

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE

Friday 6 May 2016

Present: P W Hitchins (Chairman), P Sanders, D Webber

Officers: C Walledge (Monitoring Officer)

163 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies had been received from P Harper. K Ball & T Stapleton (Independent Person) had both been present earlier in the day, but had been unable to stay for the meeting.

164 Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2015 were signed as a correct record.

165 Declarations of Interest

None.

166 Public Participation

None.


167 Monitoring Officer's Update

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that no formal complaints under the Code of Conduct had been received.

The Monitoring Officer reminded Members that the recruitment process in 2015 had only resulted in one applicant coming forward and that it would still be desirable to appoint a second Independent Person. An advertisement in the Western Morning News (current vacancies) and linked website would cost £1,000. It was agreed that given the poor response rate in 2015 this would not constitute a good use of public money.

One potential applicant had come forward and may be suitable for appointment, but he will not be available until after his retirement on 31 July 2016.

It would be desirable (although not essential) to make an appointment by the Annual Meeting on 1 July 2016.

Signed  Date 2/11/16

Members suggested that details of the vacancy be circulated to Parish Council clerks, to invite applications from the communities on Dartmoor.

168 Standards Sub-Committee Annual Report

Members discussed the draft Annual Report circulated by the Monitoring Officer. The purpose of the Annual Report is to set out the activities of the Standards Sub-Committee over the preceding 12 months and give an indication of proposed areas of activity for the forthcoming year. Following presentation to the Authority at the Annual Meeting on 1 July 2016, it would be uploaded onto the Authority's website for public viewing.

Members resolved to adopt the draft Annual Report

169 Observation Reports

The Monitoring Officer advised Members that a number of observation reports had been completed and submitted by the Independent Person. There were a large number of instances of good practice observed and no matters recorded which gave rise to concern.

170 Date of Next Meeting

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the next meeting would be on Friday 4 November 2016 on the rising of the Audit & Governance committee.

The meeting closed at 4.45pm.

Signed  Date 2/11/16