

# MINUTES OF THE 50<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE DARTMOOR STEERING GROUP

WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2010

Present:

Members:

|                   |                                                   |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Richard Thomas    | Chairman                                          |
| Bill Hitchins     | Chairman, Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) |
| Christine Marsh   | Member, DNPA                                      |
| Maurice Retallick | Vice Chairman, DNPA                               |
| Ian Mercer        | Chairman, Dartmoor Commoners' Council             |
| Roger Halliday    | Duchy of Cornwall                                 |
| Phil McMahon      | English Heritage (EH)                             |
| Richard Bayly     | Government Office for the South West (GOSW)       |
| Caroline Bullock  | Natural England (NE)                              |
| Brig Ged Salzano  | Comdt CTCRM                                       |
| Brig Steve Hodder | Comd 43 (Wx) Bde                                  |
| Col Mark Waring   | Comd Defence Training Estate (DTE)                |

Joint Secretaries:

|                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lt Col Chris Robinson | Comd DTE South West (Lead Secretary) |
| Kevin Bishop          | Chief Executive, DNPA                |

In attendance:

|                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lt Col (Retd) Tony Clark   | Comdt Dartmoor Training Area (DTA) |
| Lt Col (Retd) Peter Mellor | SO2 LTAR 43 (Wx) Bde               |
| Rob Steemson               | DNPA                               |

## ITEM 1: CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

1. *The Chairman* welcomed Members, particularly Brig Ged Salzano, the new Commandant CTCRM, and Lt Col Chris Robinson, the new Comd DTE SW, who in replacing Lt Col James Porter had become the lead Joint Secretary.
2. *The Chairman* noted that this meeting was something of a landmark being the 50<sup>th</sup> in the 32 year life of the Group since its founding in 1978. He also thanked DNPA for hosting the meeting.

## ITEM 2: MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>th</sup> MEETING HELD ON 8 OCT 09 AND MATTERS ARISING

3. *Lt Col Robinson* reported that the minutes had been circulated and as no comments had been raised they were agreed as an accurate record.
4. He reported that there were no matters arising other than those covered by the agenda.

## ITEM 3: MINUTES OF DWP MEETINGS HELD ON 09 DEC 09, 18 MAR 10, 23 JUN 10 AND 08 SEP 10

5. *The Chairman* stated that there had been four DWP meetings since the last DSG; with the last set of minutes still in draft.
6. *Dr Kevin Bishop* advised that he would not go through the DWP minutes line by line however he highlighted the following:

- a. Landmarc staff had completed their fire fighting training and once they have their personal protection equipment their fire fighting capacity would be fully operational, which was a welcome development.
- b. The DWP hot wash up session following 2010 Ten Tors had proved particularly useful in highlighting and addressing any issues arising. He considered this process was helping to lead to a better understanding among all the stakeholders and thanked Brig Hodder for the support of 43 (Wx) Bde for these meetings.
- c. Ten Tors was a success and DWP members had thanked Brig Hodder for the efforts that went in to celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He invited DSG members to note that the date for the next Ten Tors would be 14/15 May 2011. This would be slightly later than usual due to a late Easter and because 43 (Wx) Bde had reported potential problems staffing the first weekend in May.
- d. There had been a low level of complaints reported through DWP. The damage to the Wickham Target Railway had not been repaired beyond essential Health & Safety work.
- e. There had been an exchange of correspondence between DTE and DNPA regarding planning permission for the Cramber Training Area, where dry training is carried out under a temporary planning permission.
- f. *Lt Col Clark* had continued in post and served ably on DWP.

7. *The Chairman* queried paragraph 12 of Item Four of the draft Minutes of the DWP meeting held on 8 September 2010 and it was agreed this paragraph should be deleted.

8. *Mr Bill Hitchins* raised a concern in respect of paragraph 14 of Item Three of the Minutes from the DWP meeting held on 23 June 2010 regarding the importance of conveying a consistent message at Ten Tors that the Rare Bird Breeding Areas should be no go areas and actively policed. *Mrs Christine Marsh* commented that she understood that the final team briefing had given contrary advice to teams; this was not fair to the young people participating in the event nor was it supportive of the agreed policy regarding the Rare Bird Breeding Areas. *Brig Steve Hodder* responded that the rules were in place and were thoroughly understood and enforced. He accepted that this year the person giving the final team briefing had not suitably reinforced the importance of these rules however this would be addressed in future by ensuring a more senior officer gave the final briefing.

