

National Park Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 10

Board Appointments – Community Partnership & Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust



Paper for decision

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Following the Board appointments to the various Board/Committee/Groups/Forum approved at the December 2018, nominations are now sought for appointments to the Community Partnership and Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust Boards.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. Members are invited to vote upon or approve the following appointments:

- a) Membership of the Community Partnership Board
- b) Membership of the Loch Lomond & Trossachs Countryside Trust Board

There is no fixed term associated with these appointments. However, it is suggested that appointments are reviewed every two years in line with the approach agreed for Committee Chair appointments.

3. Contribution to National Park Partnership Plan and Our 5-year Plan

- 3.1. Proactively ensuring that there is sufficient and appropriate membership of our key delivery organisations supports good governance which underpins all Outcomes and Priorities of the National Park Partnership Plan and Our 5-year Plan 2018-23.

4. Background

- 4.1. Community Partnership - Established in 2004 by the National Park Authority to support the Park's communities, the Community Partnership is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The Partnership's work is managed by a voluntary Board of Directors who employ a Development Manager and a Community Partnership Support Officer.
- 4.2. The Partnership provides guidance, support and information to help communities work together to shape and enhance their own community. Examples of recent work programmes include supporting the preparation of Community Action Plans for Loch Goil and Gartmore, as part of a rolling programme across the National Park, Area based Community Network meetings in Cowal and Lomond, a very successful Village Hall 'Summit' in 2018 and an annual Community 'Gathering' event. The Park Authority is the core funder, which is managed through an annual Service Level Agreement.

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- 4.3. The Partnership's Board meets 5-6 times a year typically in Balloch and is made up of Elected or co-opted Directors. The Partnership Chair, on behalf of the Board, has invited the Park Authority Board to nominate a Member who would be co-opted in order to help foster closer strategic links between the organisations. Currently Anna MacLean, Head of Communications, is co-opted and previous to this it has been either an officer or a National Park Board Member who has taken up the role. Bob Daracott has expressed an interest in this role.
- 4.4. Loch Lomond & Trossachs Countryside Trust - The Trust was set up in the Park in 2012 by the National Park Authority, Forestry Commission Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage, with the aim of being an effective mechanism to help conserve and improve the landscape and ecology of the National Park and to enhance the visitor experience of its countryside. It is a registered Scottish charity independently governed by a Board of Trustees made up of representatives of the founding partners and independent trustees. Currently there is an assumption by the Trust that at least one member of the National Park Board will join the Trust Board in the near future. The Trust Board meets 5-6 times a year at locations and around the National Park.
- 4.5. The Trust employs a full time Trust Manager and currently an Active Travel Project Officer, along with a range of consultants, contractors, self-employed staff as [Walk in the Park](#) leaders, and volunteers.
- 4.6. As well as the highly successful Walk in the Park initiative, current and past projects delivered by the Trust include peatland restoration on Loch Lomond Golf Course land, rhododendron removal at Stronachlachar and the creation of the new Dalrigh-Tyndrum all abilities path. Projects currently in development include a new, large-scale electric bike network in the eastern part of the National Park, linking with a similar network in the Forth Valley.

5. Nominations & Voting

- 5.1. As these appointments are voluntary, non-statutory roles, formal nominations are not required and instead members wishing to put their name forward are asked to do so in the Board meeting.
- 5.2. If there is more than one interested candidate, voting will follow the order laid out in 2 above. Members wishing to express an interest in these roles will be offered an opportunity to make a statement in the event that voting takes place.

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6. Conclusion

- 6.1. The Community Partnership and Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trust are both highly valued by the National Park Authority and by the many others who benefit from their work. Members are encouraged to consider putting themselves forward for the Boards of these delivery organisations to support their continued success and development.

Executive Sponsor: Stuart Mearns, Director of Rural Development & Planning
Simon Jones, Director of Conservation & Visitor Operations