

**NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**AUTHORITY MEETING – 26 MARCH 2008**

**NEW FOREST CONSULTATIVE PANEL REPORT  
SUMMARY OF THE MEETING ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2008**

**Report by:** Stephen Trotter, Director of Conservation, Recreation and Sustainable Development

**Summary:**

This report outlines the main issues discussed by the Consultative Panel on 6 March 2008.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. To note issues of interest at the meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 6 March 2008.**
- 2. To note that the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 1 May 2008.**

**Paper:**

**NFNPA 246/08:** Cover paper

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**Main agenda items:**

**1 Election of Panel Chairman**

The Panel re-elected Tim Greenwood as its Chairman for the forthcoming year.

**2 Matters arising**

**2.1 Update on proposed airspace changes consultation**

David Illsley gave a brief verbal update on the progress of the proposed airspace changes. Alan Cox, of Ashmansworth Parish Council, said that a number of parish councils were considering bringing an action for judicial review and were seeking to raise funding.

**3 Forestry Commission**

**3.1 Crown Lands Management Plan consultation**

Mike Seddon, Forestry Commission, informed Panel members that the Crown Lands Management Plan was available for consultation on the Forestry Commission website, and answered Panel members' queries on the consultation document.

**3.2 Minister's Mandate for the New Forest**

Mike Seddon explained that the Minister's Mandate for the New Forest was due for renewal and invited comments from Panel members.

**4 Commoning Review**

Emma Rigglesworth, the Authority's Head of Sustainable Development, gave a presentation outlining the Commoning Review and updated the Panel on progress with implementing the recommendations that arose from the Review.

## **5 New Forest Community Media – Proposed Community Broadcasting Service to the National Park area**

Catherine Lake (Founder and Managing Editor of New Forest Community Media) gave a presentation to the Panel on proposals to bid for a community radio licence based in Brockenhurst and broadcasting to the National Park. The station would present an opportunity for local people to get involved and, under the terms of the licence, would be a not for profit enterprise or charity. A trial broadcast under a temporary licence was scheduled to take place in July 2008 and it was intended that the station would be launched full time in mid 2010.

## **6 Any other business**

### **6.1 Heritage Lottery Fund Bid**

In response to a query, James Young of the Commoners' Defence Association explained the commoners' reasons for their decision not to proceed with the New Forest Landscape Partnership Heritage Lottery Fund Bid.

### **6.2 Forest South East Conservation Area**

Arthur French, Boldre Parish Council, informed the Panel that Boldre Parish Council was of the view that the consultation process for the designation of Forest South East Conservation Area was too rushed and insufficient notice was given of the proposals. He invited the Authority to make a presentation to the Panel on the probable impact on residents of the designation of a conservation area. Steve Trotter explained that the Authority had followed the prescribed procedure in designating the areas but would note the Parish Council's comments.

### **6.3 Forestry Commission - staffing change**

Mike Seddon informed the Panel that Kevin Penfold, the current Head of Land Management, would be leaving the Forestry Commission and would be replaced by Nick Tucker, currently the Harvesting Manager.

## **Recommendations:**

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- 2. To note that the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 1 May 2008.**