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## MINUTES

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: Friday 2 October 2020 at 10.00 am

Venue: Webex - Virtual Meeting

Chair: Cllr A McCloy

Present: Cllr W Armitage, Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr D Chapman, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr A Gregory, Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Mr Z Hamid, Ms A Harling, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr V Priestley, Miss L Slack, Mr K Smith, Cllr P Tapping, Cllr G D Wharmby, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods

Apologies for absence: Mr J W Berresford, Cllr J Atkin, Cllr A Hart, Cllr I Huddleston, Cllr B Lewis, Cllr K Richardson, Cllr R Walker and Mrs C Waller.

### **71/20 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item 6

Cllr Chapman declared a personal interest as Chair of Moors for the Future Partnership.

Ms Slack declared a personal interest as Deputy Chair of Moors for the Future Partnership.

### **72/20 URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business

### **73/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

### **74/20 AUTHORITY CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair updated Members on the following items:-

- 1) Attended a recent meeting of the Peak District National Park Foundation Trustees, followed by a workshop with Officers from the Authority which looked

at areas of work and learning more on how the Foundation worked in supporting the work of the Authority and partners.

The Chair reported that the Foundation was still on track with fundraising despite all the problems with COVID, and thanked the Trustees and Officers for their dedication and to Miss Slack, Cllr McLaren and Mr Hamid for giving up their time in attending the meeting and workshop which was a very worthwhile day.

- 2) National Parks England Board Meeting took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> October, but still no clearer yet on the Governments Spending Review, and what that means for National Parks,. The budget was agreed for National Parks England for the next 12 months and the subscription that all the Parks would pay.

The Chair also reported that the Health and Well Being Group and the Climate Change Task Group were hopeful for government funding to assist with the baseline survey work, if not National Parks England would be looking to each national park to fund some of the baseline evidence work.

#### **75/20 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (SLF)**

Members noted the Chief Executive's report which gave updates to Members on key items since the previous Authority meeting.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**To note the report.**

#### **76/20 DEFRA GREEN RECOVERY CHALLENGE FUND FOR ENGLAND - GREAT NORTH BOG PROPOSAL: THE DEEP PEAT PROJECT**

The Director of Conservation and Planning introduced the report which was to seek Members approval to accept the grant if the bid is successful from the DEFRA Green Recovery Fund for England.

The Science Programme Manager for the Moors for the Future Partnership then went into more detail of the report which would look at peat depth surveys over the whole of the Great North Bog Area, around 7000sq km in the north of the England. The report was for an expression of interest at this stage with works to hopefully start around December/January time with work being completed by March 2022 if successful with the bid.

The Director of Conservation and Planning informed Members that there were risks that the Authority, if successful, with the bid needed to be mindful of

- 1) Risk of working with other partnerships – The Peak District National Park Authority would be the responsible body but working with Yorkshire Peak Partnership and the North Pennines AONB Partnership.
- 2) Corporate Overheads – Heritage Lottery are not prepared to cover the Corporate Overheads of the National Park Authority which we may have to meet ourselves if we cannot find another way of meeting that cost, which the Head of Programme Delivery for the Moors for the Project is looking into.

Members were informed that the acceptance of the bid would be delegated to the Director of Conservation & Planning, the Head of Law and the Head of Finance, and only then if they are satisfied with the arrangement would the bid be accepted.

The Chair reported that this would be an exciting partnership working but that it did come with risks that the National Park Authority needed to be mindful of regarding corporate overhead and budget constraints.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved, seconded, voted on and carried

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Authority supports the proposed delegated function to accept (if the bid is successful) Funds from The Green Recovery Fund (National Lottery Heritage Fund) and enter into delivery arrangements with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and North Pennines AONB for the delivery of the project.**

**Specifically:**

- 1. That the Authority supports the delegated function for the Head of Programme Delivery to accept funds from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and other funders should the opportunity arise, to a maximum of £3 million, in consultation with Director of Conservation and Planning, Head of Finance and Head of Law for the delivery of the Deep Peat Project.**
- 2. That the Authority supports delegated function for the Head of Programme Delivery in consultation with Director of Conservation and Planning, Head of Finance and Head of Law to enter into arrangements with the other two Partnership leads, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and North Pennines AONB (Durham County Council), and, if necessary, tendered contracts to deliver works.**

The meeting adjourned for a short break at 10.55 and reconvened at 11.00

**77/20 EXEMPT INFORMATION S100(A) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED:-**

**That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 8 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraph 1 “ information relating to any individual” and paragraph 3 ‘information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).**

78/16 Proposed Management Restructure (SLF)