

# **National Park Authority**

## **17 December 2025**

### **Present**

Dr M Havard (Chair)

Councillor S Alderman, Councillor D Clements, Councillor T Evans, Councillor C George, Ms H Gwenllian, Councillor SL Hancock MBE, Mr J Hogg MBE, Councillor M James, Mr GA Jones, Dr R Plummer, Councillor B Price, Councillor S Skyrme-Blackhall, Councillor A Tinley, Councillor V Thomas and Councillor C Williams BEM.

### **Also in attendance:**

Phil Barlow (Research & Sustainability Appraisal Officer), Lynwen Davies (Simultaneous Interpreter), Julie Garlick (Conservation Officer), Georgia Jones (Democratic Services Officer), Tegryn Jones (Chief Executive), Gayle Lister (Principal Planner, Strategic Policy), Caroline Llewellyn (Democratic Services Manager), Sara Morris (Head of Place and Engagement), Meurig Nicholas (Public Rights of Way Officer), James Parkin (Director of Nature Recovery and Tourism), Jake Taylor (Countryside Operations Manager) and Emma Thornton (Visit Pembrokeshire).

[Online Meeting, 10.00am – 14.02pm]

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Bowen and Mrs S Hoss.

### **2. Disclosures of Interest**

Dr R Plummer made a general declaration as a Trustee of the Pembrokeshire Coast Charitable Trust. Councillors B Price and S Hancock declared an interest in relation to report 54/25, Visit Pembrokeshire. Councillor S Skyrme-Blackhall declared an interest in relation to report 55/25, To Agree Support for Ironman Wales 2027-2029.

**Noted.**

### **3. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22 October 2025 were presented for confirmation and authentication.

In relation to the Chairs announcements, the Chair clarified that the discussions with Henry Tufnell MP and the Crown Estate had been two separate meetings.



On the proposal of Dr Havard, seconded by Councillor Hancock, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 22 October 2025 be confirmed and authenticated, subject to the above amendment.

#### **4. Action Log and Matters Arising**

With regards to the action related to youth engagement opportunities, a Member queried whether the Authority had partnered with the Pembrokeshire County Council's Youth Service to identify young people in the Park. The Chief Executive agreed to discuss with the relevant Officer to identify examples of partnership working or to otherwise relay the Members' suggestion for future work.

**Noted.**

#### **5. Chair's Announcements**

The Chair reported that she had attended the following events/meetings in the past month:

- Several meetings with Authority Members to conduct Personal Development Reviews and to become more familiar with Members and their wards.
- The Authority's All Staff Meeting where she had the opportunity to thank staff for their hard work throughout the year.
- The first Partnership Forum meeting which had been established to support the delivery of the Authority's Partnership Plan.
- A Public Leaders Forum and Public Bodies Chair Group.
- A National Parks Partnership meeting with the Authority's Chief Executive
- The launch of the Local Energy Plan which had received a positive response.
- Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) meetings including a meeting to appoint the Chief Operating Officer for the CJC.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Dr R Plummer for her contributions and dedication to the Authority as her term as Member was set to come to an end on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2026. It was added that Dr R Plummer had become a Trustee for the Pembrokeshire Coast Charitable Trust.

The Chair congratulated Authority staff for another successful Archaeology Day event and confirmed that recordings of the event were available online for those who were unable to attend on the day.



The Chief Executive confirmed that he and Councillor M Bowen had attended a meeting regarding pay briefings with the employers and trade unions.

**Noted.**

## **6. Reports of other Authority Committee meetings**

The following reports of several of the Authority's Committee meetings were presented to Members for consideration:

- i. Development Management Committee held on 15/10/25
- ii. Audit and Corporate Services Review Committee held on 23/07/25
- iii. Operational Review Committee held on 24/09/25

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the above-mentioned committees be received.

