

**Cranborne Chase  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**



**Partnership Board Meeting  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Wyvern Hall, High Street, Wylve  
Wiltshire BA12 0QP

<http://www.wylvevillagehall.co.uk/>

1.00pm for informal lunch and Section 85 briefing  
2.00pm Meeting start

**MINUTES**

| <b>Member</b>              | <b>Organisation</b>             | <b>Present</b> | <b>Apologies</b> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Nicholas Gosse             | Chairman                        | √              |                  |
| Mike Short                 | Vice Chairman                   |                | √                |
| CLlr Barbara Manuel        | East Dorset District Council    |                | √                |
| Gary Foyle/Wilbert Smith   | EDDC Officers                   | √WS            |                  |
| CLlr Dick Skidmore         | Mendip District Council         |                |                  |
| Robert Palmer              | Mendip DC Officer               |                |                  |
| CLlr Audrey Burch          | North Dorset District Council   |                |                  |
| CLlr Catherine Langham     | North Dorset District Council   | √              |                  |
| CLlr Deirdre Skipwith Sub  | North Dorset District Council   | √              |                  |
| Hilary Jordan/Ed Gerry     | NDDC Officers                   | √HJ            |                  |
| CLlr Roxanne Matcham       | New Forest District Council     | √              |                  |
| Martin Peacock             | NFDC Officer                    |                |                  |
| CLlr Lucy Wallace          | South Somerset District Council |                |                  |
| Rachael Whaites            | SSDC Officer                    |                | √                |
| CLlr Fleur de Rhe-Philippe | Wiltshire Council               | √              |                  |
| CLlr Bridget Wayman        | Wiltshire Council               | √              |                  |
| CLlr Jose Green            | Wiltshire Council               | √              |                  |

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| Richard Broadhead               |    | Wiltshire Officer                                    | √ |     |
| Cllr Andrew Cattaway            |    | Dorset County Council                                |   |     |
| Cllr                            |    | Dorset County Council SUB                            |   |     |
| Dr Ken Buchan/<br>Matthew Piles |    | DCC Officer  |   | √KB |
| Cllr Edward Heron               |    | Hampshire County Council                             |   | √   |
| Garry King                      |    | HCC Officer  | √ |     |
| Cllr William Wallace            |    | Somerset County Council                              |   |     |
| Vacant                          |    | Somerset CC Officer                                  |   |     |
| Roger Griffin                   |    | Natural England                                      |   | √   |
| Ian Briscoe                     |    | Forestry Commission                                  |   |     |
| Gerard d'Erlanger               |    | Forestry Commission                                  |   | √   |
| Alistair Fitzgerald             |    | Independent  | √ |     |
| Phil Matthews                   |    | Wiltshire Association of Town & Parish Councils      |   |     |
| Mike Jones                      |    | Dorset Association of Town & Parish Councils (DATPC) |   | √   |
| Vacant                          |    | Historic England                                     |   |     |
| Paul Cottingham                 |    | National Farmers Union                               |   |     |
| Francis Taylor                  |    | Campaign to Protect Rural England                    | √ |     |
| <b>AONB Team</b>                |    | <b>Position</b>                                      |   |     |
| Linda Nunn                      | FT | AONB Director  | √ |     |
| Anne Carney                     | PT | Funding / Partnership Officer                        |   | √   |
| Richard Burden                  | PT | Principle Landscape and Planning Officer             | √ |     |
| Tracy Adams                     | PT | Farmland Conservation Officer                        |   | √   |
| Harry Bell                      | PT | GIS Officer  |   | √   |
| Shirley Merrick                 | PT | Team Support Officer                                 | √ |     |
| Amanda Scott                    | PT | Dark Sky Officer                                     | √ |     |
| Roger Goulding                  | FT | LPS Development Officer                              |   | √   |

Susan Batstone (Natural England) has retired.  
This was the last meeting for Wilbert Smith (EDDC).  
Tracy Cooper is the new representative for EDDC.

## 1. Welcome

Nicholas Gosse, Chairman, read out a brief report he had prepared. (Attached as a separate document). AF endorsed the Chairman's comments.

## 2. Minutes of the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and any matters arising

Cllr Deirdre Skipwith requested her name be amended on the attendance sheet.

Action 5 - An update on the role of Vice Chair is on the Agenda.

Item 2, Matters Arising - The Wiltshire NFU representative that LN was going to approach has not been available since the last Board meeting. She has now returned to work following maternity leave. LN will try to contact her again.

Item 4, Report B, Councillor FdRP queried the comment regarding the LEADER replacement programme being administered by the AONB, a suggestion made at the last meeting for the Glover Review. LN admitted this could have been worded better.

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| Action Item 2  |
| 1. The Minutes to be amended to correct the name of Cllr DS. |
| 2. LN to contact the Wiltshire NFU representative.           |

## 3. Report A – AONB Budget 2018-19

Purpose: To inform the Panel of budget expenditure to the end of November 2018/19 and related issues.

