

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY MEETING – 6 DECEMBER 2007

NEW FOREST CONSULTATIVE PANEL REPORT
Summary of the meeting on Thursday 15 November 2007

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

Summary:

This report outlines the main issues discussed by the Consultative Panel on 15 November 2007.

Recommendations:

- 1. To note issues of interest at the meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 15 November 2007.**
- 2. To note that the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 3 January 2008.**

Resources:

None

Paper:

NFNPA 224/07: Cover paper

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Main agenda items:

1 Forestry Commission

- 1.1 Mike Seddon (Forestry Commission) gave a presentation on the draft revised Crown Lands Management Plan, which would be available for consultation from the end of November 2007 until the end of January 2008. He advised the Panel that the timescales for the production of the Management Plan had moved so that the Forestry Commission could work alongside the New Forest National Park Authority, which was also in the process of drafting its National Park Management Plan.
- 1.2 The Forestry Commission would make a limited number of hard copies available from enquiries.new.forest@forestry.gsi.gov.uk. The document would also be available at www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest.

2 National Air Traffic Services consultation: Proposed changes to the airspace over the National Park

- 2.1 David Illsley gave a presentation updating the Panel on the National Air Traffic Services consultation on the proposed air space changes over the National Park. The National Park Authority and the Consultative Panel had received replies to their responses to the consultation at the end of October. He outlined the response, which the National Park Authority viewed as unsatisfactory, and advised the Panel of the final stages in the process which would provide stakeholders with the opportunity to make final representations, including any new evidence, to the Civil Aviation Authority. The National Park Authority would be liaising with other bodies in producing its response to ensure that a consistent case against the proposals was presented. A final decision on the proposals would be reached by the Civil Aviation Authority within the next couple of months.
- 2.2 A further presentation was made by Alan Cox from Ashmansworth Parish Council, a conservation village located within the North Wessex Downs AONB, which would also be affected by the proposals. Alan Cox gave a brief summary of the work that had been carried out by the parish councils in that area in relation to their objection to the proposals.

- 2.3 The Panel unanimously agreed that a strong letter of response, drafted in collaboration with the New Forest National Park Authority, should be sent to the Civil Aviation Authority in the Chairman's name.

3 Our New Forest – A living register of language and traditions

- 3.1 Jo Ivey (representing the Living Register project) gave a presentation on the project, which aimed to record the local history, traditions and culture of the New Forest. She informed the Panel that the Living Register would be a public document that could be used as a reference source for information about the Forest and would contain local words, phrases, place names, traditions and memories. The public would be able to add to the entries so that it would remain a 'living' register. Behind the reference document there would be a repository of photographs, objects, recorded stories and documents, which would be available to the public for research and use in exhibitions about the New Forest.
- 3.2 Six volunteers had so far been trained in recording oral histories. The strands of the oral histories currently being collected were based on both localities and themes (including local hospitals, pony breeding, farming and forestry and New Forest gypsies).
- 3.3 Lyndsey Stride of the New Forest Museum Project then facilitated an exercise in which the Panel was prompted to think about any local words, phrases, place names, traditions or memories they could contribute to the Living Register. Members of the Panel were invited to donate any pieces of equipment or memorabilia to the project. Any information or objects collected would be placed in the museum at the New Forest Centre and would be made available to the public. Postcards containing information about the project could be provided to groups holding meetings to encourage them to contribute toward the project.
- 3.4 The project is funded by the New Forest National Park Authority, the New Forest Centre and the Leader + small grants scheme.

4 Any other business

- 4.1 The Panel agreed that a letter should be sent to the Chairman of Natural England to express the Panel's concern regarding the absence of Natural England Representatives at recent Panel meetings. The Panel asked that the New Forest National Park Authority should also be made aware of this and whether the issue could be raised with local staff.
- 4.2 The Panel members welcomed the animal accident cards that had been produced by the Authority.

Recommendations:

- 1. To note issues of interest at the meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 15 November 2007.**
- 2. To note that the date of the next Panel meeting is Thursday 3 January 2008.**