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Your ref:

Our ref: ENQ.Min_disp_may19

Date: 14 May 2019

Letter sent via e-mail

Dear John,

Enquiry regarding PDNPA land sales

Thank you for your email and letter on behalf of the Local Access Forum (LAF) to myself on 7 May in reference to PDNPA land sales recently advertised. We value and appreciate our community partners engaging with us to ensure the continued conservation and enhancement of our landscapes whether big or small.

The concerns and risks you raise are well known to us and have been carefully assessed by a range of experts to ensure any risk of future degradation in changing ownership of these sites is very low. Many different groups and bodies have an interest in purchasing land managed by PDNPA. As you appreciate, we have to treat all interested parties equally and operate in an open, fair, transparent and accountable way which our Members ensure we do. For that reason, we will continue with our planned disposals process in accordance with PDNPA Audit Resources and Performance Committee decision (3/11/17).

We are nearing the end of this phase of disposals due for completion this financial year. For the next phase of disposals, as part of our Corporate Asset Management review Chris Manby is leading, I will initiate a learning review on the disposals process. This will allow interested parties such as the LAF to offer their views on future improvements to the process including sharing and communication of information in a timely manner.

There is one point of correction; Mr Folkards assertion that the land was gifted to PDNPA is wrong. It was purchased by the Peak Park Planning Board. Notes accompanying the deeds indicate that it was purchased to enable the restoration of mining tips.

To help inform you of the background and process I have included a supplementary note overleaf which I hope provides reassurance. I also attach a recent supplementary note on High Rake which demonstrates how our experts are working together to not only protect access but also the conserve the habitat. Our ecologists and land managers are evaluating the need for supplementary feeding and stock control to enable an appropriate grazing regime. All these factors will be built into legally binding agreements with the successful bidder.

Member of National Parks UK

Holder of Council of Europe Diploma



Chief Executive: Sarah Fowler

Chair: Andrew McCloy Deputy Chair: David Chapman

Working together for the Peak District National Park:

▪ To speak up for and care for the Peak District National Park for all to enjoy forever ▪

Information we hold may be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations. Our Privacy Notice tells you about how we use, manage and store your personal information in line with the General Data Protection Regulation and DPA 2018. The Notice is published on our website or you can obtain a copy on request

I hope this allays concerns and fears raised by LAF members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Barraclough". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Adrian Barraclough Director of Commercial Development and Engagement

Supplementary Note - Minor Disposals (buildings, land and woodland)

Background and Context.

- Historically PDNPA have purchased minor properties and woodland where there is clear opportunity to conserve and enhance.
- Once this has been achieved, they are sold on the open market with legally binding safeguards to protect the condition the asset is sold in.
- This strategy and approach has been highly successful since 2010.
- PDNPA has not been engaged in any dispute with a new owner concerning subsequent degradation.
- The Audit Resources and Performance Committee approved this approach (3 Nov 2017).
- PDNPA is drawing near to the end of the current phase of minor disposals in 2019/20.

Existing Process

The process for the existing advertised minor disposals is as follows:

1. Compliant tenders received are assessed against a balanced scoring template.
2. The scoring template assesses the tenders received against several criteria. For all disposals this includes:
 - a. 40% Price
 - b. 45% Tenderers intentions towards conserving/enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife/cultural heritage & promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of any special qualities by the public
 - c. 10% Tenderers intentions towards the needs of agricultural, forestry, economic and social interests
 - d. 5% Tenderers intentions to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities
3. A final decision on disposal will be informed by the completed scoring template and made at a Resource Management Meeting (i.e. Chief Executive, all Directors and Head of Finance). It has further been agreed that any decision will be made in consultation with the Head of Law, the Corporate Property Officer and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit, Resources and Performance (ARP) Committee (Ref : ARP Minute No. 50/17).

To complete the scoring template expertise will be drawn from members of the Minor Property – Disposal Programme Working Group. The working group comprises officers from the following specialist teams:

- Landscape, Conservation and Archaeology
- Access and Rights of Way
- Visitor Experience /Engagement Management
- Natural Environment/Rural Economy
- Development Management
- Rural Property Surveyors
- Legal & Finance
- Communications

END