LN went through the tables in the financial report and explained the expenditure and what the remaining project budgets will be spent on, including.

- 3.3 International Dark Sky Reserve bid – £8,000
- 3.4 HLF Landscape Partnership Scheme – £4,000
- 3.5 Discover Cranborne Chase – £10,500
- 3.6 Landscapes in Planning - £1000
- 3.7 Local Initiative Fast Track (LIFT) – £497
- 4. Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) - £3,000

The Core Budget, including salaries will be fully spent by the end of the year.

LN explained that the LIFT budget could be spent on the dew pond work that TA is working on. Applications to the SDF are slow, so that budget could also be used for this dew pond work. The SDF could be utilised next year for possible replacement security lighting of inappropriate units on farm buildings. RB commented on the large areas of glazing that have been proposed in new or replacement buildings in recent planning applications, and roof lights, that can cause light pollution. AF suggested that an article is submitted to the NFU newsletter highlighting the AONB position on light pollution, especially in relation to security and floodlighting on farms.

LN reported on the grant the AONB will receive from DEFRA for 2019/2020. The bid to DEFRA will be submitted by the end of January.

The Local Authority contributions for next year were noted. HJ stated that the combined contributions from EDDC, NDDC and DCC will be paid but the contribution for 2020/2021 will be reviewed by the new Dorset Unitary Authority.

| <b>Local Authority Contributions</b> | <b>£</b>         | <b>% contributions</b> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Wiltshire Council                    | 39,259.00        | 61.38%                 |
| Dorset County Council                | 9,428.00         | 14.74%                 |
| Hampshire County Council             | 2,187.48         | 3.42%                  |
| Somerset County Council              | 735.55           | 1.15%                  |
| East Dorset District Council         | 5,193.65         | 8.12%                  |
| North Dorset District Council        | 4,234.24         | 6.62%                  |
| New Forest District Council          | 2,187.48         | 3.42%                  |
| Mendip District Council              | 434.94           | 0.68%                  |
| South Somerset District Council      | 300.62           | 0.47%                  |
|                                      |                  |                        |
| <b>Total LA funding:</b>             | <b>63,960.96</b> | <b>100%</b>            |

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| <b>ACTION Item 3</b>  |
| 1 The Board noted expenditure to date during 2018-19 in core, project and SDF budgets                         |
| 2 The Board noted the proposed Local Authority contributions for the 2019-20 budget.                          |
| 3 Members to ensure the contributions from their authorities receive approval before the invoices are raised. |

#### **4. Report B – Team Work Update**

Purpose: To briefly inform the Panel on progress on work undertaken by the team since the last meeting 19th September 2018.

##### **Richard Burden Principal Landscape and Planning Officer**

RB explained the consultation of the Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan that went through the Examination in Public earlier this year. The Inspector rejected the policy on the planned 400 houses. The Neighbourhood Plan was subsequently withdrawn. The Neighbourhood Plan is now back out for consultation but still contains the same policy that was rejected by the Inspector. Therefore the AONB continues to object to the [Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2](#). RB requested that Members agree to object to the revised Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix 1 AONB Position Statement on Housing within the Cranborne Chase AONB. RB explained the need for the Position Statement in light of his experience with planning applications. The Wiltshire representatives raised the following concerns:- The term 'affordable housing' was queried and concerns that the document was over constrained. The issue of lack of facilities within settlements was raised, along with the high population of elderly residents and concerns that our villages should not be allowed to die by restricting development. Getting the balance right for new development is crucial for young and elderly families. A decent Broadband service

was considered as essential for new development. Other members raised concerns over the problem of letting low cost housing where there is a lack of local employment; and where authorities lack the provision of a five year housing plan.

**Amanda Scott Dark Sky Advisor**

AS gave a Power Point Presentation. The AONB seeks to gain Dark Night Sky Reserve status. The bid will be submitted by 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and a draft document is being sent this week to the International Dark-Sky Association, based in America. AS is engaging with Local Planning Authorities, parish and town councils and farmers. The IDA require some very detailed data and the Wessex Astronomical Society are leading the work to record sky quality readings. There is a star gazing session this week at Charlton, and a Star Fest planned for the end of February. AS said that she welcomes the new street lighting implementation plan by Wiltshire Council.

**Tracy Adams, Farm Conservation Adviser**

TA has been working with the Farmer Cluster groups. The groups have to fund themselves. There is no restriction on membership of the size of the holding. The Nadder/Sem Cluster sent invitations out to 100 farmers to attend an exploratory meeting in November and 40 people attended.

**Anne Carney – Funding and Partnerships**

AC has been working on the HLF bid along with LN and RG. She has taken over the Sustainable Development Fund administration.

