



MINUTES

Meeting:	National Park Authority
Date:	Friday 12 April 2024 at 10.00 am
Venue:	Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell
Chair:	Mr K Smith
Present:	Ms R Bennett, Cllr M Beer, Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Buckler, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr C Greaves, Cllr A Gregory, Prof J Dugdale, Cllr B Hanley, Cllr A Hart, Cllr L Hartshorne, Cllr D Murphy, Cllr A Nash, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr V Priestley, Cllr K Richardson, Cllr J Wharmby, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods
Apologies for absence:	Mr J W Berresford, Cllr P G Fryer, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr I Huddleston, Cllr C O'Leary, Dr R Swetnam and Mr S Thompson.

26/24 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

27/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present to make representations to the Committee.

28/24 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

29/24 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair welcomed Rachel Bennett to the Authority as a new Member. Rachel replaces Lydia Slack following her resignation last year.

Cllr Greaves joined the meeting at 10:10am

30/24 PEAK DISTRICT NATURE RECOVERY PLAN

The Nature Recovery Officer presented the report which was to seek approval from Members to adopt the Peak District Nature Recovery Plan 2024. The Plan was introduced at the last Member Forum, when Members had an opportunity for discussion on its content and purpose.

Members thanked Officers on what was an interesting and engaging document, but were concerned whether we had the resources with our partners to deliver this, and asked who the partners are, were they the same ones as the Management Plan partners, and would there be targets attached to the annual review?

The Officer reported that the Steering Group was made up of representatives from the Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Natural England, Woodland Trust, National Farmers Union, National Trust, Cheshire Wildlife Trust, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust, Chatsworth Estate, Farmer Representatives and the Peak District National Park Authority, and they will look at whether this was the right steering group going forward and whether the membership was right for delivery of the plan going forward, but the whole steering group was very keen to be involved in the next stages.

Members queried how other Local Authority's fitted into this? The Officer responded that they had been working closely with the Local Authority's across the National Park attending meetings and feeding into the Nature Recovery Plan to guide what their strategies are saying.

There was some concern from Members that the report was not clear and difficult to read, so was difficult to work through as it was and asked whether a paper copy could be made available. The Officer informed Members that the Nature Recovery Plan was in the same format as the National Park Management Plan so it was only available online, but that a summary document will be available when the Nature Recovery Plan was launched.

The Officer reported that alongside the Nature Recovery Plan delivery, there will be a reporting template to assess the progress and that a summary with an annual update report will be presented to the Programmes & Resources Committee.

The recommendations as set out in the report was proposed, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. To adopt the [Peak District Nature Recovery Plan](#).
2. Approval for any material updates or changes delegated to the Head of Landscape & Engagement, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority.

31/24 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2024/25 - 2027/28

The Interim Finance Manager was present for this report, which was to seek approval for the revised Capital Strategy for 2024/25 to 2027/28.

Members queried why there were no figures for the period 2026/27. The Officer responded that this was a moving document and that there were no projects planned for that period as yet.

Members also queried as to whether the wording in recommendation 2 should say "To Note" rather than "Acknowledge" which would be a more accurate wording as the Members were not being asked for approval or authority to spend, just acknowledging the direction of travel for capital programmes and that business cases will be coming

forward for those amounts in the future. There was also some confusion regarding recommendation 4 and whether it could be simplified.

There was some question regarding climate change as it was stated in the report that there was no implications to identify, yet the Capital Strategy must have an implication in terms of our climate change impact depending in what we invest in, but it was assumed that the business cases for each individual project would address that and have its own climate change implications.

Members questioned why there appeared to be considerable expenditure next year, but not future years, was this because projects had not been found. The Authority needs to plan where potential monies come from and how to look for and apply for funding, so the Authority can respond to opportunities that arise.

The recommendations, as set out in the report, were moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. Approve the Capital Budget for 2024/25 (listed in Appendix 1 of the report), with the understanding that projects in the 'new' and 'additional' columns will require a business case and approval to proceed.**
- 2. Acknowledge the overall Capital Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28 (found in Appendix 2 of the report).**
- 3. Approve the Capital Strategy (listed in Appendix 3 of the report).**
- 4. Acknowledge that in future the Capital Strategy will be jointly presented with the Treasury Management Strategy for annual approval.**

32/24 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).

33/24 PROPOSED PROPERTY PURCHASE - ITEM WITHDRAWN

This item was withdrawn.

The meeting ended at 11.10 am