



NPA/20/022

Dartmoor National Park Authority

4 September 2020

Appointments to the Dartmoor Commoners' Council

Report of the Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

Recommendation : That Members confirm the appointment of Penny Warren as one of two land owner representatives as required by the Dartmoor Commons Act 1985 section 3(2d)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Dartmoor Commons Act 1985 established the Dartmoor Commoners' Council and laid down the arrangements for its future working, including the appointment of members. The primary purposes of the Council are to maintain the commons of Dartmoor, to promote standards of livestock husbandry on the commons and to regulate public access.
- 1.2 The Commoners' Council comprises a minimum of 26 members and a maximum of 28 members at any one time. The appointment of members – in terms of who may appoint, how many and to represent which interests – is prescribed by the Dartmoor Commons Act 1985.
- 1.3 The Act provides for the Authority to appoint four persons to the Commoners' Council:
 - two to represent the National Park Authority, one of whom shall be a person appointed by the Secretary of State;
 - two people “appearing to represent the interests of owners (other than the Duchy of Cornwall and the Park Authority) of lands forming part of the commons.”
- 1.4 One of two land owner representatives appointed by the Authority (Jonathan Aylett) has resigned his position on the Council as he has retired from his role as an active land agent representing Dartmoor common land owners.
- 1.5 We have consulted with the Dartmoor Common Owners' Association who have recommended the appointment of Penny Warren. Mrs Warren is a common landowner. She has indicated that she would be willing to accept this appointment if confirmed .

2 Sustainability and Impact Assessment

2.1 The Authority will treat all nominations equally.

3 Financial

3.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Authority. The landowner representatives are not paid any allowance or mileage by the Authority for attending meetings.

4 Conclusion and Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended that Members confirm the appointment of Penny Warren as a landowner representative on the Dartmoor Commoners' Council with immediate effect, for a period of office that will expire at the end of June 2024. It is also recommended that the Authority record its thanks to Mr Jonathan Aylett for his work as a member of the Council.

KEVIN BISHOP