#### ITEM 4: ISSUES AND ASPIRATIONS WORK PLAN

9. *Dr Kevin Bishop* referred Members to the Issues and Aspirations Work Plan which had been circulated. He reminded members that at the Jan 2008 DSG meeting the Chairman had proposed that a list of Issues and Aspirations should be drawn up and agreed and work on them taken forward within the DWP. He advised that there were 8 actions which were completed and which he proposed should be removed from the Plan, examples included: changes to the Range Danger Area boundary near Henry's Ford; the mechanism to alert HQ DTA regarding public activities likely to be affected by military training; and a mechanism so that DTA can report progress against the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan.

10. *The Chairman* thanked Dr Kevin Bishop and considered this to be a really worthwhile exercise and a very good synoptic approach. *Col Mark Waring* also wished to endorse the plan as a sound methodology for focusing on the key issues and for logically considering the required actions. It was agreed that as this was a working and ongoing paper it would be acceptable to delete the completed actions. *The Chairman* requested that, in addition to the operational, purely current paper, the Secretariat should ensure that a master copy be retained over the years which recorded the history of all the actions so that evidence could be adduced, when necessary, as to how much had been achieved.

11. *Mr Bill Hitchins* referred to Item 4a and requested assurance that the boundary to the training area will be kept under review. *The Chairman* proposed and it was agreed that the item in its current form be removed and that a new item of general import be inserted to reflect the concerns expressed by Mr Hitchins.
12. *Dr Kevin Bishop* reported on continuing works, including: developing a process for the mid term stock-take which Ministers require c.2023; development of the Integrated Rural Management Plan; and local food procurement. As regards local food procurement, he reported that a certain amount of progress had been made, however he advised that they had reached a point where to make any further progress, particularly in terms of influencing MOD procurement guidelines including Pay As You Dine, it was necessary to seek the involvement of Ministers and/or senior officials. There then followed a lengthy discussion regarding local food procurement.
13. *Brig Steve Hodder* detailed a project being undertaken by 43 (Wx) Bde in partnership with Wiltshire County Council looking at procurement for MOD. The study was being undertaken by South West Food and Drink and focused specifically on the procurement of red meat from local providers for non public fund events. In doing so it was hoped to develop a mechanism that would prove local procurement could be achieved within the guidelines on a sustainable and environmentally sound basis. If successful, this would be promoted to MOD's contractor to apply the same system nationally to more routine procurement of much larger quantities of the MOD provision. A Food Fayre is being held to encourage local food procurement to which Defence Food Services chain of command was being invited. It was hoped this would influence the contractor to take a more local approach to its supply. The project was funded until mid 2011. *Mr Roger Halliday* drew attention to a pilot scheme undertaken by Cornwall NHS Trust, which may provide some useful guidance.
14. *Mr Richard Bayly* commented that a lot of progress in working with producers in this area had been made by partners such as the Regional Development Agency. Due to the change in administration, the structure of many regional partners may be undergoing a transition over the next year. He noted the importance of maintaining momentum to capture the opportunity of a more localist agenda as MOD would not be able to achieve this by itself.
15. *Mr Maurice Retallick* requested that opportunities should be maximised to use producers local to Dartmoor and that this would provide good public relations within the local communities and businesses for MOD. *Col Mark Waring* responded that DTE was currently tied into a national contract with Purple, whose remit was to achieve value for money. This contract was up for renewal in two years and therefore subject to change. He also commented that MOD understood the sentiments of local suppliers and given the constraints of their contract, it encouraged everything possible within its means to use local suppliers for local non public funded events on Dartmoor.
16. *Mrs Christine Marsh* suggested using the New Economic Foundation's local multiplier model to find a way of measuring and monitoring the additional benefit of military related expenditure within the local economy. *Brig Steve Hodder* confirmed that within MOD's project they would be seeking to develop some mechanism whereby it was possible to measure what impact was made by MOD but that it would be helpful to work with others and indeed Mrs Marsh on how to achieve this.
17. *Dr Kevin Bishop* felt that DWP had reached a critical point in terms of influencing the local situation. In terms of Okehampton Camp, local producers were already used as much as allowed. For any further progress to be made it would be necessary to influence national procurement guidelines which required raising the issue with Ministers. He pointed out that it would fit in with their agenda as there were commitments within the Coalition Agreement regarding sustainable food procurement. *The Chairman* proposed and it was agreed that it would be an opportune time to write to Ministers raising the profile of Dartmoor food procurement, the work that has already been achieved and soliciting Defra and MOD support for further work in this area to look at procurement regimes in general. *The Chairman* requested that a letter be drafted by the Secretariat covering the points discussed. If approved, the Chairman would circulate it to Members before dispatch to the Ministers.

