

The White Peak Partnership

Steering Group meeting

10:00 – 13:00 Wednesday 15 January 2020 at Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House

Minutes

Introductions & apologies

Attendees

Mark Haslam (MH) - Environment Agency (EA) - Chair
Sarah Bird (SB) - Secretariat
Suzanne Fletcher (SLF) - Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA)
Tim Allen (TA) - Historic England (HE)
Andrew Critchlow (AC) - National Farmers Union (NFU)
Tim Birch (TB) - Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT)
Dan Abrahams (DA) - Natural England (NE)

Apologies

Neil Rudge (NR) - Natural England (NE)
Jon Stewart (JS) - National Trust (NT)

Minutes from the last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting accepted as true. Actions from the last meeting that are not covered elsewhere have been completed with the exception of

- **Action: TA to send LIDAR data & analytical report to DA.**
- Update: Water vulnerability mapping – Raising awareness internally. Trying to load data to external viewer. BGS will be picked up in version 2.
- **Action: SB to get update from MA on DWPP.**

Update Defra ELMS – White Peak Test

The group received a paper copy of the White Peak Test summary, the advertising poster/ flyer and the Expression of Interest form with covering letter.

Action: SB to send electronically.

PDNPA received contract from Defra for the test in November. Start date was 01/11/2019. First phase of the test is in the White Peak NCA, running from 01 November 2019 until 31 October 2020. If the NCA approach is deemed to be a good model, the test will run for a further year; 01 November 2020 until 31 October 2021 in two different NCAs. The PDNPA is receiving funding from Defra for the following elements of the White Peak Test; project officer backfilling, time foregone payments for farmers and land managers to encourage quality time, professional workshop facilitator and venue costs. Funding for production of the ready reckoners and farm adviser time will be provided by PDNPA. Just about to let a contract for production of a draft budget ready reckoner.

Poster to promote participation in the workshops and one-to-ones. To apply, potential participants will need to complete the Expression of Interest form. Agreed with the Brexit sub-group that PDNPA will select participants.

Three workshops will be run by a professional facilitator – Pete Spriggs from Clearer Thinking. Dates for all three have been finalised. First workshop will be with the White Peak Farmers facilitation group, involving 10 participants (automatic selection). Other two workshops will be larger, 20 participants at each, chosen from those that apply through the Expression of Interest. SLF and SB will be at all workshops. May be opportunity for members of the Steering Group to attend.

Before workshops or one-to-ones, participants will receive a pre-session questionnaire, which will form the baseline of their current approach/ thinking.

Action: SB/ SLF to let those that have expressed an interest in attending know if needed.

Action: All to promote participation in the White Peak test to farmers and land owners where appropriate.

Action: TB (DWT) to promote to hard to reach land managers in Rose Meadows/ Brassington area.

White Peak advisers training day - feedback

Feedback: Useful having a theme, and having an outside speaker. Lots of interest and enthusiasm for it to continue.

Group agree good to run one again, September or October 2020.

Project Planning

Water projects (MH) – possibility of some funding to kick start a project. DWT will update as appropriate. No other funding opportunities identified.

Farming (SLF) – ELMs covers a lot of these strands. Have been some more applications for facilitation groups. Chatsworth/ Haddon & tenants, Bradfield Moor think have been confirmed. Opportunity mapping fits with work that has been done already, and how that fits into prioritisation through the test.

Wildlife (DA) – NT have 80ha near Longstone Edge in CS for the next 5 years, demonstrating low intensity land management. NT Greensides have advertised for a tenant. Similarly NE NNR at Middle Hay 50-60ha, year round cattle grazing and tree planting (funding in place, happening now).

AC – effects of empty properties on small communities?

Longstone Edge a key area in considering NRNs. Contaminated land would fall under DDDC.

Action: TB to talk to John Scott (PDNPA) about planning details of quarrying at Middleton Moor.

Ponds/ quarries (TB) – PDNPA through District Level Licensing, restoring ponds on the NP through a contract with WildScapes.

Action: TB to link up with Rebekah Newman on road verges.

Miscellaneous (AC) – BVD will have to wait to see what comes out of ag bill and animal health and welfare.

Partner bids and updates

DWT considering their five year strategy and NRNs, need to review these projects in light of restructure and strategy. Looking at all NRs and getting clarity on adjoining land owners, expanding NR effects. Developing rewilding policy, where can make NRs wilder and restore natural processes. Scott working on rivers throughout county. Looking for Knepp style opportunities for land acquisition in WP or DP. Maximising areas that fit with existing land holdings and partners land holdings. Ash dieback in Chee Dale and Wye Valley. Business planning for next year. 2020 campaign, roadside verges (Ben Carter director of income generation and heads campaigns).

Action: TB to contact TA for early consultation on site management changes and implementation.

Kieron will be working on developing NRN mapping in Derbyshire. Do they have all the info with partners. Want a plan on what it looks like in Derbyshire and will inform a plan, where to buy land or where to target advice.

Nature recovery leads at NE – Dan for uplands/ Peak District & Ruth Tall for Lincs, Notts, South Derbys (lowlands). Will be taking forward the opportunity mapping in the WP. National team leading on nature recovery, Defra tasked NE to deliver NRNs. Lead for DP & SWP is Tamara Taylor. NRN is a mapping exercise done at national level, takes into account historic environment etc.

Action: SLF to enquire about Yorkshire Dales nature recovery workshop.

Whole White Peak Partnership newsletter

Newsletter mailing list received from DWT. Waiting for email format to send out.

Action: SB to make sure up-to-date and then send out newsletter.

Date, location & chair of next meeting – (Chair in order: DWT, EA, HE, NE, NFU, NT, PDNPA)

Next Steering Group meeting 24th April 2020. Chair Tim Birch or Matt Buckler (DWT) at DWT office.
