

Statements Received for Positions of Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees

Chair of Planning Committee

Statement by Mr Paul Ancell:

I am happy to put myself forward again for the position of Planning Chair during the coming year. It is a role that I have enjoyed since taking over from Lesley, and despite many challenges I believe we, as a Committee, have been able to demonstrate that we are fair, open, diligent and take a balanced view in coming to often difficult decisions.

I believe those who have attended our meetings as applicants, objectors or supporters, will have left believing they had a fair hearing and were treated with respect, even if the outcome was not quite what they had wanted. I am quite sure that the reputation and perception of the Planning Committee has been enhanced as a result, and I am pleased to have played a part in that.

I have enjoyed working with Doug as my deputy and John Scott as Planning Director – I think we make a good team, and I would look forward to us supporting the vital work of the Planning Department from the position of Chairman during the coming year. There is much to be done in balancing the legitimate development needs of our local community with our core purposes as a National Park, and I want to ensure that the Planning Committee continues to play a key role.

Paul Ancell.

Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance Committee

Statement by Cllr Andrew McCloy:

With members' support, I would like to serve out one final year as chair of Audit, Resources and Performance Committee. The Authority has undergone some profound changes over the last few years which have affected the shape, direction and outlook of the whole organisation. After a sometimes difficult period of restructuring forced upon us by funding cuts, I feel we are now entering a new phase and have the opportunity to shape a more resilient and dynamic National Park Authority. ARP committee allows members to support, scrutinise and challenge officers to deliver this. I can offer experience, leadership and a deep-seated knowledge of the National Park and if elected I will continue to chair in an even-handed and inclusive manner. Finally, I'm very much aware that I was elected to serve on a national body by local people and the National Park will only prosper if we work in a spirit of understanding and cooperation with our local communities.

Andrew McCloy.