18. *Dr Kevin Bishop* concluded his report on the Issues and Aspirations Work Plan by summarising those works currently on hold, including the commitment in the MOD document In Trust On Trust in terms of reviewing long term training needs in rural areas; the carbon audit of DTA and the report on the national significance of the cultural heritage of military artefacts on Dartmoor. He commented that there were some significant items where no progress was envisaged unless DSG's influence was brought to bear.

19. *Col Mark Waring* outlined progress on the strategic matching exercise MOD was currently undertaking in examining its training demand against its facilities. It had collected data both on its assets and the training requirements, and developed the necessary software tool. The intention is to undertake an initial test on the matching tool based on the current training requirement and assets, and then, following the Defence Review, repeat the exercise based on the revised training requirement. He advised it was unlikely training demand would decrease in the UK due to the return of units from Germany. The matching tool could be used with a whole series of parameters and one of the intentions was to look at MOD's usage of National Parks across the country. The indications at this stage were that no change was anticipated on Dartmoor due to its main customer being the Royal Marines. The first findings of the exercise were to be presented to the 2 star Defence Estate Management Board in Jan/Feb 2011, following which more granularity would be available to feed back to DWP and more details should be available for the next DSG meeting. *Brig Ged Salzano* advised that following the Comprehensive Spending Review and the Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) announcements there would be a lot of work required to determine the future size and shape of the Armed Forces and it may take from 6 months to a year before the long term implications were realised. He did not anticipate the Royal Marine footprint in the South West changing substantially during this period.

20. *Mr Bill Hitchens* queried whether any pressure could be brought to bear on MOD to progress the carbon audit for its camps. In the light of the pressure on fossil fuels and the likely price increases and availability he felt that it would be sensible to consider the biomass potential which could be a win win option; reduced costs for MOD and increased local economic benefits. *Col Mark Waring* recognised that energy saving works were a great opportunity which the MOD had previously funded. Unfortunately, due to the current economic situation, DTE's bid for such funds this year has been rejected. For the time being therefore, despite a strong desire to invest in such initiatives, there was nothing he could do to progress it. *Mr Bill Hitchens* suggested that this might be something which DSG wanted to raise with Ministers.

21. *Mr Bill Hitchens* wished to thank MOD for the publication of the booklet by Defence Estate on access, however, he was concerned at the delay in revamping the MOD's exhibit at the High Moorland Visitor Centre. *Lt Col Tony Clark* advised that this was due to funding issues but that the work should be completed shortly.

22. *Mr Bill Hitchens* queried Item 4c of the list and whether any progress had been made on the appraisal of extending the 6 week period notification of live firing to 13 weeks. *Lt Col Tony Clark* advised that MOD had difficulty in producing the statistical information as to whether this disadvantaged soldiers' training. He pointed out that the notification period had been improved 3 years ago by extending it from a 2 week to a 6 week notification period and he considered there was no evidence or pressure that it should be extended further. *Dr Kevin Bishop* advised that the advantage of advance warning was in providing a greater degree of certainty of public access. Unfortunately, MOD's Environmental Appraisal had not included an options study to look at all the possibilities. *Col Mark Waring* commented that across DTE the throughput of Priority 1 operational training requirements had changed rapidly in the last 2 years and units required rapid and flexible access to training areas. Dartmoor Training Area was unique across DTE in requiring 6 weeks' notice. In the current situation units were unable to prepare a planned routine programme to comply with an extended notification period. He confirmed he was more than happy to assist in continuing to analyse the issue through DWP. *Mr Bill Hitchens* accepted the position in the current circumstances. *The Chairman* suggested that if the issue were discussed further at DWP, DNPA should attempt to adduce specific evidence of concrete advantages which would accrue from extending the period.

23. *Mr Phil McMahon* advised that English Heritage had been unable to progress Item 12 of the List, which related to reporting on the national significance of military cultural heritage on Dartmoor, due to in-year service cuts. Following the Government's spending review it was anticipated there may be a significant reduction in the capacity to undertake assessments and surveys. He would be meeting with *Lt Col Tony Clark* to look at regionally focused solutions using the resources he could draw upon in his own time and in the regional office so hoped that there may be progress on this matter in future.

