

National Park Authority Board Meeting



Minutes of Meeting held at 2.00pm on 17 February 2014
John Muir Suite, Carrochan, Balloch, G83 8EG

Present: Linda McKay (Convener) Colin Bayes
Owen McKee (Depute Convener) Fergus Wood
David McKenzie William Nisbet
Angus Allan Bob Ellis
Lindsay Morrison George Freeman
James Robb Kate Sankey
Petra Biberbach David McCowan
David Warnock

In Attendance: Fiona Logan Sandra Dalziel
Jaki Carnegie Catriona Morton
Bridget Jones Natalie Stevenson

Apologies: Hazel Sorrell
Martin Earl

Item	Title / Discussion	Action by
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Convener opened the meeting and welcomed all those present and in attendance at the meeting. She introduced the following NPA staff to the Board: Natalie Stevenson, Countryside Trust Manager, Sandra Dalziel, covering for Peter Stevenson and Catriona Morton, Finance and Performance Manager. Apologies were received from Hazel Sorrell and Martin Earl.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No Declarations of Interest were made.</p>	
3	<p>Election of Convener</p> <p>Jaki Carnegie introduced the report and advised that following her email correspondence to Members inviting Expressions of Interest for the role of Convener, she had received one Expression of Interest from Linda McKay. She reported that the nomination was supported by Owen McKee and Colin Bayes. She requested that Linda McKay leave the room for the duration of the election.</p> <p>Linda McKay left the meeting.</p> <p>DECISION: Members approved Linda McKay's reappointment as Convener of the NPA for a further three year term with effect from 14th March 2014.</p>	

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	Linda McKay thanked the Board for their support. Owen McKee, Deputy Convener, congratulated her on her re-appointment as Convener.	
4	<p>Appointment of Board Member to Local Access Forum</p> <p>Jaki Carnegie introduced the report and advised that two nominations had been received and that the process to determine which Member shall be appointed will be by secret ballot. She advised that both Members' submitted statements have been circulated with the ballot slips and invited Members to take a few minutes to reflect on these statements before casting their votes. Votes were collected and counted and Jaki Carnegie announced that Bob Ellis was successful by majority vote.</p> <p>DECISION: Members appointed Bob Ellis to the Local Access Forum</p>	
5	<p>Board Member Daily Fees</p> <p>Jaki Carnegie gave an overview of the report and drew Members' attention to the options presented in section 3 of the report. She advised that LLTNPA are a Band 3 organisation and that the current daily rate exceeds the maximum recommended level but is below the ceiling for Band 3 NDPBs.</p> <p>She advised that the process to be followed should option c) be agreed, would be for Members to contact her within one week should they wish to opt out on an individual basis.</p> <p>Members discussed the options and a clear preference was expressed for option a) no award; Members' comments included the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">The current level is already above the maximum recommended levelIt would be preferable for Scottish Government to set the daily rates for all Boards and a recommendation should be put forward to this effect.The option to opt out individually would not ensure the daily rates at the current level would transfer to new Members to the Board. Rates would increase by default when changes to the Board occur.An increase to Members' daily rates would not be justified in the current economic climate. <p>Members proceeded to vote by a show of hands and unanimously voted for option a).</p>	

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	<p>DECISION: Members voted against the recommendation and voted unanimously for option a) no award. It was agreed that a recommendation to Scottish Government should be made that pay awards are decided by Scottish Government.</p> <p>ACTION: Response to Scottish Government to include a recommendation that Board pay awards be determined by Scottish Government.</p>	<p>Jaki Carnegie</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>The Convener referred to the discussion at the December Board Business Session regarding a joint Board session with Cairngorms National Park Authority in spring 2014. She had considered the views expressed by members at the December Board and that the session was to focus on the On Board guidance which was due to be published. Taking everything into account it was agreed that the joint session with Cairngorms would not proceed and that OnBoard and induction training would take place in the autumn when the upcoming local Board member elections and ministerial appointments were complete.</p> <p>ACTION: Induction and OnBoard training to take place in the autumn.</p> <p>David McKenzie invited Members to congratulate the Blairmore community on their £80k award from the Scottish Land Fund for community and tourist development. Fiona Logan advised that an article would be prepared for the Board microsite.</p> <p>ACTION: Article to be published on the Board microsite on the award to Blairmore from the Scottish Land Fund.</p> <p>Fergus Wood announced that there is a new Chamber of Commerce for Stirling and that it is hoped that very close collaboration takes place with Destination Stirling.</p> <p>David McCowan announced that the communities of Luss and Arden and Arrochar and Tarbet have been invited by Luss Estates to work on progressing proposals for a community hydro scheme.</p> <p>George Freeman stated that caution should be exercised by Members of commenting publicly on the proposal as this could jeopardise their right to make decisions should this be progressed to planning application stage.</p>	<p>Jaki Carnegie</p>

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	The Convener welcomed the announcement that Iain Ross had been appointed Chair of Scottish Natural Heritage and looked forward to continuing positive relationships with the new Chair.	
7	Date of Next Meeting The Convener confirmed the date of the next meeting as 17 th March 2014.	

Signed _____

Linda McKay
Convener

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