

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Telephone: (01874) 624437

Plas y Ffynnon
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7HP

Dear Member

A meeting of the **BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY** will be held in the **MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM, PLAS Y FFYNNON, CAMBRIAN WAY, BRECON** on **Friday 17th December, 2004 AT 10.00AM** when your attendance is requested.

Yours sincerely

CHRISTOPHER GLEDHILL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Fire Evacuation Advice

*In the event of a fire, please exit the building via the main staircase,
and assemble in the car park at Assembly Point 3*

AGENDA

1.0 CORRESPONDENCE

To receive the attached Schedule of Correspondence and make any recommendations thereon. (Below).

2.0 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interests from members regarding items to be considered on the agenda. (Members' attention is drawn to the sheet circulating with the Attendance Sheet, and the need to declare any interests both in writing and verbally at the meeting).

3.0 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.0 MINUTES

To receive and adopt minutes of the Authority and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record. **(Enclosure 1)**

To receive minutes of the Authority's committees and working groups, (**Enclosure 1**)

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

6.0 UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN. REPORT OF DEPOSIT REPRESENTATIONS AND PROPOSED PRE-INQUIRY CHANGES

Christopher Gledhill

In view of the large amount of paper contained in the enclosures for this item, these are circulated to members of the National Park Authority only. Copies are available for inspection by the public at Plas y Ffynnon, Cambrian Way, Brecon. Please contact Julia Gruffydd on 01874 620400

6.1 Unitary Development Plan Progress

The Unitary Development Plan (UDP) Working Group met over a series of three meetings to consider representations to the Deposit UDP. The minutes of these meetings are attached for approval at **Enclosure 2**.

The purpose of the Working Groups was to consider all representations received and recommend a response to each. Attached to this report at **Enclosure 3** is a Report setting out the representations received, together with the Working Group's recommended assessment and response.

Enclosure 4 sets out all changes to the UDP text or proposals maps resulting from Working Group recommendations. Members' attention is drawn to paragraphs 4.11-14 and Part 1 Policy 6 in the document, which relate to the safeguarding of the sand and gravel resources. The new wording makes clear that these areas have been included only at the request of WAG, and that the boundaries of the areas are its responsibility.

The changes approved today will be published for further consultation along with a report of reasons for these changes. This document will be called "Pre-Inquiry Changes" and will be deposited for a period of 6 weeks in a similar manner to the UDP. Your officers intend that this process take place in the New Year.

As early as possible in the New Year all representors will be contacted and provided with a copy of the NPA's response to their representation(s), together with details of the next stage of the process.

6.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

A summary report on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the UDP and the reasons why the report was commissioned are contained at **Enclosure 5**. Overall the environmental assessment shows that the Plan is unlikely to cause any significant adverse impacts on the environment of the Plan area. The strategy and

policies of the Plan should help to ensure that future development in the Park is carried out in such a way as to continue the conservation and enhancement of the special qualities and natural beauty of the Brecon Beacons National Park, whilst fulfilling the duty to seek to foster the economic and social well being of the local communities in the Park.

As development must continue in the Park it is the Plan's role to ensure that it proceeds in the most environmentally benign or beneficial way possible and, for the most part, it is the view of the environmental assessment that the Plan is achieving this.

It is necessary for the consultants to re-assess the SEA in light of the proposed Pre-Inquiry Changes. Whilst it is not anticipated that any significant changes will result from the re-assessment, should this be the case your officers will bring a report back to Committee.

It is your officers' intention to publish and consult on the revised SEA report along side the Pre Inquiry Changes in order to fulfil the SEA regulations. The Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) has been asked to clarify how any representations received to the SEA should be dealt with. Your officers will bring a report back to Committee once a response from WAG has been received.

6.3 Items deferred from UDP Working Group 17th November

Members requested that representation 407.d26 be deferred for further discussion. This is attached at **Enclosure 6**.

- a) **Financial, Staffing and Improvement implications: No financial or staffing implications.**
- b) **Equality Issues: None**
- c) **Sustainability Appraisal: The UDP has been subject to a strategic Environmental Assessment.**
- d) **Human Rights: No implications**
- e) **Background Papers: None**

Recommendations:

- a) **To approve the minutes of the UDP working groups;**
- b) **To endorse the recommendations of the UDP working groups and**
- c) **To endorse the Pre-Inquiry Changes UDP (Text and Proposals Map) for public consultation.**

**Contact Officer: For further information on the UDP or the SEA contact Tracy Nettleton on 01874 620412 or Rachel Willis 01874 620468.
For further information on safeguarding sand and gravel resources contact Ruth Brown on 01874 620411**

7.0 NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP

At the Strategy and Policy Committee on 8th November 2004 it was agreed that a working group would need to be established to take forward the review of the National Park Management Plan.

