

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

ANNUAL MEETING

Friday 7 July 2017

Present: K Ball, W Cann, A Cooper, G Gribble, P Hitchins, M Jeffery, J McInnes,
D Moyse, N Oakley, M Retallick, P Sanders, D Webber, P Woods

Apologies: S Barker, J Christophers, S Hill, C Pannell

The Chief Executive (National Park Officer) informed the meeting that under Standing Orders it falls with him to preside over the first item of business, namely the election of Chairman. Once elected, the Chairman will take conduct of the remainder of the meeting.

3267 Election of Chairman

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the meeting that two separate written nominations, both of which had been seconded, had been received for Mr P Hitchins. No other nominations had been received. Mr Hitchins confirmed his willingness to stand for election and thanked Members for their confidence and support.

RESOLVED:

Mr Hitchins was elected to serve as Chairman until the next Annual Meeting.

3268 Election of Deputy Chairman

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the meeting that two written nominations had been received for Mr M Retallick. No other nomination was received. Mr Retallick confirmed his willingness to stand for election and thanked the Chairman and Members for their continued confidence and support.

RESOLVED:

Mr Retallick was elected to serve as Deputy Chairman until the next Annual Meeting.

3269 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

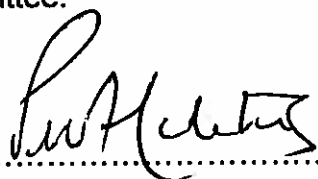
Apologies were received from Mr Barker, Mr Christophers, Mr Hill and Mrs Pannell.

3270 Appointments to Committees, Sub-committees and Working Panels

Development Management Committee

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services reported that no written notifications had been received from any Member to signify that they did not wish to serve on the Committee.

Signed



Date

28.7.17

RESOLVED:

All Members were appointed to serve on the Development Management Committee until the next Annual meeting.

Audit and Governance Committee

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised that there was a requirement for ten Members to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee to include at least one local authority Member and one Member appointed by the Secretary of State. Expressions of interest had been received from Mr Hitchins, Mrs Pannell, Mr Sanders and Ms Woods. Mr Ball, Mr Cooper, Mr Gribble, Mr Hill, Mr McInnes, Mr Retallick and Mr Webber expressed an interest to serve on the committee. It was confirmed that Mr Hitchins and Mr Retallick would be ex officio Members of the committee, leaving sufficient spaces for the 9 other Members who wished to serve.

RESOLVED:

Mr Ball, Mr Cooper, Mr Gribble, Mr Hill, Mr Hitchins, Mr McInnes, Mrs Pannell, Mr Retallick, Mr Sanders, Mr Webber and Ms Woods were elected to serve on the Audit and Governance Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

Standards Sub-Committee

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised that there was a requirement for five Members of the Audit and Governance Committee to sit on the Standards Sub-Committee, of whom at least two Members shall be appointed to the Authority by a local authority. Expressions of interest had been received from Mr Sanders and Mr Webber. Mr Ball, Mr Cooper and Ms Woods indicated their willingness to serve on the sub-committee.

RESOLVED:

Mr Ball, Mr Cooper, Mr Sanders, Mr Webber and Ms Woods were elected to serve on the Standards Sub-Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

Park Management Working Panel

The appointment of Members who had indicated an interest, as set out in the report, with the addition of Mr Ball, Mr Cooper and Mr Retallick was proposed.

RESOLVED:

Mr Ball, Mr Cann, Mr Cooper, Mr McInnes, Miss Moyse, Mrs Oakley, Mr Retallick, Mr Sanders and Mr Webber were appointed to serve on the Park Management Working Panel until the next Annual Meeting.

Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel

The appointment of Members who had indicated an interest, as set out in the report, with the addition of Mr Cooper and Mr Gribble was proposed.

Signed

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28.7.17

RESOLVED:

Mr Cann, Mr Cooper, Mr Gribble, Mr Hitchins, Mr McInnes, Miss Moyse, Mr Sanders, Mr Webber and Ms Woods were appointed to serve on the Planning and Sustainable Working Panel until the next Annual Meeting.

