

# NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

24<sup>th</sup> April 2013

Present: Councillor JA Brinsden (Chairman)  
Mr A Archer, Mr D Ellis, Councillor P Harries, Mrs G Hayward,  
Councillors M James, Mrs L Jenkins, B Kilmister, RM Lewis, PJ  
Morgan, and DWM Rees, Mr EA Sangster, Mrs M Thomas and  
Councillor AW Wilcox.

(NPA Offices, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock: 10.00am – 12.35pm.)

## 1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Ms C Gwyther, and Councillors Mrs A Lee, R Owens and M Williams.

## 2. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interest were received.

## 3. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that he attended the appeal against the Authority's refusal to give planning permission for a low impact dwelling at Binchurn Farm. He informed Members that the day-long appeal was very informative and provided plenty of opportunity for the applicant, the Authority and supporters to have their say. It was a very open and transparent process, which gave a positive reflection of the planning process. As had been previously reported to Members, the Authority was pleased to win the appeal. He congratulated the Head of Development Management on the way in which she had presented evidence on behalf of the Authority.

He had also attended the Dragon Parade and St David's Day celebrations at Oriel Y Parc, which was a very successful event with over 200 children dressed up as dragons.

He attended and gave a brief presentation at a recent Staff Meeting attended by over 100 staff. This provided an opportunity to thank staff for their work.

He also attended the Pembrokeshire Tourism Awards event, where the Authority sponsored the Best Access for the Disabled Visitor category. The award was won by Clynyfw. The Authority also came third in the Best Marketing Campaign Category.

The previous week he had welcomed John Griffiths, AM, Minister for Culture and Sport, to Carew Castle where he re-opened the Castle after



its recent renovation work. It was a successful event and a good opportunity to discuss issues with the Minister.

Along with other Members he had attended a meeting with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, to discuss the work of the Authority and its Members. The Panel would be publishing its recommendations on Member salaries later in the year.

Along with other Members he had attended a service in St Davids Cathedral organised by the Friends of the National Park to celebrate the end of the Authority's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

**NOTED.**

#### **4. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013 were presented for confirmation and signature.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be confirmed and signed.

#### **5. Matters arising**

##### **(a) Minute 12 – Draft Single Integrated Plan 2013-2018**

Referring to the above-mentioned Minute, the Chief Executive advised Members that a letter had been written to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government expressing the view that National Park Authorities (NPAs) should be represented on their respective Local Service Boards. The letter had been written solely from this Authority as Snowdonia was already represented on its respective LSB and Brecon Beacons no longer wished to be involved. The Chief Executive promised to report any response received to Members.

**NOTED.**

##### **(b) Minute 16 – Management of Saundersfoot and Solva Car Parks**

It was reported that Solva Community Council commenced management of Solva Car Park on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2013. No feedback had yet been received.

**NOTED.**

##### **(c) Minute 18 – Update – PCNPA Management of Car Parks**

The Chief Executive reported that the Off Street Parking Order had been approved by Pembrokeshire County Council's (PCC) Cabinet, subject to consultation. He welcomed the progress being made.

**NOTED.**



(d) Minute 23 – Oriel y Parc Café Licence

It was reported that the Oriel y Parc Café Licence had been renewed and everything was working well.

**NOTED.**

(e) Minute 24 – Project Windrush

Referring to the above-mentioned Minute, Members were reminded that they had resolved to delegate the approval of the Authority's involvement in this scheme to the Chief Executive, subject to receipt of a satisfactory Business Plan from Pembrokeshire Tourism. The Plan had subsequently been received, although officers had since discovered that Google had announced that it intended to undertake a 'Google Maps' project on the whole of the Wales Coast Path.

In the circumstances, officers felt it would be better to continue negotiations with Pembrokeshire Tourism on a project instead that could build on the work to be carried out by Google.

It was **RESOLVED** that the course of action outlined by the Chief Executive at the meeting be agreed and that he be authorised to continue discussions with Pembrokeshire Tourism on the possibility of an amended project.

