
MINUTES

Meeting:	Audit Resources & Performance Committee
Date:	Friday 20 March 2015 at 10.00 am
Venue:	The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell
Chair:	Cllr A McCloy
Present:	Cllr C Furness, Mrs F Beatty, Cllr G Claff, Cllr A R Favell, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr P Harrison, Mr R Helliwell, Ms S Leckie, Cllr C McLaren, Mr G Nickolds, Cllr Mrs L C Roberts, Mrs E Sayer, Cllr Mrs N Turner and Cllr D Williams
Apologies for absence:	Mr P Ancell, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr Mrs G Heath and Cllr S Marshall-Clarke

12/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2015

The minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 23 January 2015 were approved as a correct record.

13/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair reported that 5 members of the public had given notice to speak under the public participation at meetings scheme.

14/15 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 8

Cllr A McCloy declared a personal interest as a member of the Ramblers Association.

Cllr Mrs N Turner declared a personal interest as a member of the Local Access Forum. She had not taken part in discussions at the Local Access Forum.

Mr R Helliwell stated that he had a pecuniary interest in Chapelgate but would only need to leave the meeting if the discussion included Chapelgate.

It was noted that Members had received correspondence from P Stubbs, S Dunk, S Woods and S Wardle.

15/15 EXTERNAL AUDIT: 2014/15 AUDIT PLAN (A1362/RMM)

Cathie Clarke, Assistant Manager of KPMG external auditors was present at the meeting and introduced the report.

In response to Members' queries Ms Clarke stated that she did liaise with the Authority's internal auditors when necessary. Ian Morton of Veritau, internal auditors, who was also present at the meeting stated that he was meeting with the Chief Finance Officer that day to agree a plan for the next year and he would send a copy of the agreed plan to Ms Clarke.

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

RESOLVED:

That the 2014/15 External Audit Plan be considered and noted.

16/15 PROPERTY PORTFOLIO FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (RG)

Rachel Gillis, Assistant Director Policy and Partnerships, introduced the report and Mike Ingham, who had been appointed as the Corporate Property Officer for the next 12 months and was also in attendance.

Cllr Tony Favell, the Member Representative for Asset Management raised 13 points that he requested be taken into consideration with the property portfolio. These included costs and size of the property portfolio, need for progress following consultants' report, re-considering how services such as campsites and cycle hire are provided, income with regard to the trails and car parks, woodland management, visitor centres and funding for maintenance of properties. He congratulated staff on their work attracting other organisations to use Aldern House accommodation and he also congratulated officers on the work put into other aspects of the property portfolio.

He then stated that this would be the last Audit, Resources and Performance Committee meeting he would be attending and thanked Members for their support over the years. Cllr McCloy thanked Cllr Favell for all his work for the Authority, in particular for his work as Member Representative for Asset Management and as Chair of the Authority from March 2011 to July 2014.

Members were concerned about funding for maintenance of structures on the Trails and felt that a public campaign should be started to enable a repair and endowment fund. It was agreed that this was an issue that would be considered as part of the new giving strategy and officers will work with Members to progress this. It was noted that other mechanisms for raising funding were also being considered and that a report on the giving strategy would be made in September. Performance monitoring reports on the property portfolio would be made as part of the quarterly monitoring process reported to Members and an update will be given to the next meeting on taking forward the suggestion on raising money for repairs on the Trails.

RESOLVED:

That the report on the financial performance of the property portfolio for 2015-16, be received and made annually thereafter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.08am for a short break and reconvened at 11.16am.

17/15 ACTION PLANS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF RECREATIONAL MOTORISED VEHICLES IN THEIR USE OF UNSEALED HIGHWAYS AND OFF-ROAD (A7622/SAS)

The Access and Rights of Way Officer introduced the report which set out how the Authority's strategy for the management of recreational motorised vehicles would be implemented for 2015/16. The receipt of a written representation from the trustees of the Devonshire Maintenance Fund regarding Derby Lane was reported and summarised for the Committee.

The Chair, Cllr McCloy, reported that he had received a petition to ban vehicles from Hurstclough Lane which contained approximately 500 signatures.

The following persons spoke under the public participation at meetings scheme:

- Mrs M Wilcockson, farmer of land on either side of Hurstclough Lane
- Mrs S Dunk, local resident and horse rider, speaking regarding Hurstclough Lane
- Ms P Stubbs, Peak Horsepower
- Ms S Woods, Peak District Green Lanes Alliance
- Ms A Robinson, Friends of the Peak District.

In response to Members' queries officers stated that Hurstclough Lane was on the Derbyshire County Council (DCC) list for repairs.

Mr Geoff Nickolds stated that this would be the last Audit, Resources and Performance Committee meeting he would be attending and he thanked the officers for the good progress they had made over the last 3 years.

Mrs F Beatty left the meeting at 11.58am.

Members expressed concern regarding Hurstclough Lane and an extra recommendation was agreed for action on Hurstclough Lane to be reviewed in conjunction with the DCC repairs and that a report back be made in the Autumn.

The recommendations as set out in the report and the extra action were moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the action plans at Appendices 4, 5 and 9 of the report are approved with the amendment at resolution 4, that progress is noted and that a follow-up report be brought to the Committee in 12 months' time.**
- 2. That the guidelines on voluntary restraint at Appendix 3 of the report are agreed to inform the Authority's strategy, policy and procedure on recreational Motorised vehicles.**
- 3. That the proposals to develop green lanes as a resource for all are noted.**
- 4. Review action on Hurstclough Lane in conjunction with DCC's plan for repairs and report back on progress in the Autumn.**

18/15 SERVICE USER SURVEY

RESOLVED:

- 1. Receive report on purpose of the Service User Survey and resultant Actions**
- 2. Agree interim way forward for future development of the survey**
- 3. Request further report in 2016, or at a suitable point in development of new Corporate Objectives on new information needs.**

19/15 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 2, 2014/15 (A1362/7/PN)

Ian Morton, of internal auditors Veritau, was present at the meeting and introduced the report. The report presented the internal auditors' recommendations for the second block of the 2014/15 audit and the agreed action for consideration.

RESOLVED:

That the internal audit reports for three of the four areas covered under Block 2 for 2014/15 be received (in Appendices 1 – 3 of the report) and the agreed actions considered.

20/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item Nos. 12 and 13 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Paragraphs 7 "Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime" and 3 "Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)".

PART B

21/15 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 2, 2014/15 PART B (A1362/7/PN)

Ian Morton of internal auditors Veritau introduced the report. The report presented the internal auditors' recommendations for IT Systems audit within the second block of the 2014/15 audit plan and the agreed actions for consideration.

The Head of Information Management, Darren Butler, was present to answer Members' queries.

RESOLVED:

That the internal audit reports for the IT Systems controls covered under Block 2 for 2014/15 be received (in Appendix 1 of the report) and the agreed actions considered.

22/15 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2015

The exempt minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 23 January 2015 were approved as a correct record.

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm