

## REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

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### **SUBJECT: UK PARK SOCIETIES' CONFERENCE 2013**

#### Purpose of Report

To ask Members to determine attendance at the UK Park Societies' Conference 2013.

#### Introduction/Background

Members may be aware that this year's annual UK Park Societies' Conference is being hosted by the Friends of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, at the Giltar Hotel in Tenby. The conference is entitled 'National Park Challenges – Past, Present & Future' and is open to representatives of all the National Park Societies in the United Kingdom. However, the Friends feel that, as the impact of emerging new legislation and the new focus on sustainable development and renewable energy in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are so far reaching, they wish to extend an invitation to those Members who represent the Authority on the Campaign for National Parks (CNP) in London or CNP Cymru. This Authority's representative on CNP is Mrs Gwyneth Hayward and she, together with the Chairman, also represents the Authority on CNP Cymru.

#### Options

- a) That Mrs Hayward and/or Councillor James be authorised to attend this event.
- b) That no Members of the Authority attend the Conference.

#### Financial considerations

The Friends have been successful in obtaining sponsorship and are able to offer an 'all-in' conference price of £135.00 per person. However, as all single rooms at the hotel have now been taken, it will be necessary to pay a supplement of £22.50 per night, i.e. £180 per person. No bookings are currently being taken for partial attendance at the event.

## Risk considerations

As the Conference is being hosted by the Friends of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, it is considered that the reputation of the Authority would be damaged if it were not represented at this event.

## Compliance

The Conference theme is of relevance to the work of the Authority and attendance at the event would comply with Corporate Objective 4: The National Park Authority is recognised as meeting good practice standards in terms of governance, providing value for money and listening to the views of residents, visitors and partners.

## Human Rights/Equality issues

The report has no Human Rights/Equality implications.

## Biodiversity implications/Sustainability appraisal

Travel distances will be minimal as the conference is being held within the County.

## Welsh Language statement

The report has no implications for the Authority's Welsh Language Scheme.

## Conclusion

That Members consider authorising the attendance of the Chairman and/or CNP representative at the 2103 UK Park Societies' Conference hosted by the Friends of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Members determine and authorise the level of representation at the above-mentioned event.**

## Background papers:

Conference Invitation and Programme

*(For further information, please contact Janet Evans, Administration & Democratic Services Manager on extension 4834, or by e-mailing [janete@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk](mailto:janete@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk))*

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