This work will need to commence in January 2005 and members are asked to consider the draft terms of reference of the working group attached at **Enclosure 7**.

A timetable of meetings will also need to be agreed.

- a) **Financial, Staffing and Improvement implications: No financial or staffing implications**
- b) **Equality Issues: None**
- c) **Sustainability Appraisal: No implications**
- d) **Human Rights: No implications**
- e) **Background Papers: None**

Recommendation: That the draft terms of reference for the National Park Management Plan Working Group be approved.

Contact Officer: for further information please contact Ruth Brown on 01874 620411.

8.0 COMMITTEE TIMETABLE 2005/06

Julia Gruffydd

The committee timetable for 2005/06 has now been drawn up and a copy attached at **Enclosure 8** for members' consideration.

While account has been taken of committee calendars in the constituent local authorities, it is clear that clashes cannot always be avoided, particularly as the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has seven local authorities to consider. It is also noted that for the most part, these authorities have not produced their calendars beyond May or June 2005.

Members are asked to consider the attached timetable with a view to finalising the corporate calendar for 2005/06. Chairmen of committees are asked to give particular attention to the proposed dates for their committees, bearing in mind that for Corporate Resources Committees these dates are carefully scheduled to fit in with the business plan and budgetary timetable.

In relation to the Development Control Committee, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the committee have advised that they would prefer to schedule a meeting in July and August, rather than have a meeting at the beginning of July and one at the end of July, with none in August.

A separate schedule will be drawn up for members' information showing the times and venues of meetings, but most meetings are scheduled for the morning to take account of several local authorities who hold their meetings in the afternoon or evening.

More recent members will note the inclusion of dates for ANPA/WANPA executive meetings, which would normally involve only the Chairman and/or Deputy Chairman of the Authority.

- a) **Financial, Staffing and Improvement implications: No financial or staffing implications**
- b) **Equality Issues: None**
- c) **Sustainability Appraisal: No implications**
- d) **Human Rights: No implications**

- e) **Background Papers: None**

Recommendation: That the draft Committee Timetable for 2005/06 be approved and circulated to all members.

Contact Officer: for further information please contact Julia Gruffydd on 01874 620400.

9.0 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

9.1 ANPA Executive Meeting: 2nd December 2004 Cllr Mrs Margaret Morris

This was an important and historic meeting at which the Welsh National Parks and the English National Parks considered a paper on the federal future of the Association of National Park Authorities.

The paper was presented by Nic Wheeler (CEO of Pembrokeshire National Park) and Andy Wilson (CEO of North York Moors National Park).

Amongst the outcomes were good support for the Welsh Association of National Park Authorities set up, the continued support for an officer, an office in Cardiff and the desirability of working more closely with our partners and now for us to move along the basis of decisions made. Nic Wheeler encouraged us to look outwards

and see the changes, not as a break up but a refocus of attention and resources. Perhaps we will need to work harder on the joint purposes and develop a framework for engagement for all our partners including the Scots and Irish.

Martin Fitton reported the budget was sustained by good contribution by its partners.

The theme for the ANPA conference in Harrogate from April 11 – 13 2005 will be planning for sustainable communities.

A power point presentation was given on the “Project Pathway”. Britain’s breathing space is to be the brand to communicate the National Park’s Tourist Strategy; and many comments were made on this initial phase. I felt there was need to address sustainability and social inclusion more closely, as the business plan is made.

10.0 CONFERENCE FOR STANDARDS CHAIRMEN *Christopher Gledhill*

At the meeting of the Standards Committee on 6th December 2004, the Monitoring Officer reported on a meeting he had attended the previous week of the Welsh branch of the Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors/Monitoring Officers.

It had been suggested that a one day conference be arranged for the Chairmen of Standards Committees in Wales (and possibly one further member, depending on venue) and Monitoring Officers. The purpose would be to discuss issues relating to the functions and business of Standards Committees, problem areas, and any consultation papers regarding the review of the Code of Conduct.

The suggested date is 11th February 2004, in Mid Wales (possibly Aberaeron). The costs are unknown at present, but will not be unreasonable and will not involve an overnight stay.

- a) ***Financial, Staffing and Improvement implications: No significant costs involved, and the Chairman of Standards has indicated that he would not claim expenses. Member training will contribute to improvement.***
- b) ***Equality Issues: None***
- c) ***Sustainability Appraisal: No implications***
- d) ***Human Rights: No implications***
- e) ***Background Papers: None***

Recommendation: That the Chairman of Standards Committee, Mr Chris Shearman, and one other member if the venue allows, be authorised to attend the one day workshop for Chairmen of Standards Committees in February 2005.

11.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Such other business as is, in the opinion of the Chairman of such urgency as to warrant consideration.

SCHEDULE OF CORRESPONDENCE

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. Such other correspondence as, in the opinion of the Chairman, is of such urgency as to warrant consideration.