

BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Telephone: 01874 624437

Plas y Ffynnon
Cambrian Way
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7HP

A meeting of the **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** will be held in **CONFERENCE ROOM 1, PLAS Y FFYNNON, CAMBRIAN WAY, BRECON ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2005 AT 1.30pm** when your attendance is requested.

Yours sincerely

CHRISTOPHER GLEDHILL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Cllr Mrs M Tunnicliffe
Cllr Mrs K Silk
Mrs J Charlton
Mr R Chater
Mr R Kemm
Mr C Shearman (Chairman)

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 WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER AND ACTING MONITORING OFFICER

To note the appointment of Mr Roger Chater to the Standards Committee.

To note the appointment of Mr Douglas Bradbury as Acting Monitoring Officer.

2.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman of the Standards Committee.

NB. Under the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Standards Committee should be independent members of the Standards Committee)

3.0 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

To elect a Deputy Chairman of the Standards Committee.

4.0 CORRESPONDENCE

To receive and consider the attached schedule of correspondence and make any recommendations thereon. (Below).

5.0 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from members regarding items to be considered on the agenda.

6.0 MINUTES

To receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2005 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a correct record (**Enclosure 1**).

7.0 REVIEW OF TRAINING FOR STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Douglas Bradbury

The main issue for consideration within the next year is going to be training with regard to the new Code of Conduct, which is referred to under item 11.0 below relating to the working programme for the Standards Committee. It is suggested that if training is to be arranged in relation to the new Code then this should be made available to members of the Standards Committee at the same time as it is provided for other members of the Authority. As this training is not likely to take place until some time in the period following publication of the new Code in the Spring of 2006, members of the Standards Committee are invited to consider what other training, if any, they would like to undertake in the meantime, bearing in mind any training which they have already received.

8.0 REPORT OF COMPLAINTS TO THE OMBUDSMAN

Douglas Bradbury

To consider the report from the Acting Monitoring Officer at **Enclosure 2** and any recommendations therein.

9.0 OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2003/04 Douglas Bradbury

A copy of the Ombudsman's report for 2003 / 04 is attached at **Enclosure 3** for members' consideration.

Attention is drawn to the following :

- Page 8 – statistics regarding mal-administration complaints
- Pages 13 and 14 – examples of planning complaints in so far as they relate to distances between dwellings and new development proposals (cf. complaints re. The Authority referred to in separate report)
- Page 16 – statistic showing 23 complaints about the conduct of National Park Authority members
- Page 16 – statistic showing that out of 85 complaints about members' conduct accepted for investigation 25 were referred to the local Monitoring Officer (& ipso facto the Standards Committees) for investigation).
- Pages 18 to 21 – outcome of certain misconduct allegations.

Recommendation: To note the contents of the report.

10.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE GWENT ASSOCIATION OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES Douglas Bradbury

In previous meetings of the Standards Committee members have indicated that they would welcome more contact with other Standards Committees in order to share expertise. Further inquiries have resulted in an invitation to attend meetings of the Gwent Association of Standards Committees. The next meeting will be held in November (date to be confirmed).

Recommendation: That the Chairman of the Standards Committee and the Acting Monitoring Officer attend the next meeting of the Gwent Association of Standards Committees.

11.0 STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2005/06 Douglas Bradbury

To consider the report from the Acting Monitoring Officer at **Enclosure 4** and any recommendations therein.

12.0 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE REGULATIONS

Douglas Bradbury

To consider the report at **Enclosure 5** and any recommendations therein.

13.0 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Lynne Coughlan

To consider any applications for dispensation under the Authority's Code of Conduct.

14.0 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 is, in the opinion of the Chairman, of such urgency as to warrant consideration.