**6. Development Management Committee – Reports of Meetings**

It was **RESOLVED** that the reports of the meetings of the Development Management Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013, the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013, the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 be received.

**7. Standards Committee – Report of Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012 be adopted.

**8. Scrutiny Committee – Reports of Meetings**

It was **RESOLVED** that the reports of the meetings of the Scrutiny Committee held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013 and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013 be adopted.

**9. Conservation and Planning Review Committee – Report of Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the meeting of the Conservation and Planning Review Committee held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be adopted.

**10. Audit & Corporate Services Review Committee – Report of Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the meeting of the Audit and Corporate Services Review Committee held on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be adopted.



**11. Member Development Strategy Working Group – Report of Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the meeting of the Member Development Strategy Working Group held on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be adopted.

**12. Recreation and Tourism Review Committee– Report of Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the report of the meeting of the Recreation and Tourism Review Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 be adopted.

**13. Employee Forum - Substitution**

It was **RESOLVED** that the substitution of Councillor RM Lewis by Councillor M James at the meeting of the Employee Forum held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 be confirmed.

**14. Annual Improvement Report**

The Chief Executive informed Members that under the Local Government Measure, the Wales Audit Office (WAO) was required to report on how well Welsh Councils, Fire and Rescue Authorities and National Park Authorities planned for improvement and delivered their services each year. Its findings were presented in its Annual Improvement Report to the Authority and covered the period 2011/12.

Members were advised that generally the Report reflected positive progress with no statutory recommendations or issues of concern being raised. The WAO felt that the Authority continued to make progress in the way it planned for improvement and developed its supporting arrangements.

Members were pleased that there were no statutory recommendations or issues of concern in the report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Annual Improvement Report 2011/12 be received.

**15. Pembrokeshire County Council’s Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance**

The Policy Officer informed Members that following adoption of its Local Development Plan on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013, Pembrokeshire County Council had published four Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents for public consultation including Parking Standards, Development Sites, Planning Obligations and Affordable Housing.

With regard to the Parking Standards, the content of the document had been prepared jointly with Officers of the National Park Authority and followed an identical approach to that contained in the National Park Authority’s SPG on Parking Standards adopted in June 2011. No comment had been made on Member’s behalf on this guidance.



In relation to Development Sites, the document set out additional details about sites allocated for development within the County Council's planning area, relating to infrastructure and possible constraints. A similar study had recently been completed for the National Park Authority and had been provided as evidence to this Authority's Scrutiny Committee on affordable housing. No comment had been made on Member's behalf on this guidance.

With regard to Planning Obligations, the document was based on the former guidance prepared jointly by the two authorities for the Joint Unitary Development Plan for Pembrokeshire, which was subsequently updated and adopted as guidance to this Authority's Local Development Plan in June 2011. No comment had been made on Member's behalf on this consultation.

In relation to the Affordable Housing SPG, it was reported that the Council's guidance used the same template approach as the National Park Authority's. No comment had been made on Member's behalf on this consultation.

Members were advised that the closing date for responses to all of the above guidance was 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2013. As the SPG raised no issues of concern for the Authority, no comments had been submitted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Report of the Head of Park Direction be noted as the Authority's response in respect of Pembrokeshire County Council's Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Documents on Parking Standards, Development Sites, Planning Obligations and Affordable Housing.

## 16. **South West Wales Economic Development Strategy**

The Director of Delivery and Discovery reported to Members that in August 2012 the four Local Authorities in South West Wales (SWW), the Regional Learning Partnership (RLP), the SWW Regional Tourism Partnership (SWWRTP) and the SWW Economic Forum (SWWEF), appointed SQW Ltd (SQW) to assist with the development of a new long-term Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan for the region.

The work had been developed as a direct response to the recommendations of the Welsh Government's City Regions Task and Finish Group published in July 2012 which advocated the development of a Swansea Bay City Region. The resultant strategy development and action planning process, undertaken by SQW had been structured around four core phases of activity.



