



Dartmoor National Park Authority, Parke, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 9JQ. T: 01626 832093 E: hq@dartmoor.gov.uk

To: All Members
of the Dartmoor National Park Authority

Please quote: NPA/26/Agenda

Tel: (Direct Line) 01626 832093

All press enquiries Communications Team;

email: communications@dartmoor.gov.uk

Date: 25 June 2026

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY ANNUAL MEETING

Friday 03 July 2026

The annual meeting of the Authority will be held on the above date commencing at **11.00am, or on the rising of the Development Management Committee Meeting, whichever is the later, in the Ian Mercer Meeting Room at Parke, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9JQ** to consider the following matters.

Registered speakers are able to participate remotely or in person by following [our procedure](#).

Members of the public are advised to follow proceedings by listening to the live audio of meetings: [Channel content - YouTube Studio](#)

Tom Surrey
Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

Access to Information - Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

Agenda and Reports

Copies of the Agenda and Part I reports are available for inspection by members of the public on the Authority's website: [Authority Meetings | Dartmoor](#). They are also available at the Authority's main office at Parke, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9JQ during [office opening times](#) five clear days prior to the meeting.

Background Papers

The Background Papers relating to Part I reports, except any containing exempt information, are available on our website [Meetings and committees | Dartmoor](#).

Will Dracup Chair Tom Surrey Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

The purposes of the Dartmoor National Park Authority are to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the area's special qualities.

In pursuing these purposes, the Authority has a duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of the local community.

 www.dartmoor.gov.uk

 Dartmoor National Park

 Dartmoor National Park Authority

AGENDA

PART I - OPEN PROCEEDINGS

- 1 **Election of Chair - Authority**
- 2 **Election of Deputy Chair - Authority**
- 3 **Apologies and Declarations of Interest**
- 4 **Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees & Working Panels** (Page 3)
 - Development Management Committee
 - Audit and Governance Committee
 - Standards Sub-Committee
 - Park Management Working Panel
 - Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel
- 5 **Election of Chair and Deputy Chair – Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Panels**
 - Development Management Committee
 - Audit and Governance Committee
 - Standards Sub-Committee
 - Park Management Working Panel
 - Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel
- 6 **Appointment to Working Groups** (Page 5)
 - Chair's Advisory Group
 - Chief Executive Performance Review Group
- 7 **Appointments to Outside Bodies 2026/27** (Page 6)

To appoint Representatives to Outside Bodies for the next 12 months
- 8 **Calendar of Meetings 2026/27** (Page 10)

To agree the calendar of meetings

PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED.

Nil

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Membership: W Dracup, M Fife Cook, J Galbenu, G Hill, M Jeffery, R Keeling, J Major, S Morgan, C Mott, J Nutley, M Owen, G Pannell, M Renders, S Rogers, M Seddon, P Smerdon, D Thomas, M Williams, P Woods*

** subject to confirmation of extension to term of appointment*

MEMBER APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, WORKING PANELS 2026/27

Committee/Working Panel/Group	2025/26 Member	Expressions of interest
Development Management Committee Consisting of every Member of the Authority, unless they shall signify in writing that they do not wish to serve on the Committee. To exercise the Authority's development management functions as follows: - as a planning authority and mineral planning authority for Dartmoor National Park; - as the relevant authority under Parts I, II and III of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990; and - as the relevant authority for the purposes of the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011.	Mr William Dracup Mr Michael Fife Cook Mrs Gay Hill Mr Mike Jeffery Miss Julia Galbenu Mr Richard Keeling Mr Jack Major Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Owen Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Mr Stuart Rogers Dr Mary Seddon Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Daniel Thomas Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods	Mr William Dracup Mr Michael Fife Cook Mrs Gay Hill Mr Mike Jeffery Mr Richard Keeling Mr Jack Major Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Owen Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Mr Stuart Rogers Dr Mary Seddon Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Daniel Thomas Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods* <i>* subject to confirmation of extension to term of appointment</i>
Audit & Governance Committee Consisting of Ten Members, of whom at least one is a local authority Member and one a Member appointed to the Authority by the Secretary of State. The functions of the Audit & Governance Committee: - to exercise such powers and decision-making duties as may be delegated to the committee by the Authority; - to scrutinise the activity of the Authority with particular reference to audit, governance, risk management, performance management and use of resources (including financial and human); - to maintain a sub-committee to deal with Standards issues; - to provide assurance to and make recommendations to the Authority, its committees and sub-committees as appropriate; - to report its findings and confirm the level of assurance that has received [In-year] to the whole Authority (via committee minutes, reviewed at Authority meetings, or other reports as determined); - to consider any relevant issue referred to it by the Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer, Head of Internal Audit or External Audit The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority shall be ex officio members.	Mr William Dracup Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Owen Mr Mark Renders Dr Mary Seddon Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods	Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Owen Mr Mark Renders Dr Mary Seddon Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Mark Williams Ex-officio Members: Chair Deputy Chair