**Noted.**

## **7. Agreement to undertake public consultation on key preparatory documents for the replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 3**

The Principal Planning Officer (Strategic Policy) presented a report that sought agreement from Members to undertake consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report and the Draft Issues, Vision and Objectives paper for the replacement LDP3.

The report outlined that the Delivery Agreement for LDP 3 identified a 15-year plan period from 2025 to the end of 2039. It was proposed that the 15-year timescale be amended to 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2040 to align with the annual monitoring period. It was reported that this amendment would require consequential amendments to the Delivery Agreement and accompanying integrated impact assessment.

The Officer highlighted an error with the symbols featured in the table on page 30 of the report and clarified that this would be rectified prior to publication.

Members discussed the importance of the consultation as it offered members of the public the opportunity to contribute and to help shape the next LDP.

As a result of the long-term nature of the LDP, Members suggested that the impact of climate change on the National Park be referenced in the document. The Director of Place and Engagement confirmed that the Authority had been conducting research along the coast to understand



how the National Park could be impacted by climate change in future and although operational recommendations could come from this exercise, these were unlikely to be featured in the plan as the LDP was a high-level document. It was added that Officers would look to develop policies for coastal and climate adaptation as part of the plan which would support the team in responding to climate change.

A Member suggested that SMART targets be used to ensure objectives remained realistic and achievable. The Officer confirmed that specific targets would be set as the development of the LDP progressed and these would eventually be featured in the monitoring framework. In response to a Members query related to affordable housing and Welsh language targets, it was confirmed that Officers would explore different growth options for affordable housing in the Park and would seek to develop policies that would maximise affordable housing developments. It was added that Officers would seek to incorporate a local connections criterion for affordable housing and the impact on the Welsh language would be assessed both as part of the Sustainable Appraisal Objectives and as part of a separate Welsh language assessment.

On the proposal of Dr R Plummer, seconded by Councillor D Clements, it was **resolved** that the following be agreed:

- i. Public consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report (Appendix A), including appendices on the Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes and Baseline Information.
- ii. Public consultation on the Draft Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper (Appendix B).
- iii. An amendment to the end date of the Local Development Plan 3 (LDP 3) from the end of 2039 to 31 March 2040. This amendment requires a consequential revision to the Delivery Agreement.

## **8. Discretionary Non-Statutory pre-application advice service charging schedule**

The Director of Place and Engagement presented a report that outlined a proposal to increase the charges applied to the Authority's discretionary non-statutory pre-application advice service. It was reported that the Authority had introduced a non-statutory pre-application service in April 2024 and the proposed increase in charges reflected inflationary pressures and ensured a continued differential with the statutory pre-application service for which updated charges had already been applied.



A Member queried whether any feedback had been collated from those who had previously used the service to understand whether the public considered it to be a valuable service. It was confirmed that although no formal survey work had been carried out, Officers had received positive feedback directly and agents had been seen to use the service on multiple occasions which was considered positive.

In response to a Member's query, the Officer confirmed that the proposed increase would allow the team to cover their costs in delivering the non-statutory service. It was added that at present, the Authority made a loss in respect of its statutory pre-application service as the charges did not reflect costs.

Members queried whether the Development Management team had sufficient resources to deliver the service within set timescales. It was confirmed that additional staff had been recruited to the team and although the workload from the statutory service remained a priority, it was considered that the team was sufficiently resourced to manage both services effectively. It was added that during peak periods, consultants were brought in to expand the capacity of the team.

On the proposal of Dr R Plummer, seconded by Ms H Gwenllian, it was **resolved** that an increase in the charges applied for the Authority's discretionary non-statutory pre-application advice service be agreed.

## **9. Member Development Strategy**

The Democratic Services Manager presented the revised Member Development Strategy which outlined the key duties and strategic priorities that Members would need to be aware of and supported good corporate governance. It was added that the Strategy was last revised in 2019.

Members welcomed the revised Strategy and agreed that effective implementation would be key.

On the proposal of Councillor C George, seconded by Dr R Plummer, it was **resolved** that the revised Member Development Strategy be adopted.

