

11. STANAGE FORUM STEERING GROUP: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (A.1155/RC/RN)

1. Purpose of the report

To appoint a representative of the Authority to the Stanage Forum Steering Group

Recommendations

2.
 1. **That Ms Stella McGuire be appointed to the Stanage Forum Steering Group until the annual Authority meeting in July 2015.**
 2. **That attendance at meetings be an approved duty for the payment of travelling and subsistence allowances.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

3. This appointment contributes to the National Park Management Plan outcomes and corporate objectives by continuing and supporting the Authority's working with stakeholders and partners.

Background

4. A request for the Authority to appoint a Member to the Stanage Forum Steering Group was received from the Stanage Forum in February 2013. The request was considered by the Chair of the Authority and the Chief Executive, in consultation with relevant officers, and within the principles of the review of Member representation on outside bodies held in 2011. The review of Member appointments to outside bodies in 2011 was done following our local governance review to ensure that any appointment is an effective use of Members' time and a number of appointments were then withdrawn.
5. It was decided that it was not appropriate at that time to appoint a Member representative to the Stanage Forum Steering Group. This was because the Stanage Forum is a body which the Authority consults on issues, including at that time the review of the North Lees estate. Instead the Stanage Forum was given a named link Member who they could contact if necessary and this was Christopher Pennell, the then Chair of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee.
6. A request for an Authority Member to be appointed to the Stanage Forum Steering Group has again been made following the Open Stanage Forum meeting on 1 Nov 2014. It is now considered appropriate to appoint a Member to the Steering Group as we are working in partnership with them to produce an updated Stanage-North Lees Management Plan which is due to be considered by the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee in September 2015.
7. At the Open Stanage Forum meeting Stella McGuire was nominated to the steering group by Jean Hodgkinson, an Outseats Parish Councillor and herself a member of the Stanage Forum Steering Group, with a recommendation that Stella should take up this role as a representative of the Authority. This proposal was unanimously supported by the Forum, although it was recognised that this would need ratification by the National Park Authority. The Forum Steering Group and the North Lees Manager consider that Stella is particularly well-suited to this role for the following reasons:

- Her practical cultural heritage / archaeology experience which complements the North Lees managers ecological background;
- As a member of the Eastern Moors Partnership stakeholder group;

- As the co-ordinator of the Eastern Moors archaeological monitoring programme;
- As a Hathersage resident for 22 years;
- As a walker who knows Stanage/North Lees very well;
- As the Member Representative for Cultural Heritage.

Both the Chair and Vice-Chair of Audit, Resources & Performance Committee have been consulted on the proposed nomination and Ms McGuire has indicated that she would be willing to accept this appointment.

8. The lead officer for this Steering Group is Rebekah Newman. The Steering Group is expected to meet as many as six times between now and September 2015 during the development of the Management Plan. Thereafter meetings are expected to average 2 – 4 times a year dependant on need.
9. Authority appointments to outside bodies are usually made at the annual meeting, so this appointment would be until the annual meeting in July 2015 when it would become eligible for re-appointment.

Proposals

10. It is proposed that Ms Stella McGuire is appointed as the Authority's representative on the Stanage Forum Steering Group.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

11. **Financial:** Members may claim travelling and subsistence for attendance at meetings to which they are appointed. In order to settle claims, which are checked by Auditors, Members are asked to ensure that they sign a record of attendance at all meetings. This will be the only means by which attendances are correlated.
12. **Risk Management:** There are no risks arising out of this proposal.
13. **Sustainability:** No issues have been identified.
14. **Background papers:** None

Appendices: None

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

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