

# Dartmoor National Park Authority

## Public Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 7 November 2025

**Present:** Will Dracup (Chair), Michael Fife Cook, Julia Galbenu, Gay Hill, Jack Major, Sally Morgan, Mark Owen, Mark Williams, Mary Seddon, Guy Pannell, Mark Renders, Stuart Rogers, Peter Smerdon, Pamela Woods, Corinne Farrell (Independent Person)

**Apologies:** Mike Jeffery, Richard Keeling, Caroline Mott, John Nutley, Dan Thomas

**Officers in attendance:** Kevin Bishop (Chief Executive (National Park Officer), Dean Kinsella (Head of Spatial Planning), Liz Payne (Senior Planning Policy Officer), Honey Green (Assistant Planning Policy Officer & Climate Officer), Su Layfield (Business Support – Minutes)

### 3717 Declarations of Interest

None

### 3718 Minutes of the Authority meeting held on 3 October 2025

The public minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2025, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 3719 Chair's Report

The Chair reported that there had been 88 applications for the position of National Park Officer (Chief Executive) for the Authority. The Chair extended a formal thank you to all of them for their interest in the post..

The Chair also reported that he attended the National Parks Partnership AGM at which topics included plans for Corporate Sponsorship.

We have been gifted a print from Peter Harper to commemorate the partnership we set up with Cuyahoga National Park. It was advised that this will be hung in the Parke Meeting Room.

### 3720 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

None.

### 3721 Public Participation

None.

### 3722 Climate Action Plan 2025

**Considered:** Report of the Assistant Planning Policy Officer and Climate Officer (NPA/25/034)

In response to Member questions, it was advised:

We are now able to fulfil the technical assessment around scientific based targets in-house, whereas previously we did not have this expertise.

Three different pathways have been costed. Some actions will depend on resources available and the actions for 2030-2050 are to be phased.

The pace at which we can deliver the plan will depend on future funding settlements. At present we have no indication of National Park Grant from April 2026 onwards.

The Action Plan relates to the Authority's operation rather than to the wider National Park. The Authority is not responsible for on-street charging points but we have been in discussions with Devon County Council about such provision.

The intention is to establish an internal 'Green Team' to help drive change across the organisation and monitor progress. Progress will be reported to Members. It should be noted that Members are also within the remit of the Action Plan and there are implications in terms of travel to meetings etc.

Members thanked officers for their work on the Action Plan..

**Resolved:** Members noted the report.

### **3723 Updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) including Consultation Response**

**Considered:** Report of the Assistant Planning Policy Officer and Climate Officer (NPA/25/035)

In response to Member questions, it was advised:

The surveys were sent to all parish and town councils, known planning agents etc. We received a total of 4 responses. Details about the consultation were also shared via the Authority's social media platforms and paper copies were made available at Parke. They were shared on Social Media and by email. Paper copies were made available at Parke. It was therefore shared as widely as possible.

Parish and Town Councils have been missed off page 8. This will be rectified.

Use of village noticeboards is a good idea. Parish Councils will be encouraged to inform residents via these noticeboards.

Site Notices are a statutory requirement – it is surprising that we currently rely upon the applicant to put them up. As we will be stopping the letters, the site notices will now start to be erected by our Planning officers. They will also make best endeavours to remove the notices after 21 days.

**Resolved:** Members noted the report.

## 3724 Local Validation Checklist

**Considered:** Report of the Senior Planning Policy Officer (NPA/25/036)

In response to Member questions, it was advised:

Determining performance is going well. We currently experience a high number of applications that come in but can't be validated and delay the process. The most efficient way to make an application is through the Planning Portal, however we can accept applications in other modes. This new checklist will not stop submission of applications.

Thanks to all DNPA Officers. It was agreed that the new checklist will be very helpful.

**Resolved:** Members adopt the updated Local Validation Checklist.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:10.