



# Peak District Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting

Wednesday 25 February 2015, 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Boardroom, Aldern House, Bakewell, DE45 1AE

## Minutes

### Present

Geoff Nickolds (Chair) (PDNPA)

Alison Pritchard (DCC)

Dave O'Hara (Dark Peak NIA/RSPB)

Peter Dewhurst (University of Derby)

Jon Stewart (NT)

Sara Barrett (NE)

Anne Robinson (FoPD)

Penny Anderson

Zaid Ahmed (PDNPA)

Jane Chapman (PDNPA)

Rhodri Thomas (PDNPA)

Sarah Fowler (PDNPA- latter half)

### Apologies

Neil Moulden

Mike Burke

### Minutes of Last Meeting

E Midlands Investment Strategy- input made

Natural Capital Indicators- Mike Burke attended

Local Enterprise Partnership- PDNPA meeting with Enterprise PD to agree common approach to LEP engagement. Meetings held with D2N2 and Sheffield LEPS.

LNP newsletter- not produced

LNP support- recruitment for Karen Shelley-Jones' replacement is underway

### Health & Wellbeing

Alison circulated draft briefing paper re health & wellbeing and the natural environment, which she hopes to submit to the Derbys Health & Wellbeing Board to get recognition of the role of the environment in health & wellbeing. The Health & Wellbeing Strategy includes Healthy Communities and Children's mental health & wellbeing as 2 of its 4 priorities. The LNP expressed support for the paper and its

submission to the Board. **ACTION: Alison** to let Geoff Nickolds know if there are any further measures the LNP can take to support the submission of the paper.

Surveys suggest Derbyshire residents show more concern about the environment, green space and spending time outdoors than elsewhere nationally. The importance of the quality of green space was also raised- **ACTION: Penny Anderson** to pull together information on this sometime.

The potential for a summit on health & wellbeing and the environment was raised.

### **Defra's Mandate for LNPs- update**

Geoff and Jane are attending the annual LNP meeting on 24 March, and Defra has highlighted the role of LNPs as champions of natural capital. Defra have also asked N. Pennines AONB to carry out work on Natural Capital Investment Plans. **ACTION: Jane** to check if Defra have produced final draft of LNP evaluation report.

### **Dialogue with LEPs and other LNPs**

D2N2 are co-ordinating work on gathering data on Natural Capital for the Derbys/Notts area, and are considering inclusion of the Peak District. It was agreed that the LNP would support this in principle subject to clarification of the level of data sought and how it might be used, and it would also be very dependent on the capacity for individual organisations to supply relevant data. **ACTION: Mike Burke and Rhodri Thomas** to feed back to Tom French.

A report on the economic value of National Parks globally, in which the Peak District features, was published today. **ACTION: Anne Robinson** to circulate link. Currently LEP funding is in different pots with measurable indicators which are difficult to match against LNP objectives. To date the only specific funding to emerge is £3k from D2N2 for Peak District branding.

The role of the LNP in supporting agri-environment scheme targeting was discussed. The shortfall in availability of agri-environment scheme support was raised as a concern.

### **Geodiversity Strategy**

Albert Benghiat's paper (under the auspices of the East Midlands Geological Society) re a proposed feasibility study for GeoPark status for the Peak District was tabled. The preparatory work would also lay a framework for a Geodiversity Action Plan for the Peak District, and the proposal would be to complete the feasibility study by autumn 2015 for further consideration by the LNP Board. The LNP Board supported this proposal, and asked for their thanks to be conveyed to Albert. The importance of integrating this with landscape, ecology and cultural heritage (covered by the paper) was highlighted, along

with the fact that any subsequent consideration of GeoPark status would be dependent on resources. **ACTION: Rhodri** to convey this back to Albert.

### **State of Nature report**

Penny reported that work on this was underway. Further GIS data is being sought. A quote for production of the report has been sought- it was agreed that it would be useful to have printed copies of a 2-3 page summary report but a decision on whether to produce paper or just electronic version of the full report will be made once a draft is available. **ACTION: Penny** to circulate draft to wildlife bodies to identify and fill gaps in the data. **Jane** to consider how to take this to the NPA and the NPMP Advisory Group in due course.

### **Dark Peak NIA**

NE are producing an evaluation report on the 12 "trial" NIAs nationally.

The 3-yr Dark Peak NIA project- the only upland NIA- ends in March 2015. Covering an area of 250 km<sup>2</sup> and building on existing partnerships, it has contributed to SSSI and ecosystem service targets. Achievements have included extensive moorland restoration, 80 ha grassland restoration and a similar area of new native woodland. NIA partners would like the NIA to continue and for the NPA to adopt the co-ordination role. The LNP Board supported the principle of continuation of the NIA subject to greater clarification of what the future direction and priorities for the NIA might be, what they would wish to see as a legacy, and appropriate consultation with potential partners and other stakeholders. **ACTION: Jane** to consider whether NPA (perhaps through Moors for the Future?) would be willing to take on co-ordination role.

### **Wider partner meeting**

The proposal is to hold a wider partner meeting in autumn 2015. It was agreed that this would be considered further at the next meeting, but the State of Nature report could form a useful focus.

### **River Dove Restoration Scheme**

This is a partnership project involving Natural England, Trent Rivers Trust, the National Trust and the National Park Authority, proposing to restore more natural flow to sections of the River Dove. It would principally involve weir removal/lowering where appropriate, and there is wide consultation with fishing clubs, local parish councils, adjacent landowners and other stakeholders. The project was noted and supported in principle by the LNP Board.

## **Chair**

Geoff indicated that he would be willing to continue chairing the LNP Board subject to approval by Sarah Fowler and Lesley Roberts. **ACTION: Geoff** to follow up.

## **Next meeting**

**ACTION: Jane** to set up next meeting late June/early July.