The first phase of the process involved the SQW team undertaking a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic evidence base and developing a robust SWOT assessment of the regional economy.

The second phase of the process focused on translating the emerging issues from the evidence review work into a long term Strategic Framework for the regional economy.

The third phase of the process – action planning – focussed specifically on mapping existing and proposed activities from across the SWW region, via a draft action plan, focussing on those initiatives that would make the most significant contribution towards the proposed economic development strategy.

The fourth phase of the overall process involved finalising the Strategic Framework. The work was reported to be close to completion and a consultation process would take place to reflect on the proposed strategic approach and to encourage comments and ‘buy-in’ from a wide range of agencies including the Authority.

The Director considered that the development of a Regional Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan for South West Wales provided an opportunity to re-iterate the contribution that protected landscape areas (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, Brecon Beacons National Park and the Gower Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) made to the regeneration of the South West Wales region. He stated that National Parks Wales had already commissioned a study to examine and evaluate the contribution of the National Park ‘environments’ to the local economy, and Welsh Government was in the process of updating the overarching document which guided the priorities for National Park Authorities at a national level; taking all this into consideration, and bearing in mind that both Wales and the South West Wales region were facing almost unprecedented socio-economic challenges, he considered it vital that all public bodies were unified in delivering key economic development and quality of life outcomes for local communities.

It was therefore proposed that Members of the Authority undertake a review of the Authority’s activities that, in pursuance of its primary statutory purposes, delivered positive socio-economic results for communities within the National Park. It was further recommended that a joint scrutiny review be undertaken with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority of the Authority’s approach to meeting its socio-economic duty as defined under Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995.

Members enquired how this would fit in with the scrutiny programme already agreed by the Authority. However, they accepted that the issue was one of major importance and so it was decided that it would be dealt



with by the next Scrutiny Committee and that Snowdonia National Park Authority be approached to see if they would be interested in participating.

It was **RESOLVED** that a joint scrutiny review be undertaken with the other two Welsh National Park Authorities if possible of the Authorities' approach to meeting their socio-economic duty as defined under Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995.

#### 17. Consultation of Active Travel (Wales) Bill

The Access & Rights of Way Manager reminded Members that they had previously considered a response to the consultation regarding the Active Travel Bill White Paper in August 2012. The Active Travel (Wales) Bill was published in February 2013 and, subject to progress, it was likely to become law later in the year. The Enterprise and Business Committee of the National Assembly for Wales had called for evidence on the general principles of the Bill and had invited responses to its consultation by 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013. This Authority had co-ordinated a National Parks Wales response to the consultation, the details of which were appended to the report before Members that day.

He reported that most of the main provisions of the White Paper were to be found in the Bill, which continued to focus on the development of cycling and walking as a means of travel rather than for leisure and recreation.

He also informed Members that clarification had been received from Welsh Government that National Park Authorities were not defined as Local Authorities for the purposes of the Bill and accordingly there would be no requirement for the Authority to adopt the new duties. There was, however, an expectancy that National Park Authorities would work closely with their host and neighbouring Local Authorities in implementation of the new duties. The Bill therefore provided the Authority with the opportunity to work closely with Pembrokeshire County Council in its implementation.

Members raised concerns that the cycle paths be designed so as not to be intrusive in the natural landscape of the National Park. They also queried how this would affect landowners and individuals whose property these paths might cross but the Access and Rights of Way Manager assured Members that the routes identified would have to be on existing highways and public rights of way.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report in relation to the Active Travel Bill and the response of National Parks Wales to the consultation by the National Assembly for Wales be noted.



## 18. Investigation into Potential Application for Geopark Status

The Business & Performance Manager reported to Members that in 2012 the Authority had approved the commissioning of an investigation into the potential economic and environmental benefits of Geopark status for some or all of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. Consultants Ove Arup from Cardiff were appointed to review the benefits and problems identified by Geoparks in the UK and Europe.

Members were informed that in order to obtain Geopark status the area must not only include significant geological features, but must also promote geology through education, interpretation, events and also appoint a qualified geologist.

