
MINUTES

Meeting:	National Park Authority
Date:	Friday 6 February 2015 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, Mrs F Beatty, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr P Brady, Cllr C Carr, Cllr D Chapman, Cllr G Claff, Cllr A R Favell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr D Greenhalgh, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr P Harrison, Cllr Mrs N Hawkins, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr H Laws, Ms S Leckie, Cllr A McCloy, Ms S McGuire, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Mrs E Sayer, Cllr Mrs N Turner, Cllr Mrs J A Twigg and Cllr D Williams
Apologies for absence:	Cllr Mrs H Gaddum, Cllr S Marshall-Clarke and Cllr S Wattam

61/15 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed Sarah Fowler, the Authority's new Chief Executive Officer, who had been in post for two weeks.

The Chief Executive thanked the Chair and Members for the responses they had made to her introductory message and set out her commitment to the Authority and its customers, particularly in the context of "Courage, Compassion and Connections".

The Chair asked Cllr Mrs G Heath to convey the Authority's thanks to Staffordshire County Council for their efficiency in keeping their roads clear during the winter months.

The Chair and the Chief Executive were to attend National Parks England and National Parks UK meetings in London the following week, and would report back to Members on these events.

62/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Authority on 5 December 2014 were approved as a correct record.

63/15 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to report.

64/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no speakers at this meeting.

65/15 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 7.2

The Chair confirmed that all Members had received an email from Mrs A Robinson of Friends of the Peak District.

Cllr Mrs K Potter declared a personal interest as a member of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Cllr G Claff declared an interest as the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration on High Peak Borough Council and a personal interest as a resident of Glossop.

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Cllr A McCloy declared a personal interest as he co-owns a cycling website.

Mrs E Sayer declared a personal interest as a member of the Youth Hostel Association.

Cllr D Williams declared a personal interest as a member of Derbyshire County Council.

Ms S Leckie declared a personal and prejudicial interest as her husband is employed by Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport.

Cllr Mrs K Potter declared a personal interest as Chair of Rowsley Parish Council.

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Cllr Mrs J Twigg declared a personal interest as a member of Derbyshire Dales District Council and Derbyshire County Council.

Cllr D Williams declared a personal interest as a member of Derbyshire County Council.

The Chair said that all Local Authority Members had a personal interest in this item as they would all be involved in the development of a Combined Authority.

66/15 NOTICES OF MOTION

In accordance with Standing Order 1.14, two Members have given notice that they intend to move the following motions:

Moved by Cllr C Furness and seconded by Cllr S Marshall-Clarke:

“At future Annual General meetings of this Authority, all elected committees (including the urgent decisions committee) must have a majority of Local Authority members, as required by the constitution. The Chair and Deputy Chair of each of the three main Authority Committees or of any future additional or replacement committees must not be from the same group. ie. one must be a Local Authority Member and the other a Secretary of State Member.”

The motion was moved and seconded. In accordance with Standing Order 1.25, the motion now stands adjourned without discussion until the next ordinary meeting of the Authority on 27 March 2015.

Moved by Cllr G Claff and seconded by Cllr D Birkinshaw:

“The National Park Authority will adopt a constructive position in relation to the proposed developments to the A628 with due regard for National Park objectives and the National and Regional interests.”

The wording of the motion was amended and extended with the agreement of the mover and seconder as follows:

“The National Park Authority will adopt a constructive approach in relation to the proposed developments to the A628 with due regard for National Park objectives and the National and Regional interests. The Authority’s response on consultations will not be delegated to officers and will be considered by Members at an Authority meeting.”

The amended motion was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

That the National Park Authority will adopt a constructive approach in relation to the proposed developments to the A628 with due regard for National Park objectives and the National and Regional interests. The Authority’s response on consultations will not be delegated to officers and will be considered by Members at an Authority meeting.

67/15 PEDAL PEAK II FURTHER FUNDING (EF)

Having declared a personal and pecuniary interest in this item, Ms S Leckie left the meeting prior to the Officer’s introduction and took no part in the debate or the vote.