Standards Sub-Committee Consisting of Six members of the Audit & Governance Committee, of whom at least two shall be Members appointed by a local authority. The functions of the Standards sub-committee are: • to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members; • to advise the Authority on the adoption of a Code of Conduct pursuant to s.27(2) Localism Act 2010; • to assist Members to observe the Code of Conduct ; • to consider and determine complaints under the Code of Conduct. * Members agreed to increase to seven for 2024/2025	Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Renders Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods Ex-officio Members: Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders	Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Renders Mr Mark Williams Ex-officio Members: Chair Deputy Chair
Park Management Working Panel The Panel will meet to consider matters relevant to policy, priorities and performance in relation to the Authority's statutory conservation and understanding and enjoyment purposes. The Panel is not a decision-making forum but aims to facilitate greater member involvement in policy development and the monitoring of delivery. There is no limit on the number of Members who can attend/be part of the Panel.	Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr John Nutley Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Dr Mary Seddon Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods	Mrs Gay Hill Miss Julia Galbenu Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Dr Mary Seddon Mr Mark Owen Mr Mark Williams
Planning & Sustainable Development Working Panel The Panel will meet to consider the work of the Authority relevant to its planning functions and engagement with socio-economic issues. The Panel is not a decision-making forum but aims to facilitate greater member involvement in policy development and the monitoring of delivery. There is no limit on the number of Members who can attend/be part of the Panel.	Mr Peter Harper Mrs Gay Hill Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr John Nutley Mr Mark Renders Dr Mary Seddon Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Dan Thomas Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods	Mrs Sally Morgan Mrs Caroline Mott Mr John Nutley Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Mark Williams

Chair's Advisory Group (CAG) Membership As determined by the Authority at its Annual Meeting, and usually: • Chair & Deputy Chair of the Authority (ex officio) • Chair of the Development Management Committee • Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee • Chair of the Park Management Working Panel • Chair of the Planning & Sustainable Development Working Panel • Chief Executive (National Park Officer) • Other Officers or Members by invitation of the Chair of the Authority Remit 1. to provide an informal forum for the exchange of information, discussion and debate on matters relating to the Authority 2. to facilitate greater member involvement on all matters relevant to the Authority 3. to provide an opportunity for early consideration of matters likely to come before future Authority meetings 4. to provide a forum for panels and committees to highlight or raise issues they believe require fuller debate	Dr Kevin Bishop Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders Mrs Caroline Mott Mrs Sally Morgan Mr Peter Harper Mr Peter Smerdon	To be determined by the Authority at the Annual Meeting
Chief Executive Performance Review Group (3) The purpose of the Committee is to carry out the target setting, performance review and appraisal functions in respect of the Chief Executive. The Review Group normally comprises the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and the Chair of Development Management Committee.	Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders Mrs Caroline Mott	To be determined by the Authority at the Annual Meeting

MEMBER APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2026/2027

Please Note: When an appointed Member representative is unable to attend a meeting, that Member will be required to contact the appointed substitute Member direct, at the earliest opportunity, to arrange for the substitute Member to attend the meeting in their absence.