He summarised the findings of the report by saying that the quality of the geological features in Pembrokeshire would justify Geopark status. However, although anecdotally it appeared that Geopark status did have a positive impact on the local economy this had not been proven in the few studies which had been carried out. Geopark status was likely to attract only a limited number of additional visitors to the area in the short term – although there was potential for additional educational visits – but it was felt that the National Park ‘brand’ was more widely recognised than Geopark. There was also a cost to establishing, promoting and maintaining the Geopark status which depended on the amount of partnership contributions and volunteer involvement.

He informed Members that it was likely that Geoparks would achieve UNESCO endorsement, which might in the future strengthen the Geopark Brand. However, it was ultimately felt that there was little justification in pursuing Geopark status at this time, and that the Authority instead investigate featuring the geology of the Park more prominently in the education, interpretation and events organised by the Authority.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Authority should not apply for Geopark status at present but monitor the impact of future UNESCO endorsement of Geopark status.

## 19. Internal Audit Report for 2012/13

It was reported that, as part of the Authority’s Corporate Governance Programme, an audit of all services was carried out on a five year rolling programme by Pembrokeshire County Council’s Internal Audit service. The 2012/13 audit concentrated on the Authority’s Delivery Department, Oriell y Parc, Car Park Management, Planning Income, Payroll, Purchase Cards and a review of the previous year’s Agreed Action Plan.

No significant failings had been identified in the latest programme, although a number of minor improvements had been suggested, and the summary of the findings and action plan were attached to the report.





Members congratulated the Authority on a very positive report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Report be noted.

## **20. Improvement Plan 2013/14 – Part 1**

The Business and Performance Manager reported that, under the Local Government Measure, the Authority was required to publish its Improvement Plan as soon as practical for the new financial year.

The Improvement Plan was based on the Corporate Strategy which had been approved at the Authority's meeting in February and the Plan highlighted an Improvement Objective for each of the four corporate outcomes in the Strategy.

Members queried the Improvement Objective in relation to Outcome 3. It was felt that an Improvement Objective against this Outcome should have dealt with jobs, economy etc. They felt that the Objective had little relevance to the Outcome and also that the measures suggested in Outcome 2 and Outcome 3 were similar.

The Business and Performance Manager advised that data relating to jobs and the economy on a National Park only basis was difficult to separate from County- or Wales-wide data, but Members suggested that to overcome this problem the Objective should be amended to read that the Authority would endeavour to gather the information required instead. This would show a commitment to finding a way to assess how the Authority was contributing in relation to the local economy. It was suggested that the objective be amended to evidence how the Authority's services facilitated and/or supported the local economy.

Members also requested that an action on the preservation of historic buildings be added to those actions taken to deliver Outcome 1.

It was **RESOLVED** that Part 1 of the Annual Improvement Plan be adopted subject to:

- (a) the Improvement Objective relating to Outcome 3 being amended to evidence how the Authority's services facilitated and/or supported the local economy, and
- (b) that an additional action be incorporated in Outcome 1 on the preservation of historic buildings.

## **21. Risk Register**

The Business and Performance Manager reported that the management of risks was an important part of the overall governance of the Authority and Members had collective responsibility for ensuring risks were managed appropriately. Individual elements of the Risk Register were



reviewed by the respective Review Committees and the Risk Register was presented to the National Park Authority annually.

The Register listed each risk, the likelihood and the impact of it occurring, the actions the Authority were taking to mitigate the risk along with the officer with overall responsibility and the Member allocated to monitor the risk. He reported that only five of the risks were considered as high (red), 19 were medium (amber) and the remaining thirty were ranked as low (green).

Members enquired as to whether the Authority's Business Continuity Plan covered all the major risks that might occur in relation to IT. The Business and Performance Manager advised that a disaster recovery alternative site had been identified, which meant that the Authority would be up and running again in approximately two hours in the event of a major IT failure at Llanion. The Business Continuity Plan related more to the other services provided by the Authority and this was currently under review.

