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Peak District National Park Authority

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MINUTES

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| Meeting: | National Park Authority |
| Date: | Friday 5 June 2015 at 11.00 am |
| Venue: | The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell |
| Chair: | Cllr Mrs L C Roberts |
| Present: | Mr P Ancell, Mrs P Anderson, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr P Brady, Cllr D Chapman, Cllr C Furness, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr P Harrison, Cllr Mrs N Hawkins, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr H Laws, Cllr C Howe, Cllr A McCloy, Ms S McGuire, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr Mrs N Turner, Cllr Mrs J A Twigg, Cllr F J Walton, Cllr G Weatherall and Cllr D Williams |
| Apologies for absence: | Mrs F Beatty, Cllr C Carr, Cllr D Greenhalgh, Ms S Leckie and Mrs E Sayer |

81/15 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed the following new Members:

- Mrs Penny Anderson, Secretary of State appointee
- Cllrs Caroline Howe and John Walton, High Peak Borough Council representatives
- Cllr Garry Weatherall, Sheffield City Council representative

The Chair reported that Cllr Mrs Hilda Gaddum had been made Mayor of Cheshire East Council and would therefore not be returning to the Authority. Details of the new representative from Cheshire East were still awaited.

Members were reminded of the need to return their Related Party Disclosure forms as soon as possible.

82/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 27 MARCH 2015

The minutes of the last meeting of the National Park Authority held on 27 March 2015 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

MINUTE No 76/15

REPORT OF THE MEMBER APPOINTMENT PROCESS PANEL – APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR OF AUTHORITY, MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE FOR BIODIVERSITY AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES (A.111/JS)

The beginning of the third resolution was amended to read as "That the new Secretary of State Member, Mrs P Anderson, be appointed to Audit, Resources & Performance Committee from 1 April 2015 until the Authority's Annual Meeting in July 2015".

83/15 URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr Mrs Kath Potter read out a thank you to Members from Stanton in Peak residents. This was with regard to the refusal of a planning application at Dale View Quarry, Stanton in Peak for construction of a saw shed for two stone cutting wire saws, crane and recycling system, which had been appealed against by the applicants but recently dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

84/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

85/15 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Items 8 & 9

- Mrs Penny Anderson declared personal interests as a member of the following bodies: National Park Management Plan Advisory Group, Local Nature Partnership and South West Peak Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Project.

86/15 NOTICE OF MOTION

In accordance with Standing Order 1.14 one Member had given notice of their intention to move the following motion:

Moved by Cllr Patrick Brady, seconded by Cllr Judith Twigg:

Part A

1. That a new Standing Order 1.3A be introduced to read as follows:
 - a) The Authority shall approve and thereafter keep under review a statement, to be known as "the Democratic Principles", the purpose of which shall include advice to guide Members on factors to be taken into consideration when electing or appointing Members to an office or position.
 - b) Before the Authority elects or appoints a Member to a position of responsibility, the Chief Executive shall draw to the attention of members the Democratic Principles or the relevant section thereof.
2. That Standing Orders 1.4(2) and 1.39(2) be omitted.
3. That Standing Order 1.40 (Appointment of Standing Committees) be amended by the deletion of:
 - a) Para 3(i) (The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority to be ex-officio)
 - b) Para 3(iii) (The Chair of the other Standing Committees to be ex-officio)
 - c) Para 4 (The Vice-Chair to attend ex-officio if the Chair is absent)

4. That there be substituted for Standing Order 1.45 (Ex-officio Membership of Committees and Sub-committees) the following:

(1) On the basis set out in Paras (2) and (4) below, Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority or the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Standing Committees may attend meetings of Standing Committees other than those to which they have been

appointed subject to the normal rules governing debate and participation in meetings, and may take part in the discussion (but may not vote nor propose a motion or amendment) unless:

(i) it would be unlawful or contrary to any of the Authority's procedures, codes or other protocols to do so; or

(ii) the Authority or, in the case of the appointment of a Sub-committee, the Committee in a particular case determines otherwise.

(2) The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and a Chair of a Committee may attend a meeting of a Standing Committee;

(3) The Chair of a Committee may attend a meeting of a Subcommittee appointed by the Committee on the same basis as in Para (1) above;

(4) Under Paras (2) and (3), the Chair of a Committee may appoint the Vice-Chair to attend in his/her place.

Part B

That there be substituted for the Democratic Principles, the principles set out in Appendix 1 (attached).

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 3 July 2015.

87/15 PERFORMANCE AND BUSINESS PLAN 2015/16 (A.197/WA)

The Senior Performance Officer introduced the report on the draft Performance and Business Plan 2015/16, which asked Members to approve it as a reflection of the Authority's achievements over the past twelve months and its focus of activity for the year ahead.

It was noted that any minor corrections could be notified to the Senior Performance Officer within the next two weeks.

The Chair of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee stated that the Committee had discussed and supported the performance sections of the Plan and he was happy to move the recommendation. This was seconded.

Members discussed the Plan and it was noted that they did not like the use of the word 'cease' and would prefer 'review' on indicators and more explanation regarding such items. The Chief Executive stated that there would be a reduction in corporate indicators and that Members' views that climate change and built environment were important were noted.

The recommendation as moved was then voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

To approve the draft Performance and Business Plan 2015/16, subject to

approval of the proposed performance indicators and targets for 2015/16 and with the completion of details delegated to the Chief Executive, for publication by 30 June 2015.

88/15 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE: INDICATORS AND TARGETS FOR 2015/16 (A197 / WA)

The Senior Performance Officer introduced the report of the draft Corporate indicators and targets for 2015 – 16 for Members to approve as a reflection of how the Authority intended to monitor its performance over the next twelve months in its transition year.

