

New Forest National Park Consultative Panel

Notes from meeting 19.4.2019

The incumbent Chairman Clive Chatters welcomed members to the rescheduled meeting from 1.3.18 postponed due to snow and took the opportunity to welcome Alison Hoare replacing Edward Heron as NFDC environment portfolio holder.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Coastal footpath Consultation still ongoing. Documents are vast and complex. Have to juggle maps to get to grips with the proposal.

Also the consultation asks for a very structured and complex response.

National Project, ignore the constraints just answer/respond in own words even using a postcard.

National Park has a three-page response available.

Election of Chairman:

Three candidates had put themselves forward.

Harry Oram, Peter Hebard and Ann Sevier. Election by Secret Ballot of Panel Members.

Harry Oram was duly elected.

Harry retired from position as Operations Manager for the Forestry Commission in the New Forest having spent 20 years as district Forester.

Elected member of the New Forest National Park Authority and Chairman of the SW Quadrant.

New Forest National Park Update: Alison Barnes

PM has launched new covenant/plan Neutral Capital Approach, which reflects Green Halo initiative. Rewarding Landowners for public good. Environmental net gain. 200 Pages plus annexes.

Government planing consultation closes 10th May 2018. National Parks have highest level of protection see NFNPA website.

Future of Farming, more consultation Health & Harmony closes 18th May 2018.

NFNPA Recreational Management plan available on request. Consultation starts 18th June 2018. Nigel Matthew's to give a presentation at the next meeting.

National Park, RSPB has acquired 1000 acres of Forest in the Wiltshire area. *Apparently Allison Barnes was instrumental in facilitating the acquisition.*

National Park Website updated last week "does it work if not tell us".

Mike Moriarty

Forestry Commission Update: Bruce Rothnie

HLS Open meeting 14:00 to 17:00 Wednesday 25th June followed by AGM
Spring and summer information campaigns: Do not feed the ponies and seasonal awareness of ground nesting birds. The latter to be augmented by a second round of warnings. Supported by New Forest Dog.

Also highlighted: Road kill, Highland Water, Restoring Heathland.
Burning discarded branches following tree felling also trialing stump removal.

Forest design plans. Some areas intended for permanent deforestation to restore heath lands. Impact assessments have been forwarded to Regulator.

A further 12 volunteers have been recruited bringing the total now to 70 volunteers.

New Forest wetland and water restoration looking to Southampton University to develop ongoing strategy.

Barrier off car parks cars being parked outside the barriers looking to educate the public "Car Stickers".

Damage to verges particularly in the Bolderwood area. New verge restoration officer sponsored by HLS (Higher level Stewardship).

AOB:

"Whilst the Draft National Park local plan for 2016 – 2036 now acknowledge "The Cadnam area of the National Park is also affected by surface water flooding and part of the evidence base for this Local Plan includes a Level Strategic Flood risk Assessment commissioned jointly by the National Park Authority and New Forest District Council in 2017"

Whilst the SFRA is in progress there is no funding until 2022 Rob Waite Environment Agency Partnership & Strategic Overview Advisor.

It was highlighted that whilst properties who had been affected by flooding had received grants designed to mitigate further flooding. Others blighted by the same postcodes not withstanding the introduction of Flood Re, have had to be referred to specialist insurers with a two, three or four fold increase in premiums.

Members of the public feeding ponies in the New Forest particularly highlighted area around Poultons Park. But in general ponies with heads in car windows being feed.

Wiggle Cycle Rides. Wiggle has not signed up to National Park voluntary charter limiting numbers of entrants to 1,000 per day.

Riders do now have to have numbers on backs as well as fronts.

Complaints need to be registered on NFNPA website.

Whilst New Forest Association & Friends of New Forest had registered that they would be raising the issue of Bovine TB, Badger Cull. Their representative had not been briefed on the subject.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 7th June 2018

Mike Moriarty