3271 Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman – Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Panels

Chairman – Development Management Committee

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the meeting that no nominations had been received. Mr McInnes was nominated by Mr Hitchins. No other nomination was made. Mr McInnes confirmed his willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Mr McInnes was duly elected to serve as Chairman of the Development Management Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

Deputy Chairman – Development Management Committee

Mr Sanders was nominated by Mr Hitchins. No other nomination was made. Mr Sanders confirmed his willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Mr Sanders was duly elected to serve as Deputy Chairman of the Development Management Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

Chairman – Audit and Governance Committee

Mr Hitchins nominated Mr Ball, which was seconded by Mr Gribble. No other nomination was made. Mr Ball confirmed his willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Mr Ball was duly elected to serve as Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

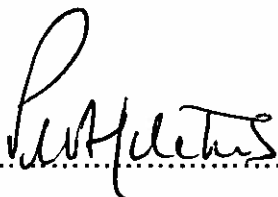
Deputy Chairman – Audit and Governance Committee

Mr Hitchins nominated Ms Woods, which was seconded by Mr Ball. No other nomination was made. Ms Woods confirmed her willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Ms Woods was duly elected to serve as Deputy Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

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Date

28.7.17

Chairman - Standards Sub-Committee

Mr Ball nominated Mr Cooper, which was seconded by Mr Sanders. No other nomination was made. Mr Cooper confirmed his willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Mr Cooper was duly elected to serve as Chairman of the Standards Sub-Committee until the next Annual Meeting.

Chairman - Park Management Working Panel

Mr Retallick nominated Mrs Oakley, which was seconded by Mr Ball. No other nomination was made. Mrs Oakley confirmed her willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Mrs Oakley was duly elected to serve as Chairman of the Park Management Working Panel until the next Annual Meeting.

Chairman - Planning and Sustainable Development Working Panel

Mr Hitchins nominated Ms Woods, which was seconded by Mr Retallick. No other nomination was made. Ms Woods confirmed her willingness to stand for election.

RESOLVED:

Ms Woods was duly elected to serve as Chairman of the Planning and Sustainable Working Panel until the next Annual Meeting.

3272 Appointments to Working Groups

Local Plan Steering Group

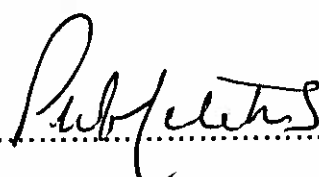
The appointment of Members who had indicated an interest, as set out in the report, with the addition of Mr Jeffery and Mr Gribble, was proposed. It was further proposed to invite Mr Christophers to serve on the group.

RESOLVED:

Mr Gribble, Mr Hitchins, Mr Jeffery, Mr McInnes, Miss Moyse, Mr Sanders and Ms Woods were appointed to serve on the Local Plan Steering Group until the next Annual Meeting. Mr Christophers would also be invited to confirm his availability to serve on the group.

Chairman's Advisory Group

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised Members that Standing Orders anticipate a convention that the membership of this group will fall to the various Chairmen of the Authority's Committees and Working Panels. Members indicated that they wished to continue to apply this convention.

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Mr Ball, Mr Hitchins, Mr McInnes, Mrs Oakley, Mr Retallick and Ms Woods were appointed to serve, alongside the Chief Executive (National Park Officer), on the Chairman's Advisory Group until the next Annual Meeting.

Membership is determined by the Authority at the Annual Meeting and usually consists of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Authority and Chairman of Development Management Committee.

Mr Hitchins, Mr McInnes and Mr Retallick were appointed to serve on the Chief Executive Performance Review Group until the next Annual Meeting.

Two expressions of interest from Mrs Oakley and Mr Sanders had been received prior to the meeting. Mr Cooper and Mr Jeffery expressed their interest to serve on the Group, which was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:
Mr Cooper, Mr Jeffery, Mrs Oakley and Mr Sanders were appointed to serve on the Postbridge Visitor Centre Working Group until the next Annual Meeting.

Members considered the appointments to outside bodies for 2017/18.

Members were appointed to represent the Authority on outside bodies until the next Annual meeting as per the attached schedule.

Members considered the Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18.

The Chief Executive (National Park Officer) highlighted that it was proposed that all Development Management Committee meetings would commence at 10.00am. The experiment with meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee commencing at 10.00am and Development Management Committee commencing at 11.30am, had not proved to be entirely successful. Statute requires the first meeting of the Authority held after 31 May to be the Annual Meeting and the Authority's Statement of Accounts are required to be approved by 31 July. Therefore, Members' attention was drawn to the change in meeting dates for June and July 2018.

Members were advised that the role and remit of the Authority's Audit and Governance Committee is likely to be reviewed in the next 12 months.

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Date 28.7.17

A request from one Member to move the June 2018 date for Park Management Working Panel to May 2018 was noted.

