

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING – 21 SEPTEMBER 2006

NEW FOREST CONSULTATIVE PANEL REPORT
Summary of the meeting on Thursday 7 September 2006

Report by: Nick Evans, Senior Planning Officer (Management Plan) and David Stone, Member Services Officer

Summary:

This report outlines the various issues discussed by the Consultative Panel on 7 September 2006.

Recommendations:

1. To note issues of interest at the meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 7 September 2006.
2. To note the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 2 November 2006.

Resources:

None

Paper:

NFNPA 134/06: Cover paper

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Main agenda items:

1. Forestry Commission

Mike Seddon, Deputy Surveyor, gave a presentation and responded to questions by members of the Panel on the Forestry Commission's policies regarding the sale and acquisition of its land and property. The matter had been raised at the previous meeting of the Consultative Panel by the New Forest Association, with regard to the proposed sale of Holmsley Lodge and Shrike Cottage by the Forestry Commission.

2. Countryside Access Plan for the New Forest and South West Hampshire – Consultation Draft

The Authority had circulated a paper on the draft access plan, and it was noted that some member organisations had responded individually to Hampshire County Council on the consultation. The Panel discussed the strategic points raised in the paper and, in endorsing the responses to the consultation draft, highlighted:

- the possible need to carry out an appropriate assessment of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan itself,
- the need for improved access to the National Park for cyclists, and
- clarification of the availability of financial resources within the plan.

3. Sustainable Development Fund

Claire Gingell, the Authority's Sustainable Development Fund Officer, made a presentation outlining the background and purpose of the Sustainable Development Fund, and gave examples of the types of project which were supported by the Fund.

4. National Park Management Plan and Local Development Framework

Steve Trotter, Director of Conservation and Enhancement, updated the Panel on the current proposals for consultation on the National Park Management Plan and Local Development Framework.

Additional items discussed included:

5. Subdivision of grazing land

Steve Trotter updated the Panel on the seminar to be held by the Authority and the New Forest Equestrian Association to look at issues relating to the subdivision of grazing land.

6. Replacement of Cross Solent Watermain

The Panel was updated on the construction period for the replacement of the cross-Solent watermain, which would begin in the near future.

7. Winter Car Park Closures

The Forestry Commission provided members of the Panel with a map illustrating the winter season car park closures from 6 November 2006 to 19 March 2007.

8. Natural England update

The Panel would receive an update on the formation of Natural England at its next meeting.

Recommendations:

1. **To note issues of interest at the meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 7 September 2006.**
2. **To note the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 2 November 2006.**