24. *The Chairman* draw this Agenda Item to a close by commenting that it had been most constructive and demonstrated the usefulness of the List.

#### ITEM 5: LICENCE RENEWAL

25. **The Renewal/Renegotiation Process.** *Mr Roger Halliday* provided an update on progress with the Duchy licence for MOD to train on Dartmoor. He confirmed that during October 2009 he made a formal recommendation to the Duchy Secretary of the Prince's Council for the new licence. The Duchy's solicitors had produced a first draft in early 2010 which was currently in the process of being agreed with MOD's solicitors but this was a lengthy procedure. Part 2 of the licence would be in the form of a schedule summarising the terms of the licence and setting out the guidelines for the management plan and the way it should be monitored. It was intended that Part 2 would be circulated for comment as soon as it was in a sufficiently advanced draft, hopefully in the near future. A large part of Part 2 would be the skeleton of the guidelines for the management plan being developed by the MOD in the form of the draft Integrated Rural Management Plan (IRMP) which had already been circulated by *Lt Col Tony Clark*. It was hoped that the entire licence would be finalised by this Christmas. In response to a query by *the Chairman*, *Mr Halliday* confirmed that the two parts of the licence would be integrated: Part 1 would be commercial and thus "in confidence" and, where any apparent ambiguity arose between the two, would take precedence. Part 2 is to be made public and is therefore being drafted in more user-friendly English. It will clarify the obligations on MOD in terms of the management of that part of the Dartmoor Training Area that is in the ownership of the Duchy of Cornwall.

26. **The Management Plan.** *Col Mark Waring* reported on progress of the IRMP, which had been circulated on 5 September 2010 for comment. He expressed gratitude to all parties for their contribution in assisting with the drafting. The management plan was a key requirement in terms of developing a partnership on Dartmoor and would be important as funding became increasingly scarce as it would provide the audit trail and visibility to ensure that the available funding from all parties was allocated exactly to where it was most necessary and avoid any wastage. It would need to be a live document that was continually updated as circumstances changed.

27. *Mr Bill Hitchins* commented that the management plan was expected to have due regard for National Park purposes and queried how National Park status was being taken forward in terms of determining priority of projects in Annex C. *Lt Col Tony Clark* advised that these were comments which would form part of the consultation and he anticipated that the National Park status would be included within the examples of 'Very Important' in the Annex C chart. However, he also stated that the MOD's licence obligations set by the Duchy contained at Annex A should actually answer all of the duties that MOD has to the National Park so the issue would be addressed there. *Mr Roger Halliday* advised that Part 2 of the licence set out the guidelines of how the Duchy would expect to see each section of the management plan drawn up. It addressed National Park purposes in that it followed step by step many of the ambitions and goals of the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan.

28. *Mr Richard Bayly* raised the issue of how the restrictions on public expenditure may lead to difficulties in funding the recommendations within the management plan, which led to a lengthy discussion. *Col Mark Waring* advised that as the management plan would be providing a series of agreed priorities to which all interested parties would have signed up, where there were insufficient funds, there would be a clear methodology as to which projects should be prioritised as essential. *Mr Roger Halliday* commented that it would be necessary to

focus on what projects were both most necessary and most affordable and from where funding would come. The Duchy would be recycling income received from the licence and other activities towards conservation and other work on Dartmoor. It would need to look at the cost of works identified as being necessary out of the management plan process, and work with MOD and others to assess budgets for implementing those recommendations from the management plan and undertaking the work. *Mr Richard Bayly* commented that DSG had anticipated that the process of establishing a management plan would create a very stable platform going forward into the future but the stability of that platform may be in part dependent on funds available to the various partner bodies. *Col Mark Waring* commented that now more than ever this demonstrated that the DSG had to work in partnership as a single integrated body with the DNPA, the Duchy, the MOD and others. It was accepted that there were bound to be statutory obligations that MOD were going to be tied to within the licence that it must fulfil. *The Chairman* commented that there was clearly a difficult time ahead and it was important that there was an understanding that it was externalities rather than individuals or bodies which may prevent organisations realising their desired priorities. The DSG could simply use its best endeavours to achieve its aims within the frames of its Terms of Reference.