A Member expressed some concern regarding the calendar for 2019, due to local authority elections and the Secretary of State Parish Member election process. The Chief Executive (National Park Officer) confirmed that the calendar of meetings is reviewed each year.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18.

3275 Local Plan Review : Local Development Scheme Update

Members considered the report of the Forward Planning Manager (NPA/17/029).

The Forward Planning Manager advised Members that the Local Development Scheme confirms the revised timetable for the Local Development Plan review. He drew their attention to some of the key milestones for preparation of the Local Plan:

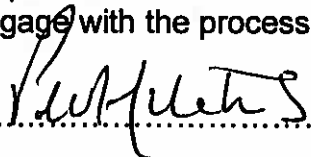
- Spring 2018 – direction of travel paper to go before Members to determine key policy areas;
- Summer 2018 – first full draft Local Plan for public consultation;
- Summer 2019 – final draft of Local Plan, together with comments from external consultees and public to be submitted to the Secretary of State.

'Quick Guides' are being introduced to provide easy to follow information to clarify the work being undertaken as part of the Local Plan process. The first of these relating to the evidence base to be collected has been produced and was made available to Members. A further two guides regarding the allocation of sites and housing numbers are to be produced in the future.

In answer to a number of queries raised by Members, the Forward Planning Manager responded as follows:

- The existing Local Plan will continue to be used until the revised Local Plan has been approved; there is no end date, but the Plan is only ever as robust as the evidence which supports it. National Policy moves on, hence the review.
- Impact on Parish Council Neighbourhood Plans – with regard to those Parish Councils which are in the process of preparing their plan, the revised timetable will not impact on them as issues will be dealt with as and when they arise in order to meet with strategic policy. For those Parish Councils assessing the merits of whether to proceed, they will be given the Local Plan timetable; their proposals will be considered and some of their ideas are likely to be incorporated into the Local Plan.
- With regard to the consultation which is with Parish and Town Councils, the response to the Issues Paper was disappointing. It is important for Councils to engage with the process as early as possible. The recent workshop was well

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Date

28.7.17

attended and Parish Councils have plenty of time to respond to the current consultation specifically with them. Members are encouraged to remind Parish Councils of the importance of getting involved.

- Use of Social Media - There is a dedicated facebook page and twitter account regarding the Local Plan Review. The challenge is getting community accounts to follow them. A Member commented that this could be something that Members could work on.
- More should be done to engage the smaller parishes – the current consultation is inclusive of all parishes, large or small. The only way to address this issue is for more parishes to respond and get involved.

Some suggestions/ideas from Members were welcomed:

- Evening meetings to be held with several local Parish Councils at a time, rather than holding large 'bulk' meetings. This would also ensure full consultation which could be easily demonstrated at the examination stage.
- There could be a role for Parish Clerks in the process. A suggestion of gathering clerks together as one group was well received.
- As well as social media, 'low tech' mechanisms should continue to be used to get parishes involved e.g. parish magazine, local newsletters etc.

Mr Sanders proposed the recommendation, which was seconded by Mr Retallick.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the updated Local Development Scheme and revised timetable.

3276 Affordable Housing

The Forward Planning Manager reminded Members that in November 2014, the Ministerial Statement stated that no authority could insist on the provision of affordable housing on developments of 10 dwellings or less. With regard to rural areas, the rules were slightly different – with regard to developments of between 6 – 10 units a financial contribution could be made a requirement. This would not be the case for developments of 1 – 5 units.

Since DNPA adopted an Interim Statement in June 2016 to make clear our position, there have been a number of appeals which have tested the Written Ministerial Statement and the position has now changed.

Planning Inspectorate advice is that the Local Plan does have primacy and should be the starting point for every decision; however, all applications are individual and not all of them are clear cut. The Interim Ministerial Statement of November 2014 should be treated as a material planning consideration in individual cases.

It was noted that DNPA's Interim Statement may not now be helpful for applicants given the position had evolved. Members were requested to rescind the Statement, but to retain, where appropriate, the threshold of developments of five units.

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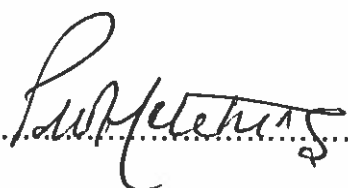
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Following discussion, Mr Sanders proposed that the matter be deferred and that a report be taken to the next Authority meeting on 28 July 2017 for determination, which was seconded by Mr McInnes.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed that the matter be DEFERRED and a report be taken to the next Authority meeting on 28 July 2017.

Signed



Date

