Resources and Performance committee.**

**57/14 9. NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY PROPERTY PORTFOLIO (RG)**

The Assistant Director for Policy and Partnerships confirmed that staff changes had been effected to complete the new property management structure as agreed by Members, except for the post of special responsibility for giving independent advice to the team which remained to be filled.

In agreement with the Chair of the Authority and the Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance committee, financial targets for the property portfolio would be brought to Members at the meeting of Audit, Resources and Performance committee on 3 March 2015. The Asset Management Review Action Plan was in place and being progressed as shown in paragraphs 16 to 25 of the report.

Cllr A Favell is a member of the Integrated Property Board in his capacity as Member Representative for Asset Management.

The recommendations were moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

**RESOLVED:**

**That:**

- 1. The update on the overall progress of the work of the Integrated Property Board, and the specific progress against implementing the Asset Management Review, be received.**
- 2. A report on the financial performance of the property portfolio for 2015-16 be presented to the Audit, Resources and Performance committee on 3 March 2015, and annually thereafter.**
- 3. The Asset Management Review Action Plan be amended to allow the Authority to still acquire property but only as part of a rolling programme of acquisition and disposal to achieve its purposes, and where there is a proven business case.**

**A break was taken between 11.10 and 11.20am.**

58/14 Items for approval with no discussion

**(a) 10.1 Constitutional Documents for National Park Enterprises Limited (JBD)  
Appendix 1 and Appendix 2**

The recommendations were moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

**RESOLVED:**

**That:**

- 1. The Peak District National Park Authority be a member of the Company Limited by Guarantee known as "National Park Enterprises" as the trading and fundraising entity of the National Park.**
- 2. The Articles of Association and Members Agreement for National Parks Enterprises be noted.**
- 3. The Chair of the Authority be appointed as a Director of National Park Enterprises should they be elected to do so by the Chairs of National Parks UK.**

**58/14 11. EXEMPT INFORMATION S100 (A) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED:**

**That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item no. 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 or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).”**

**59/14 12. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE (RMM/TR)**

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the Authority accepts the recruitment panel’s recommended candidate to be appointed as Chief Executive from the earliest possible start date, subject to consultation with Natural England and final pre-employment checks being completed.**

The meeting ended at 11.30 am