29. **Lessons Learnt.** *Dr Kevin Bishop* introduced the next topic of the Lessons Learnt exercise and recommendations to Ministers. DWP was in the process of preparing a substantial working draft setting out the principles that should underpin any future licence renewal/renegotiation process. He had prepared a condensed synopsis of the paper which had been circulated to DSG Members to seek their views on whether DWP had identified the right principles for the next licence renewal/renegotiation. There were various issues raised regarding the drafting and *the Chairman* confirmed that it was purely a working paper for this DSG meeting and had no status after the meeting. *Mr Roger Halliday* commented that the lessons learnt exercise was a public sector guidance procedure and was designed to inform the military decision on whether it should seek to renew its licence. The Duchy would take heed of any findings from the process but being a private sector landowner it had its own process for reaching a decision on whether it should issue any new licence to the MOD. *The Chairman* agreed with this and advised that they would need to be careful how they positioned the final draft. He would be reporting to the two Ministers to share DSG's experience of lessons learnt, hopefully on a consensus basis, together with his own thoughts, to recommend how the process, both at stock-taking and at licence renewal, could be usefully informed by the lessons learnt from the last renewal.

30. *The Chairman* referred Members to point 5d. and felt that one of the more useful roles that DSG could play in the exercise, and of which it should be conscious during the intervening years, was in providing an evidence database of its experiences, not only at the moment of licence renewal but during its work over the years. As to drafting, *the Chairman* advised that the language of the executive summary would be crucial. The exercise could not be finalised until completion of the current licence renewal process. He pointed out that the DSG would also wish to be able to comment on all aspects of the re-licensing, including first thoughts about the two part licence as it emerged next year. The DSG took note of progress within DWP and awaited with interest the final completion of the legal documentation and the completion of the relicensing process. The draft recommendations to Ministers would be finalised at the next meeting of the DSG. This delay would also take account of other events including the financial situation and MOD's review of its training requirements. In the meantime, any emerging comments or thoughts should continue to be passed to the Secretariat.

#### ITEM 6: TEN TORS

31. *Brig Steve Hodder* first thanked everyone who had helped 43 (Wx) Bde to make Ten Tors possible. The list was long but the key players included DNPA, Dartmoor Search & Rescue Group, Devon County Council, St John Ambulance and this year a new 4x4 group which enabled some money to be saved by volunteering vehicles to assist on the event. It was very much a team effort and he was grateful for that support. Due to the good weather, of the 397 teams taking part, only 23 teams dropped out, with only 183 individuals not

completing the challenge. The Jubilee Challenge had also been extremely successful with nearly 300 young people taking part.

32. This year Ten Tors had celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and there had been a lot of initiatives to make it a special event, the most important being a visit from HRH Prince Phillip which had gone very well. There had also been a VIP breakfast which had been well attended and the huge support had been much appreciated. Special medals engraved with the number 50 had been awarded. An award system had been introduced which gave long service and dedication awards to volunteers who supported the event. This had been well received and would continue in future. A supper for youth enablers had been held at the Mess to which had been invited the head of every key youth movement within the region including scouts, guides, Devon County Council youth and others. The purpose had been firstly to explain what is done collectively for young people in the region by providing Ten Tors for them and secondly to promote what the army does for youth in particular. This had been well received. Brig Hodder commented that a lot of the food for the weekend had been procured through Dartmoor Farmers Ltd and their support in providing that had been noted and much appreciated. Finally he had advised that they had initiated work into producing a book which Mr Simon Dell had volunteered to write. Initially this was going to be a pamphlet for publication at the 50<sup>th</sup> event, however, due to the volume of material, it had now expanded into a book to be published prior to next year's event and would incorporate material from the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The launch is to be on 13 November 2010 at the Museum of Dartmoor Life in Okehampton.

33. *Brig Steve Hodder* advised that the directing staff were pleased with the introduction this year of GPS trackers, which had been issued to each team at the event, allowing teams to be located in the event of an emergency. The usefulness of them had become apparent as the Ops Room had been able to locate a team which had become lost and required a Dartmoor Search and Rescue Group team to be dispatched. This technology enabled them to provide an extra layer of safety and the system had proved a positive move. The scale of information available in real time was currently under review.

34. *Brig Steve Hodder* advised that the date of the next Ten Tors was 14/15 May 2010 in order not to conflict with a number of other events. He looked forward to Ten Tors helping to celebrate the Dartmoor National Park's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and was keen to work with DNPA on how to best achieve this. The first military planning meeting would be later this month and the Director's meeting on 17 Nov 10 followed by the briefing for team managers on 22 Jan 2011

35. *The Chairman* thanked *Brig Hodder* and his team for a splendid year's Ten Tors and for all the work that went into it. He also thanked him for the readiness to introduce innovations that were likely to be conducive to further safety.