Body/Group	2025/26 Member	Expressions of Interest
Campaign for National Parks (1) The Campaign for National Parks is a charity that works to protect and enhance the National Parks and areas that merit national park status, and to promote understanding and quiet enjoyment of them. (The member is invited by the Campaign, but approved by the Authority)	Mrs Caroline Mott Dr Mary Seddon (Substitute)	Mrs Caroline Mott Chair (Substitute)
Dartmoor Access Forum (2) The Local Access Forum is a statutory advisory body established by the DNPA in accordance with the requirements of the CROW Act 2000. The Forum meets four times a year. At least one member should be a serving member of the Park Management Working Panel.	Mrs Sally Morgan Mr Mark Owen	Miss J Galbenu Mr Mark Owen
Dartmoor Commoners' Council (1 Member plus a substitute) The Dartmoor Commoners' Council was set up under the provisions of the 1985 Dartmoor Commons Act, to regulate agricultural use of the commons. It consists of representatives of the commoners, the DNPA, the Duchy of Cornwall, common land owners and a Veterinarian Surgeon. It meets eight times a year.	Mr William Dracup (it was agreed not to appoint a substitute Member)	Mr William Dracup
Dartmoor Hill Farm Project Steering Group (1) The DNPA has secured funding from a variety of sources to extend work of the Dartmoor Hill Farm Project. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to the viability of farm businesses on Dartmoor in ways that help sustain the special qualities of the National Park. In the coming year there will be a review of the project and associated steering group.	Mr Mark Williams	Mr Mark Williams
Dartmoor Rural Crime Initiative (5) A joint initiative with Devon and Cornwall Police and other partners. It is recommended that the four Secretary of State Parish Members are appointed as 'community representatives' plus the Chair of the Authority. It is proposed to meet twice a year.	Mr William Dracup Mrs Gay Hill Mr Mark Renders Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Mark Williams Ms Pamela Woods	Mr William Dracup Mrs Gay Hill Mr Mark Renders Mr Peter Smerdon Mr Mark Williams

Dartmoor Steering Group (3) The Steering Group was set up by Parliament following the 1975/76 inquiry conducted by Lady Sharp into the military training use of Dartmoor. Its purpose is to reconcile the (sometimes) competing interests of military training and national park designation and to seek ways of minimising the adverse impact of the training requirement at any one time. More recently the Group has focussed in a positive way on conservation and access benefits of the Defence Estate on Dartmoor. It consists of representatives of all the military interest, the DNPA, the Duchy of Cornwall, Natural England, Historic England and the Dartmoor Commoners' Council. It is served by the Dartmoor Working Party comprised of officers of the DNPA, MoD and other bodies. The Steering Group reports to the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry for Defence. It meets annually. (It is customary for the Chair and Deputy Chair to take two of these seats)	Mr William Dracup Mrs Caroline Mott Dr Mary Seddon	Mrs Caroline Mott Chair Deputy Chair
Dartmoor Trust (1) The Dartmoor Trust has one DNPA Member representative on the Board of Management. The purposes of the Trust closely reflect National Park purposes. The Trust was established by the DNPA as an independent charitable Trust in the early 1990s in order to harness public and other donations for the good of Dartmoor.	Dr Mary Seddon	Dr Mary Seddon
Dartmoor's Dynamic Landscapes Executive Board (1) DDL is a partnership bringing the Authority together alongside a number of partners to deliver the National Lottery heritage funded programme from 2025 until 2030. The partnership has a landscape focus on Dartmoor's river catchments of the Okement, the Dart and the Erme & Yealm. The programme also has a particular focus on the communities of Okehampton, Princetown and Ivybridge. Requirement: Chair of the Authority to Chair the Executive Board which meets four times per annum. A named member should be identified as a substitute.	Mr William Dracup Dr Mary Seddon (Substitute)	Mrs Caroline Mott Dr Mary Seddon Chair + Substitute
Devon Communities Together (1) Devon Communities Together (former Community Council for Devon) exists to promote local community interests. Member representation is required only at the Annual Conference and the Annual General Meeting.	Mr Peter Smerdon	Mr Peter Smerdon
Joint Advisory Committee on Provision of Housing for Local Needs (3) This is a joint advisory committee of the three District Councils in the National Park, the DNPA, Devon Communities Together and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). It exists to co-ordinate the planning functions of the NPA with the housing functions of the other bodies. It meets twice a year and is chaired by an Authority Member. <i>This committee has not met over the past two years; no plans to hold a meeting over the Local Plan making period. However, it will be needed in later years. Appointments to be made in 2026/27 so these are in place if and when required.</i>	Mrs Gay Hill Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Mr Mark Williams Mr Jack Major	Mrs Gay Hill Mr Guy Pannell Mr Mark Renders Mr Mark Williams Mr Jack Major