**Roger Goulding – Landscape Partnership Development Officer**

RG has now finalised and submitted the bid for the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The LPS contains 20 projects and filled four lever arch files, of which HLF required two copies. The project has put in a bid for £1.68million. The HLF plan to visit the team in February or March.

BW requested that the AONB team be congratulated on the hard work the AONB team has put in to this project.

**Shirley Merrick – AONB Team Support**

SM continues to support the team and deals with the incoming invoices. SM will be instrumental in packing up and moving the office in the New Year.

**Linda Nunn – Director**

LN and the team met with Mike Short who has agreed to become the Vice Chairman.

The office accommodation at Tollard Royal has been visited by the appropriate departments from Wiltshire Council and minor issues are being dealt with. Rushmore Estate will do the electric PAT testing and install a wet central heating system. The planning application (18/10108/VAR) for change of use is currently going through the Wiltshire Council planning system. RB (Wilts) stated that the Council are happy to help with the lease negotiations.

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| <b>ACTION Item 4</b>  |
| 1 The Board notes the ongoing progress of the team’s work and offers congratulations to Roger and Anne in particular, but also Linda and the rest of the team, for the timely submission of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round LPS bid |

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| 2 | The Board endorses a second objection to the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan                     |
| 3 | The Board endorses Planning Position Statement 10 – Housing Within the Cranborne Chase AONB    |
| 4 | The Board notes the appointment of Mike Short as Vice Chairman, and welcomes him to the Board. |

## 5. Report C – AONB Management Plan Review

Purpose: To inform the Board of the Management Plan Review process

The consultation process for the Management Plan 2019 - 2024 has now ended. These comments will now be analysed. The final draft will be sent out to members by the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 for comment. The Local Authority Partners will receive the final document by the end of January. The Management Plan will then be formally adopted on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), documents required for the Management Plan, have both been approved by Natural England. Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency have all accepted the SEA Screening Report findings.

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| ACTION Item 5 |  |
| 1             | The Board notes the remaining timetable for the AONB Management Plan Review, with Local Authorities receiving the final AONB Management Plan 2019-2024 at the end of January, for formal adoption by 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019. |

## 6. Report D – The Glover Review of Designated Landscapes

Purpose: To outline a potential response to the Glover Review on National Parks and AONBs and give the Board the opportunity to consider the various topics covered

The AONB has to respond to the Glover Review, online, by 18<sup>th</sup> December. This Review was discussed at the NAAONB Conference and the NAAONB will be making its own response. Members are welcome to complete their own response. LN said this AONB needs to concentrate on what this AONB can influence. There is no intention for this AONB to become a National Park. The team and the AONB Chairman put together a few thoughts for members to discuss.

The possibility of the AONB to produce its own Local Plan was discussed, and the AONB to have its own Planning Committee. There was some disagreements from Members on these two issues with suggestions that the Management Plan is already a 'Local Plan' and that councillors would not want to lose the authority they currently have to determine planning applications. One member was strongly of the view that their Council could not support the AONB having its own 'Local Plan'. The concern was expressed that currently planning committees did not fully understand AONB matters. The meaning of 'major development' within an AONB was discussed. Members considered that LPA's should determine where housing development is built.

The NAAONB's are recommending that AONBs are given a secondary purpose similar to National Parks, the primary purpose being to conserve and enhance. The Government appear to want AONBs to have similar responsibilities to National Parks; the big difference being the

funding, legal status and planning powers. The Review will be looking at a multitude of issues raised.

AONBs are not legal bodies which is very restrictive. They are not considered to be statutory consultees, and this is a weakness that needs to be addressed. Members questioned how this change might affect the role of the Board. The Wiltshire LEP is about to become a legal entity; and the NAAONBs is a charity and hence a legal entity. This AONB was unable to apply to the HLF in its own name as it is not a legal entity.

AONBs could administer grants for farmland and forestry and guide investment into the AONB to help to conserve and enhance the landscapes. Concern was expressed about the wording within the CROW Act 2000 and the access to private land. The suggestion of strengthening the wording was cautioned against. Access land is, however, no part of this Review.

The issue of designation was discussed. National Park designation, such as Exmoor and Dartmoor, are very distinctive with a visible change to their landscape. It was questioned as to why there are so many different designations.

| <b>Action Item 6</b> |   |
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| 1                    | The Board considered the points within the report and made comments to aid LN in compiling a response to the Call for Evidence for the Glover Review. |
| 2                    | LN to draft a response to the Glover review and send this out to Members.   |
| 3                    | Members to respond promptly to this draft document so that LN can respond to the consultation by 18 <sup>th</sup> December.                           |

## **7 Any Other Business**

The Chairman wished members and the AONB Team a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## **8 Date of next meeting**

**TBA**

The meeting ended at 16.05.

Minutes signed as a true record

**Nicholas Gosse (Chairman)**.....

**2019**