36. *The Chairman* then introduced the subject of the Review of Ten Tors by reminding Members that in 2008 *Brig Jackson* had given an undertaking to carry out a 3 year review. The DWP had produced Terms of Reference for the Review which had been circulated. *Brig Steve Hodder* commented that the question regarding the date for Ten Tors had been comprehensively investigated at the last review and he suggested did not need to be repeated as extensively at the current time. 43 (Wx) Bde fully realised the environmental sensitivity of bird nesting and had put in place rules and regulations to mitigate any risk to that environmental sensitivity. He also advised that his particular key drive for keeping Ten Tors in May was that, as a Brigade they had a wide range of responsibilities which meant that key members of his team were not available to organise Ten Tors at any other time of the year. This situation was unlikely to change. *Dr Kevin Bishop* advised that Ten Tors was the only large-scale recreational event allowed on the moor during the bird breeding season and at the DWP it was clear that the timing of the event was a key concern of DNPA, the Commoners' Council and Natural England. However, the benefits of the event were recognised and he appreciated that it could not be held without the support of 43 (Wx) Bde. He agreed therefore that it would not be a good use of resources at this juncture to re-canvass schools regarding the feasibility of moving the event. It was agreed to delete the second bullet point of the draft Terms of Reference for the 3 year Review which referred to reviewing the timing of event. 43

(Wx) Bde undertook to keep the situation under active review and inform the DSG should the position change.

37. Prof Ian Mercer commented that lambing and calving as well as bird nesting were happening during the Spring. It was agreed that *the Chairman* redraft and circulate for agreement Terms of Reference including an additional reference to this issue.

38. *Mr Maurice Retallick* commented that he appreciated the involvement of the Dartmoor businesses and farmers within the camp and the catering of Ten Tors and wondered whether a similar aspect could be considered outside the camp, enabling the local people to participate and represent Dartmoor. *Mrs Christine Marsh* mentioned one organisation in Okehampton called the Lions which bought locally produced food items and sold these with any profits going to local charities. *Lt Col Tony Clark* advised that restrictions were imposed by DNPA over provision of food outlets outside the camp, although an exception had been made for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. However, DTE's commercial catering partner endeavour to use locally produced food and this would be further encouraged in future. *Brig Steve Hodder* and *Col Mark Waring* advised that they would support as much as possible within the restrictions the provision of refreshments to the huge numbers of supporters who attended the event. *The Chairman* commented that *Mr Retallick* had raised a good and valid point and there was scope for this to be pursued by the DWP as part of the Ten Tors Review.

39. *Mr Bill Hitchins* raised the issue of Ten Tors training which took place outside the official training period and whether there was scope for perhaps a joint initiative between DNPA and MOD to send out a clear message to educational establishments early in the academic year spelling out their requirements about teams taking responsibility in terms of where they go, what they do, adhering to the Countryside Code and so forth. *Brig Steve Hodder* responded that educational establishments were responsible for all pre-training leading up to the event. However, 43 (Wx) Bde did actively encourage teams to develop a progressive training regime at suitable locations elsewhere around the South West. They also controlled and monitored use of the north moor between January and May. He advised that the initial invitations to participate at the 2011 event may have already been dispatched to schools but he would ensure that these would contain details of the DNPA's requirements in future. *Lt Col Peter Mellor* reported that the whole subject of training for Ten Tors was under intense investigation during the inquest of Charlotte Shaw and he felt sure that recommendations would be made. *The Chairman* acknowledged this.

40. *The Chairman* advised that he would circulate revised Terms of Reference taking account of the issues discussed.

#### ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

41. *Mr Bill Hitchins* advised that as part of Dartmoor National Park's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary they would like to develop a programme serving members of the armed forces and/or their families to be hosted at an event on the moor. DNPA appreciated the contribution made by the military and would like to play their part. *Brig Steve Hodder* thanked Mr Hitchins and accepted on behalf of the Army and confirmed he would raise this with the other Services. *The Chairman* praised this as a super initiative which was warmly welcomed by the Group.

#### ITEM 8: DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

42. It was proposed and accepted that the next DSG meeting would be held on 05 Oct 2011 at CTCRM Lymptone.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 1330.