The officer made the following amendments to page 36 of the report:

- In the 'Indicator' column S1b.2 should state 61% full cost recovery and S1B3 should state 87% full cost recovery.
- In the 'Target' column S1b.3 should state March 2016.

Members discussed the report and it was noted that specific concerns raised by Members could be discussed with officers outside of the meeting.

The recommendation subject to any further amendments was moved and seconded. This was then voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

To approve, with amendments discussed the proposed corporate performance indicators and targets as the basis for monitoring progress towards achieving our focus of activity for 2015/16.

89/15 PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY - COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP (JS)

The Democratic Services Manager introduced the report to consider arrangements for the appointment to Committees and positions of responsibility at the Authority's Annual Meeting. He amended the third sentence of the first paragraph on page two of the report to state '7 Secretary of State' Members not '6'.

Both Cllr Birkinshaw and Cllr Chapman withdrew from the Member Appointment Process Panel as current holders of positions of responsibility.

It was agreed to take the three recommendations in turn.

The following Members were nominated and seconded to serve on the Member Appointment Process Panel:

- Mr Zahid Hamid
- Cllr Peter Harrison
- Cllr Mrs Norma Hawkins
- Cllr John Walton

The first recommendation was then moved, seconded, voted on and carried with the above Members appointed to the Panel.

It was noted regarding the second recommendation that the Chair would like current ex-officio Members to still attend Committee meetings as observers only as part of a twelve month trial of the proposed new Committee arrangements. The second recommendation was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

The third recommendation was moved and seconded. However an amendment was moved and seconded to also include a Member Representative for housing or affordable housing. Some Members felt that this was unnecessary as the Authority was not a housing authority and already had People and Communities Member Representatives, there would also be increased resource issues. It was noted that there was a generic role description for the Member Representatives and it was agreed to circulate this to all Members.

The amendment to the third recommendation was voted on but lost. The original motion for the third recommendation as set out in the report was then voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. **To appoint the following four Members to serve on the Member Appointment Process Panel in preparation for the 2015 AGM:**
Mr Zahid Hamid
Cllr Peter Harrison
Cllr Mrs Norma Hawkins
Cllr John Walton
2. **To confirm that the Member Appointment Process Panel will be looking for expressions of interest based on two standing Committees with 15 Members on each and no ex-Officio appointments.**
3. **To confirm that the Panel will seek expressions of interest for a Member Representative for Planning Enforcement in addition to the existing roles.**

90/15 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS - DISMISSAL OF CERTAIN OFFICERS (JS)

Members considered the report requesting them to approve amendments to the Authority's Standing Orders to reflect provisions within the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

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

RESOLVED:

1. **To amend Part 5 of Standing Orders – Chief Officers to reflect the requirements of The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (Appendix 1 of the report)**
2. **To note that, following consultation on changes to the conditions of employment of relevant officers and consultation with the Independent Persons, a report will be brought to a future meeting of the Authority to approve the process to be followed when considering the dismissal of a relevant officer and to amend:**
 - a) **the terms of reference and membership of the Employee Appeals Panel to reflect the amendments in 1 above; and**
 - b) **the job description of the Independent Persons.**

The meeting ended at 1.10 pm

Part B

That there be substituted for the Democratic Principles, the following:

Purpose

1. The history of the National Park Authority suggests that it is best served when all Members of the Authority have a stake in its governance. With this in mind, these Principles include issues that Members are asked to consider when electing or appointing people to, or standing for, Office or position.
2. Their purpose is to foster confidence, unity and trust within the Authority and the general public

Voting

3. It is essential to these Principles that nothing they contain is intended to in any way detract from the duty or ability of a Member to cast his or her vote in accordance with his/her best judgement.

Definition

4. "Group" means the Group of Members falling into one of these three categories:
 - Members appointed by Local Authorities other than Parish Councils;
 - Parish Members;
 - Members appointed by the Secretary of State other than Parish Members

Election and Appointment - Chair and Deputy Chair

5. In electing a Chair and appointing a Deputy Chair, Members should consider the desirability of ensuring:
 - that each office holder comes from a different Group;
 - that at least one of the office holders is a person living in or representing an area that lies within the National Park.

Other appointments

6. In appointing the Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees, Members should consider the desirability of ensuring that, taking into account the Groups from which the election of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman were made there should be a spread of office holders from:
 - across the Groups; and
 - from amongst those living in or representing an area that lies within the National Park.
7. Taking into account the expertise, interest and potential of candidates, Members should also consider the desirability of achieving a spread of

between the Groups when appointing Member Representatives and to outside bodies.

Standing for Office

8. All Members are assumed to be equally committed to the objectives of the National Park and to have a contribution to make across the full range of the Authority's work.
9. All Members have the right to stand for all elections and appointments but need to recognise that these Principles will be drawn to the attention of Members before a decision is made.
10. Newly appointed Members will not normally be considered for the position of Chair or Deputy/Vice Chair.
11. Members who have held a position or appointment for a continuous period of four years will not normally be considered for re-election or re-appointment.
12. It is the responsibility of a Member standing for election or appointment to demonstrate to those making the decision that:
 - his/her expertise, interest and potential;
 - he/she understands what will be required of them.

In office

- 13 Anyone holding office should be seen to act in the interests of the Authority as a whole and of the National Park, and not of any particular Group or interest.

Group Meetings etc

- 14 Whilst members sharing a common concern or interest may occasionally meet to exchange views, the holding of regular meetings of Groups or of members sharing a common interest may be seen as acting against these Principles.

Patrick Brady
23 May 2015