

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Friday 01 May 2015

Present: Mr K Ball, Mr S Barker, Mr G Gribble, Mr P Hitchins, Mr J Hockridge, Mr M Jeffery, Mr D Lloyd, Mr J McInnes, Miss D Moyse, Mr J Nutley, Mr M Retallick (Deputy Chairman), Mr P Sanders, Mr J Shears, Mr P Vogel, Mr D Webber

Apologies: Mr J Kidner, Dr I Mortimer, Mrs N Oakley, Mr Harper

3073 Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

3074 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3075 Chairman's Report

The Deputy Chairman reported that, following the Chief Executive's interview on Radio Devon regarding litter picking, the radio station has been working with Authority Rangers and has organised a litter pick on Tuesday at 10.00am at Newbridge. Members were invited to attend to show their support for the work of the Authority.

3076 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

As he would not be standing for re-election, Mr Vogel took the opportunity to thank Officers and Members of the Authority for their support and hard work over the past four years. The Deputy Chairman thanked him for his contributions to the work of the Authority and wished him well.

3077 Public Participation

None.

3078 Communications Strategy 2015/2017

Members received the report of the Head of Communications, Economy and Fundraising (NPA/15/014).

Members were asked to approve the Communications Strategy for the next two years. The Head of Communications, Economy and Fundraising reported that she has run various training/information giving sessions and the draft strategy had been

Signed
Date 5/6/15

released for a six week consultation period in November 2014. The draft strategy was also taken to this Committee in November 2014. Responses from individuals and teams were evaluated and acted upon.

Focus for the next 12 months would be from within, to ensure support and training for better two-way communication. It is also intended to review and strengthen the brand of the Authority. With this in mind, the first task will be to update the website and make it easier to use.

Members welcomed the Strategy. Some advised that the Authority needed to improve the way in which it lets the public know what's going on; they also hoped that the types of communications that have been sent out in the past would not be lost. The inclusion of smart phone support and the use of other types of social media was also welcomed. Some Members added that Parish Council magazine editors would welcome articles – these could be provided by Members – there is work to be done here as good briefings would be needed.

Mr Vogel proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Mr Hitchins.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Communications Strategy 2015-2017.

3079 Tree Preservation Orders and Section 211 Notifications (Works to Trees in Conservation Areas Determined Under Delegated Powers)

Members received the report of the Trees and Landscape Officer (NPA/15/015).

RESOLVED:

Members noted the content of the report.

3080 Dartmoor Mires Project

Frances Cooper, Project Officer, gave a presentation to Members on the five year pilot project. She reported on the work undertaken and the challenges faced along the way; techniques used to restore the blanket bog; surveys carried out and the ongoing hydrological monitoring to be undertaken by Exeter University over the next five years. An independent evaluation report is expected at the end of May 2015.

Signed
Date 5/6/15