Land Availability Assessment Panel (3) The Land Availability Assessment (LAA) Panel is set up to consider land submitted to the Call for Sites for the Local Plan. The Panel comprises professionals in their field such as land and estate agents, small and large developers, the Environment Agency and Highways Agency. Three Community Representatives, appointed from the Authority, may also attend the Panel. The purpose of the Panel is to consider whether a potential housing or employment site may be technically deliverable. <i>* It is proposed that two Members are appointed to this panel, providing an appropriate balance of Members/Officers.</i>	Mrs Gay Hill Mr Guy Pannell Mr Peter Smerdon	Mrs Gay Hill Mr Guy Pannell Mr Peter Smerdon
Meldon Viaduct Company (1) In February 1999, the Meldon Viaduct Company was set up for the sole purpose of safeguarding and maintaining the Viaduct to ensure its future as a monument to Victorian engineering and as a valuable recreational resource. The appointed member will sit on the Board of Directors along with representatives from the Aggregate Industries Limited, Dartmoor Railway, Sustrans, and the County and Borough Councils. The group meets quarterly.	Mrs Caroline Mott	Mrs Caroline Mott
National Parks England (1) A limited Company established by the ten English National Park Authorities to represent their views and promote their needs at a national level. The Directors of the Company are the respective Chairs of the National Park Authorities.	Mr William Dracup	Chair
National Parks Partnerships Limited (1) <i>A limited liability partnership established by all 15 UK National Parks as a vehicle to secure commercial sponsorship to fund conservation and recreation projects in the National Parks. It is recommended that the Chair of the Authority is formally appointed to the Partnership Board, as the Authority's representative, with the Chief Executive (National Park Officer) acting as a deputy. The Board will meet once a year.</i>	Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders (Substitute) (Mr Peter Harper will continue as informal adviser for continuity purposes)	Chair

Team Devon Joint Committee (1 plus a substitute) Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives) have established this Joint Committee to formalise the existing partnership that would create opportunities to strengthen joint work, partnership and collaboration. The Joint Committee will focus on how Devon's National Park Authorities, parish, town, district and county councils will work jointly on shared priorities for the benefit of people and places across the county. The functions of the Joint Committee will be to: Support continuous improvement and value for money in the ways that Devon's National Park Authorities, parish, town, district and county councils exercise their duties and responsibilities through, for example, aligning performance measures and sharing or integrating services. Contribute strategically to the environmental, economic and social wellbeing objectives for Devon's people and communities. The Chair of the Authority will be the Authority's representative on the Team Devon Joint Committee and that the Deputy Chair of the Authority will substitute for the Chair on the Team Devon Joint Committee. <i>NB. Team Devon has not met formally and is unlikely to do so due to local government reorganisation.</i> <i>However, Devon County Council appointed to it at their AGM, so it is proposed that the Authority follows suit.</i>	Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders (Substitute)	Chair Deputy Chair (substitute)
Dartmoor Partnership Plan Board (1) The Dartmoor Partnership Plan outlines the strategic oversight to shape the future of Dartmoor, aiming for a climate-resilient and nature-rich environment by 2045. The Board's role includes ensuring alignment with statutory purposes, collaboration, monitoring, and promoting the plan effectively. The Partnership Board, comprising representatives from various organisations, focus is on strategic leadership, collaboration, monitoring progress, data collection, and consensus building to support the Dartmoor Partnership Plan's development. The Board meets quarterly (4 meetings per year) to discuss the plan's progress, with the Dartmoor National Park Authority facilitating the meetings and maintaining oversight of the plan's production and monitoring. The Chair of the Authority will be appointed to the Board, with the Deputy Chair acting as substitute.	Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Renders (Substitute)	Chair Deputy Chair (substitute)
Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) Assessment Panel (2) FiPL is a ring-fenced grant from DEFRA which is administered by the Authority. It offers grants to farmers and farmer groups and has been extended for this financial year.	Mr William Dracup Mr Peter Harper Mr Mark Williams (to replace Mr Harper at the end of his term of office)	Mr William Dracup Mr Mark Owen

