

**Recreation Management Strategy Advisory Group
Brockenhurst Village Hall, 3 April 2017**

Attendance:

Rachael Bowen (notes), New Forest National Park Authority
Ruth Croker, Ringwood & Fordingbridge Footpath Society
Barry Dowsett, Verderers
Louise Evans, NFDC
Gale Gould, New Forest Association
Nigel Matthews (facilitator), New Forest National Park Authority
Ann Sevier, Commoners Defence Association
Brian Tarnoff, New Forest Association
Jake White, National Trust
Russell Wynn, New Forest National Park Authority
Richard Young, Cycling UK

Apologies:

Heather Gould, New Forest Dog Owners Group
Gary North, Forestry Commission
Jenny Thomas, Natural England
Sam Jones, HCC
Stephen Lorton, NFTA

1 Welcome / Introductions

- 1.1 NM welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked everybody for attending. NM explained that the RMS Steering Group had agreed that the Advisory Group should be asked to help inform a public consultation regarding an update to the Recreation Management Strategy 2010-2030.

2 RMS Steering Group

- 2.1 NM tabled a flow chart diagram showing how the RMS Steering Group plans to update, prioritise and deliver agreed actions aimed at managing recreation. As a first step, the Steering Group has asked that the NFNPA lead on a consultation to produce an update to the 2010-2030 strategy, on their behalf. The plan is to have two stages to this consultation: a first stage 'call for views' in the summer of 2017, and a second stage at which people could comment on proposed text for the update in 2018.

3 Election of Chair

- 3.1 AS nominated NM to continue as Chair for this meeting. This suggestion was seconded by RC.

4 Minutes of the last meeting

- 4.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

- 4.2 For information, and related to item 6 on the previous minutes, RW recently coordinated a curlew survey covering 90km². The survey found 40 curlew territories, a decline of two thirds in the last 10 or so years. There was some evidence that people (and their dogs) are affecting the population, along with predation. The 2016 survey report can be accessed here: www.wildnewforest.co.uk/new-forest-curlews-crisis/.

The consultant's report that was discussed at the last meeting can be found [here](#).

5 Discuss significant changes

- 5.1 The Group discussed the changes that have happened since 2010 so that these can be reflected in the update to the 2010-2030 strategy.

6 Discuss draft summaries of the 17 topics

- 6.1 NM talked through the options for consultation questions that are being considered, e.g.: questions about the 61 actions, 17 topics and possibly one about how the overall rationale for recreation management aims to achieve a win-win-win scenario. A number of possible approaches to the consultation questions were suggested, such as asking what activities were most in need of management, putting activities in one of three categories dependent on level of impact or asking what people's individual interests were.
- 6.2 The Group looked through the 17 topics and suggested ways in which they could be summarised clearly and concisely.

Action: All to consider achievements that have been made since 2010 and email any suggestions to NM by Friday 14 April.

7 AOB

- 7.1 None was raised.

8 Date of next meeting

- 8.1 Next meeting date yet to be decided.