Members also enquired about CRB checks on staff and were informed that all were currently up to date to the level required.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Authority's Risk Register be confirmed.

## **22. Variation of Major Contracts Standing Order No. 13**

The Finance Manager reported that in 2012 as part of the definition of roles the Delivery Team was requested to take an overview of the condition of hard surfaced facilities such as car parks and easy access paths in the National Park. The survey had thrown up a number of works, the more urgent of which had been addressed. It also identified work on the road at Skrinkle Haven where there had been complaints from the Community Council about the condition of the surface. The cost of repairs was circa £26,000 however, as a result of the Castlemartin Ranger's involvement, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) had agreed to fund 50% of the repairs provided the work was completed by the end of March 2013. Accordingly in mid March 2013 it was decided to proceed with the repair works.

The Finance Manager informed Members that the awarding of all contracts in excess of £25,000 was subject to the Authority's Financial Regulations relating to Major Contracts. However Standing Order 13 of the Regulations related to variations from the normal procurement process and one of the conditions for use of Standing Order 13 was that the contract was 'required with such urgency as to not permit the invitation of tenders due to time constraints – such as the expiry of external funding'.



It was reported that the Authority's Standing Order on Major Contracts also stated 'authority to approve the use of Standing Order 13 rests with the Chief Executive (National Park Officer) and Chief Financial Officer only, with the justification for the decision being recorded and retained on the project file'. Further 'all approvals under these Standing Orders (13) shall be reported to the next National Park Authority meeting for Member's endorsement'.

It was **RESOLVED** that the use of the Authority's Major Contracts Standing Order No 13 for the contract to repair the road at Skrinkle Haven be endorsed.

### **23. Review of the Authority's Property Portfolio Asset Management Policy**

The Estates Officer advised Members that the Authority's existing Asset Management Policy had been adopted in February 2003 and provided the strategy framework for the management of the Authority's Property Portfolio. The work of the Authority's Estate Management function was most recently audited by Pembrokeshire County Council's Internal Audit Service during the financial year 2010/11, when their findings had made no recommendation for change and advised that a satisfactory framework of controls were in place. The Authority's Property Portfolio was under constant review through the work of the Property & Projects Group and part of that function was to review and update the strategy framework itself.

The revised document presented to Members made no significant change in terms of the overall objectives of the Property Portfolio, it properly reflected the contemporary structure of the organisation and the reorganisation of roles and responsibilities that had taken place in recent years. It also recommended that the Policy should be reviewed every five years.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Policy Document appended to the report be endorsed as the new strategy framework for the Authority's Property Portfolio Asset Management.

### **24. Members' Survey 2013: Results**

The Administration and Democratic Services Manager reminded Members that a survey had been carried out to assess whether the current arrangements in relation to meetings, and the distribution and content of meeting papers were satisfactory or whether they required amending. As a result of the responses received a draft calendar of meetings had been produced.

Overall the survey results had raised a number of issues in relation to meetings which needed to be considered by Members including whether



or not to maintain the status quo with regard to meeting times and venues; whether to hold one National Park Authority meeting per Municipal Year at an alternative venue; whether to hold meetings of other Committees at alternative venues and whether or not to hold meetings of the Authority and its Committees during the evening.

Members debated the possibility of holding evening meetings but it was felt that these would be difficult to schedule due to Members' other commitments. It was agreed that a Feedback Form be produced for members of the public who attended Development Management Committee meetings to gauge their opinion of the experience.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- (a) that a survey be undertaken of those members of the public who had attended meetings of the Development Management Committee to gauge their opinion of the experience;
- (b) that, where there was an opportunity, one meeting of the National Park Authority or its Committees be held at an alternative venue each Municipal Year, and
- (c) that a pilot exercise be undertaken with some Members on the use of electronic tablets as a means of receiving agenda papers.