In line with the Authority’s Standing Order 7.C-2, Officers sought Member approval to accept a Department for Transport Cycling Ambition Grant Fund additional grant for up to £260,000 via Derbyshire County Council, to provide further funding for the Pedal Peak 2 project.

The Assistant Director reported that on the day before the meeting, the Authority had been successful in its joint bid with Derbyshire County Council for Department for Transport funding and had secured £430,200 plus local contributions of £150,000.

Members congratulated Officers on this achievement.

The recommendation was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

The Authority approves the receipt of a Department for Transport grant for up to £260,000 from Derbyshire County Council to further support cycling in the National Park, and also approves the spending of this funding, as outlined in paragraph 4 of the report.

A short break was taken between 11.25 and 11.35am.

68/15 BUDGET 2015/16 (A137/PN)

The Chief Financial Officer presented the formal budget approval for 2015/16, stating that the budget was structurally balanced (as shown in Appendix 1 of the report).

He reported that the Defra grant for this transition year was a reduction of 1.74% as had been previously notified to the Authority and informed Members that for the next spending review period, Defra had been designated as a “non-favoured department”. No figures had been confirmed at the time of the meeting. The Chief Executive and Members would seek to protect the national park grant.

Budgets for North Lees Estate, Warslow Estate and the Trails had been restructured following the Integrated Property Board’s adoption of “a new financial model for Authority assets which provides for more integrated budget management within single sites” (Authority meeting 5 December 2014).

Member workshops re the spending review period and “direction of travel” over the next 3 to 4 years were planned for June/ July 2015. Further workshops would take place in the Autumn.

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

RESOLVED:

That:

- 1. The Authority approves the base budget for the 2015/16 financial year shown in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report.**
- 2. The Authority’s financial position in respect of planning for the following years is noted.**

69/15 EXTENSION OF CHARGING FOR PRE-APPLICATION ADVICE (JRS)

The report recommended the extension from 1 April 2015 of the planning pre-application charging scheme to cover householder developments, with the aim of generating additional income to maintain the Planning Service at a time of budget constraints.

The Director of Planning reported that the non-householder target for 2014/15 had already been achieved. As the Authority sets charges for the provision of pre-application advice, he suggested a charge of £100 per householder application.

The motion was amended to include the specific charge of £100.

The amended motion was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

Cllr P Brady voted against the motion.

RESOLVED:

That the pre-application charging scheme be extended to cover householder developments from 1 April 2015 and that the fee for the provision of specific pre-application advice per householder application be £100.

70/15 STANAGE FORUM STEERING GROUP: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (A.1155/RC/RN)

The motion was moved, seconded and carried in the vote.

RESOLVED:

- 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.**

71/15 WELL BEING AT WORK POLICY (TR)

The Director of Corporate Resources introduced the report as the Head of Human Resources was unable to attend the meeting. She noted that the proposed Well Being at Work Policy had been discussed during its development by the Local Joint Committee (June 2014).

The Authority's commitment to the Mindful Employer Charter enabled access to resources that would support implementation of the Policy.

The recommendation was moved, seconded, voted upon and carried.

RESOLVED:

That the Well Being at Work Policy is approved.

In accord with the Authority's Standing Orders, Members voted to continue the meeting beyond 1pm.

A break was taken for lunch between 12.50 pm and 1.20 pm.

72/15 PROPOSED D2 COMBINED AUTHORITY (JRS/RG)

This report advised Members on a consultation in respect of a proposed D2 Combined Authority (CA) for Derby and Derbyshire.

Officers confirmed that although the Authority had a "duty to co-operate" with other planning authorities, a Combined Authority was not a planning authority. The Peak District National Park Authority would have "observer status", which the Authority welcomed.

The officer made a correction to the recommendation to replace "paragraphs 22 and 23" with "paragraphs 25 and 26".

RESOLVED:

Members endorse the Authority's response on the proposed Derbyshire Combined Authority as set out in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the report.

The meeting ended at 1.35 pm