[The meeting adjourned from 11:08am – 11:20am]

[Councillor M James joined the meeting during consideration of the following item]



## **10. Visit Pembrokeshire**

The Chair welcomed Emma Thornton, Chief Executive of Visit Pembrokeshire (VP), who gave a presentation on the work of VP over the last year. The presentation featured information regarding the value of a Destination Management Organisation, tourism trends in 2025, significant deliverables between 2020 to 2025, a summary of what had changed in that time and strategic priorities for 2025/26.

A discussion took place regarding the organisation's Member retention rate (83%) and the reasons as to why businesses would choose not to renew their membership. It was confirmed that the common causes for Members leaving were business closure, cost and perceived lack of value. It was added that the VP team were working to improve engagement rates to ensure all businesses had access to all of the benefits of their membership.

Members discussed the positive impact of VP on Pembrokeshire, the challenges faced by businesses and the need to support them through difficult periods.

**Noted.**

## **11. Exclusion of the public**

It was noted that in discussing the following report, information might be shared which was commercially sensitive, and it was therefore requested that the public be excluded from the meeting.

On the proposal of Dr M Havard, seconded by Councillor D Clements, it was **resolved** that the public be excluded from the meeting as exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 14 of part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

## **12. Ironman Wales Support**

The Director of Nature and Tourism presented a report that sought Members' agreement for next steps with regards to the Authority's financial support for the Ironman (IM) Wales event from 2027-2029. Members discussed the benefits of the event to area's economy throughout the year and its value in marketing Pembrokeshire to an International audience. Members also considered the financial position of the Authority alongside the risks of not financially supporting the event and the possibility of event organisers opting for an alternative location should support not be provided.

It was agreed that should financial support continue to be provided to IM, additional conditions should be included in the agreement such as



appropriate recognition for the Authority, access to imagery of the National Park, and an environmental accreditation for the event.

On the proposal of Councillor S Hancock, seconded by Dr R Plummer, it was **resolved** that PCNPA provides a reduced level of support at £15.4K towards Ironman Wales event for the period of 2027 to 2029 subject to the following conditions:

1. That Ironman Wales should work towards achieving a recognised event sustainability management system, such as [ISO 20121](#), by 2027.
2. That PCNPA has long-term access to photographic and video imagery associated with the Ironman Wales event to help promote the National Park.
3. That the Park Authority's branding appears prominently throughout all Ironman Wales associated marketing (full details to be discussed and agreed with the event organisers).

[Ms H Gwenllian, Councillor B Price, Councillor S Skyrme-Blackhall, Councillor A Tinley and Councillor C Williams left the meeting during consideration of the following item].

### **13. Acquisition of Rosemoor Nature Reserve**

The Director of Nature Recovery & Tourism presented a report that outlined a proposal for the acquisition of Rosemoor Nature Reserve, subject to final legal and financial due diligence. Members authorisation was sought for Officers to progress negotiations with the current landowner and relevant stakeholders to secure the transfer. It was reported that the acquisition would align with the Authority's Conservation and Climate objectives and would contribute to the target of protecting 30% of land for nature by 2030.

The Officer gave a presentation which highlighted the offer and the work that had already been undertaken on site by the Authority to date with next steps. The presentation featured details of the site's location and the potential benefits and risks of the acquisition.

Members were in favour of the proposal in principle and recognised the benefits of the acquisition however they also discussed the potential risks which related to the man-made reservoir located on site. As suggested by the Officer, it was agreed that a comprehensive reservoir report should be conducted before proceeding with the acquisition, to fully understand the associated level of risk.



On the proposal of Councillor D Clements, seconded by Dr R Plummer, it was **resolved** that:

- i. The acquisition of the Rosemoor Nature Reserve be approved in principle, subject to final legal and financial due diligence.
- ii. Officers be authorised to progress negotiations with the current landowner and relevant stakeholders to secure the transfer and to bring a paper back to Members to approve the acquisition