

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

26th September 2006

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**1. ENGAGEMENTS**

Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Executive has been involved in the following:-

(a) Media

- A meeting with a journalist from the Yorkshire Post to discuss current issues;
- An interview with the Yorkshire Post to discuss the developments at Catterick Garrison and their impact on the National Park.

(b) Events

- Along with a number of Members and officers, attended the funeral of the former National Park Officer, George Hallas
- Hosted a visit from Natural England's new representative for the YDNPA, Pam Warhurst;
- Along with the Chairman, attended the annual Europarc Conference in the Cotswolds.

(c) Meetings

- Attended a meeting of the Craven Public Sector Working Group (sub group of the Local Strategic Partnership);
- Attended an initial meeting with the Member Champion for Corporate Management, Mr Lancaster;
- Met Mr Fenten to discuss a recent public inquiry at Gorbeck Road;
- Along with Members and officers from a number of North Yorkshire authorities, attended a meeting with the Chief Executive of the Yorkshire Tourist Board to discuss proposed increases in subscriptions;
- Met Officers from Yorkshire Forward and the North York Moors National Park Authority to discuss the role of the NPAs in delivering the Regional Economic Strategy;
- Met with officials from DEFRA and the Countryside Agency to discuss future funding;
- Met the Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to discuss current issues;
- Meeting of Richmondshire Local Strategic Partnership;
- Attended the quarterly meeting of English National Park Officers;
- Met with officers from the National Trust to discuss matters of mutual interest.

2. ISSUES FOR MEMBERS TO NOTE

a) Membership of the Authority

Mrs Ann Brooks has accepted an invitation from the Secretary of State to serve on the Authority from 1st April 2007 (when her current appointment ends) to 31st March 2010.

b) Rejuvenate Wensleydale

At the last meeting of the Authority, members asked for further advice from officers about whether it would be appropriate to nominate a Member of the Authority to represent the Authority on the Rejuvenate Wensleydale 'partnership'.

Subsequent investigation has revealed that over the past two years the Authority has been effectively acting only as an occasional adviser to Rejuvenate Wensleydale (primarily on planning issues), and not as a participating member of the partnership board. On that basis, it should be taken off the list of the Authority's formal partnerships.

c) Natural England

Members will be aware that Natural England will be formally designated in October of the year. In advance of this date a number of appointments have been made at both board and officer level. Pam Warhurst has been appointed as the board member responsible for the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Peter Nottage has recently been appointed as regional director for Yorkshire and the Humber.

Other relevant appointments within the region are:

- Robert Burnett, Regional Business Management Manager
- Lawrence Jones-Walters, Advocacy and Partnership Manager
- Jeff Lunn, Area Manager
- David Shaw, Area Manager.

**DAVID BUTTERWORTH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Background documents: None
15th September 2006