## 25. Calendar of Meeting 2013/2014

The Administration and Democratic Services Manager reported that, as the current calendar of meetings would come to an end in June 2013 following the Annual General Meeting, a new calendar of meetings had been drafted. As Members had indicated in the Members' Survey that the current meeting arrangements were satisfactory the calendar had been drafted along similar lines to the previous year. However, when consulting colleagues on the draft calendar comments had been made about the number of days when two major meetings were being held on the same day and therefore an alternative calendar had also been drafted as an option.

It was **RESOLVED** that the 2013/14 calendar of meetings detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be adopted, subject to Development Management Committee site inspections being reinstated to Mondays, as opposed to the Fridays identified in the calendar.

## 26. Corporate Events

The report of the Administration and Democratic Services Manager contained details of corporate events to which the Authority had been invited.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members be authorised to attend the under-mentioned corporate events and that the allocations detailed below be



filled on a 'first come, first served' basis by the Administration and Democratic Services Manager:

- (a) Wales Planning Conference 2013: Building Sustainable Communities – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013, City Hall, Cardiff - Chair/Deputy Chair of Development Management Committee;
- (b) WLGA Annual Conference, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013, City Hall, Cardiff – 3 or 4 Members;
- (c) Members' National Induction Course hosted by the Snowdonia National Park Authority on the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – usually new Members;
- (d) UK Association of National Parks conference 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2013, North York Moors – 4 Members (to include Councillor Mrs L Jenkins);
- (e) Europarc Conference, 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013 Debrecen, Hungary on the theme of "40 years Working for Nature";
- (f) National Parks Wales Annual Members' Seminar which will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at Plas Tan y Bwlch, Snowdonia National Park Authority – all Members, and
- (g) the Urdd Eisteddfod Primary School concert on the 29<sup>th</sup> May (Deputy Chair of the Authority).

*(Mrs Rhiannon Edwards, Solicitor advising the Authority, left the meeting while the following item on the provision of legal services to the Authority was considered.)*

## **27. Oral Report by the Chief Executive on the provision of Legal Services to the Authority**

The Chief Executive reminded Members that it had been 12 months since they had reviewed the provision of legal services to the Authority pending the retirement of the Authority's Solicitor. The option agreed at the time had been to divide the service up into three with Development Management legal advice being provided by Geldards Solicitors, Corporate legal advice being provided by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and a legal framework to be used for all other legal requirements.

He reported that the current arrangements were shortly due for review, and he considered that two options were available to the Authority:

- (a) to undertake the exercise again, or
- (b) to continue with the current arrangements for a further twelve months, at which time there would be sufficient data available to launch a procurement exercise.

It was **RESOLVED** to continue with the current arrangement for the provision of legal services to the Authority for a further twelve months.



*(Mrs Rhiannon Edwards returned to the meeting at this point.)*

## **28. Update on Welsh Government's Draft Protected Landscape Policy**

The Chief Executive reported that the Welsh Government's Draft Protected Landscape Policy had been expected to be with the Authority in February 2013 but had been delayed until 24<sup>th</sup> May. There would then follow a 12 week consultation process and this would be dealt with at a future meeting of the National Park Authority.

He went on to say that the delay had impacted upon the Authority's intention to review the National Park Management Plan as it was considered that it would not be advisable to develop the Plan in the absence of the wider policy context. It was felt, however, that the decision not to progress the Management Plan should be formalised and therefore the Chairman of the Authority would write to the Minister to say that it was the Authority's intention to extend the life of the Management Plan for 12 months in order that it could full assess and incorporate the implications of the Welsh Government's Protected Landscape Policy.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman be authorised to write to the Welsh Government informing officials of the Authority's reasons for extending the life of the current National Park Management Plan.

## **29. Chairman's farewell**

The Chairman brought the meeting to a close by saying that this was his last meeting as Chairman of the National Park Authority and thanked Members and Officers for their support over the previous 2 years.

The Deputy Chair thanked the Chairman for his representation of the Authority at meetings both internally and externally and for the impeccable way he had chaired meetings over the past two years.

**NOTED.**

