
MINUTES

Meeting:	National Park Authority
Date:	Friday 28 April 2023 at 10.00 am
Venue:	Aldern House
Chair:	Cllr A McCloy
Present:	Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr D Chapman, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr C Greaves, Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Mr Z Hamid, Ms A Harling, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr I Huddleston, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr V Priestley, Cllr K Richardson, Miss L Slack, Mr K Smith, Cllr P Tapping, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods
Apologies for absence:	Cllr W Armitage, Cllr A Gregory, Cllr A Hart, Cllr D Murphy, Dr R Swetnam and Cllr J Wharmby.

28/23 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Items 6 and 8

A petition had been received from Castleton Historical Society.

All Members had received emails from Castleton Historical Society, Castleton Parish Council, Bakewell Old House Museum, Unison, Hunter Archeological Society and a number of residents and other individuals.

All Members declared an interest as items 6 and 8 related to the Authority.

Cllr Chapman, Cllr Farrell and Cllr Tapping all stated that they had had some discussions with local people regarding the visitor centres.

Mr Smith stated that he had spoken to Castleton Historical Society regarding Castleton Visitor Centre.

29/23 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

30/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public was present to make a representation to the Committee.

31/23 CHAIR'S BRIEFING

The Chair of the Authority provided the following verbal update to Members.

- National Parks England was advertising for a new Executive Director and details would be passed to Members for circulation to their networks.
- He had attended a celebration of the life of former National Park Officer, Michael Dover at which a new award had been announced, the Michael Dower Award for Rural Resilience.
- Two new Secretary of State Members had been approved by DEFRA: Dr Ruth Swetnam whose appointment had already begun, and Simon Thompson who would join the Authority in July.

32/23 NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN - OVERALL PROGRESS REPORT 2018-23

Members offered their thanks to the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group and also its Chair Dianne Jeffrey. A request was made to amend the resolution to add Members' formal thanks to Dianne.

Members expressed disappointment in the lack of progress in increasing birds of prey which had led to the winding up of the Authority led initiative. The Chief Executive advised that he shared Members' disappointment but the goal and the commitment to working with partners to achieve it, remained and the detail of how to achieve this would be worked out in due course.

Members also welcomed the success of the Farming in Protected Landscapes Scheme which had been extended for a further year. This success had been acknowledged by Trudy Harrison, the National Parks Minister.

A motion to move the recommendation with the addition of formally thanking Dianne Jeffrey was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED

- 1. That Members approve the National Park Management Plan - Overall Progress Report 2018-23.**
- 2. That any necessary changes to the proposed wording of the Overall Progress Report 2018-23 are delegated to the Chief Executive.**
- 3. That Members offer their thanks to Dianne Jeffrey for her 10 years of service Chairing the National Park Management Plan Advisory Group.**

33/23 ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE PROPOSAL (PM)

The report which highlighted the key issues, and gave background to the confidential Part B item on organisational change, was presented by the Chief Executive.

The following spoke under the public participation scheme:

- Maria Kenyon, Castleton Historical society

The Chair had been passed a petition regarding the potential closure of the visitor centres.

Members noted that this was a proposal for a consultation, rather than a final decision and that the proposals related to the whole of the organisation.

The Chief Executive advised that alternative uses of the visitor centres and alternative ways of interacting with visitors were being explored, and conversations were taking place with partners. It was hard to directly compare the situation with that of other National Parks but some were reviewing their visitors centres, e.g. Dartmoor NP where closure had been considered, but a one year extension had been given for their operation.

Members recognised the situation in Castleton with regards to the Historical Society's position in the visitor centre, and that the centre had an educational role. The role visitor centres played in giving a personal touch to visitor advice was mentioned.

A motion to approve the recommendations was moved and seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED

To support the proposal to commence formal consultation on organisational changes with discussion on the proposals and financial impacts to be held in the confidential part of the meeting.

34/23 EXEMPT INFORMATION S100(A) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 8 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraph 3 'information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

SUMMARY

The Authority determined the following item, full details of which are contained in the exempt minutes.

35/23 Organisational Change Proposal (PM)