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2026-27

Meetings of the **Authority**, its **Development Management Committee** and **Audit and Governance Committee** will be held on the dates and at the times shown below. Meetings of the **Standards Sub-Committee** will take place in November and June each year, immediately after the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee. All Members are welcome to attend meetings of the Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel and the Park Management Working Panel.

**Meetings open to the public*

July 2026		
3 July 2026	Annual Authority Meeting* (10.00am)	Parke
3 July 2026	Authority Meeting*	Parke
24 July 2026	National Park Forum (2.00pm)	Parke
August 2026		
<i>No meetings scheduled</i>		
September 2026		
4 September 2026	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
4 September 2026	Authority Meeting* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
11 September 2026	Annual Member Workshop	TBC
18 September 2026	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
25 September 2026	Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel	Parke
October 2026		
2 October 2026	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
9 October 2026	Park Management Working Panel – All Day Tour	On Site
16 October 2026	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
November 2026		
6 November 2026	Authority Meeting* (10:00am)	Parke
6 November 2026	Audit & Governance Committee* (on rising of Authority)	Parke
6 November 2026	Standards Sub-Committee* (on rising of A&G committee)	Parke
12 November 2026	National Park Forum (2.00pm)	Parke
December 2026		
4 December 2026	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
4 December 2026	Authority Meeting* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
9 December 2026	DNPA Conference	On Site
11 December 2026	Planning & Sustainable Development Working Panel	Parke
18 December 2026	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2026-27

January 2027		
<i>No meetings scheduled</i>		
February 2027		
5 February 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
5 February 2027	Audit & Governance Committee* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
12 February 2027	Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel	Parke
19 February 2027	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
March 2027		
5 March 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
5 March 2027	Authority Meeting* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
19 March 2027	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
April 2027		
30 April 2027	Park Management Working Panel	Parke
May 2027		
7 May 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
7 May 2027	Authority Meeting* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
14 May 2027	Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel	Parke
21 May 2027	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
June 2027		
4 June 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
4 June 2027	Audit & Governance Committee* (on rising of DM committee)	Parke
4 June 2027	Standards Sub-Committee* (on rising of A&G committee)	Parke
16 June 2027	Team Dartmoor Day	On Site
18 June 2027	Planning & Sustainable Development Working Panel – All Day Tour	On Site
25 June 2027	Site Inspection (if needed)	On Site
July 2027		
2 July 2027	Annual Authority Meeting*	Parke
2 July 2027	Authority Meeting*	Parke
23 July 2027	National Park Forum (2.00pm)	Parke
August 2027		
<i>No meetings scheduled</i>		

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2026-27

September 2027		
3 September 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
3 September 2027	Authority Meeting* <i>(on rising of DM committee)</i>	Parke
10 September 2027	Annual Member Workshop	TBC
17 September 2027	Site Inspection <i>(if needed)</i>	On Site
24 September 2027	Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel	Parke
October 2027		
1 October 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
8 October 2027	Park Management Working Panel – All Day Tour	On Site
15 October 2027	Site Inspection <i>(if needed)</i>	On Site
November 2027		
5 November 2027	Authority Meeting* (10:00am)	Parke
5 November 2027	Audit & Governance Committee* <i>(on rising of Authority)</i>	Parke
5 November 2027	Standards Sub-Committee* <i>(on rising of A&G committee)</i>	Parke
11 November 2027	National Park Forum (2.00pm)	Parke
December 2027		
3 December 2027	Development Management Committee* (10.00am)	Parke
3 December 2027	Authority Meeting* <i>(on rising of DM committee)</i>	Parke
8 December 2027	DNPA Conference	On Site
17 December 2027	Site Inspection <i>(if needed)</i>	On Site