

**Recreation Management Strategy Steering Group  
The Library, Queen's House, 9 April 2018**

Attendance:

Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre (Chairman), New Forest National Park Authority  
Cllr James Binns, NFDC  
Richard Burke, Forestry Commission  
Lord Manners, Verderers  
Nigel Matthews, New Forest National Park Authority  
Allison Potts, Natural England – by telephone  
Colin Read, New Forest District Council  
Bruce Rothnie, Forestry Commission  
Jonathan Woods, Hampshire County Council  
Rachael Bowen (notes), New Forest National Park Authority

Apologies:

Alison Appleby, Natural England  
Adam Godwin, Forestry Commission

**1. Election of the Chair**

1.1 WM proposed that OCE continue in the position of Chair which was seconded by BR. The Steering Group all agreed.

**2. Welcome and introductions**

2.1 OCE welcomed Cllr James Binns, NFDC, as a new member of the Steering Group.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

3.1 The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

**4. Matters arising**

4.1 The two reports on the 2017 consultation have now been published. The final title of the 'update' to the strategy is still to be decided. The England Coast Path (ECP) consultation is now live, closing on 9 May. The NFA had requested a meeting with this Group regarding the ECP but it was agreed that it would be better for the NFA to arrange its own meeting and invite other organisations.

**5. Draft proposed actions**

5.1 The draft proposed actions were discussed and various amendments were agreed. It was further agreed to share the next draft with the Advisory Group.

Action: NM to make the changes to the actions as agreed

Action: RB to organise an RMS Advisory Group meeting asap

## **6. Supporting work**

### Demand for recreation in the New Forest

- 6.1 After some discussion it was agreed that the NPA should progress work to update our understanding of how many day visits to the New Forest occur each year. The NPA offered full funding for this study.

### Impacts of recreation in the New Forest

- 6.2 It was agreed that further work to demonstrate the impacts of recreation could be commissioned, but not before this summer's consultation. Both AP and BR agreed try to secure some funding from their respective organisations. It may be useful to include economic and health and wellbeing benefits in the work.

### Enforcement Information

- 6.3 Initial work by the NPA on collating information about laws, byelaws and enforcement will be continued by FC over the coming months.

### Car parks

- 6.4 Work being commissioned by Test Valley Borough Council to inform habitat mitigation strategies of nearby planning authorities is likely to include an assessment of the use of car parks in the New Forest.

## **7. Consultation**

- 7.1 Possible questions for the summer 2018 consultation were discussed, including options for free text boxes. It was decided that drop-in sessions were not needed for this consultation, but that the New Forest Show would again provide a good opportunity to engage with the public. BR is attending a NPA Members day in June, providing a good opportunity to discuss recreation management.

- 7.2 An RMS Steering Group should be set for the middle/end of May, ahead of the consultation which is likely to be opened on 18 June 2018.

Action: BR to include managing recreation in the NPA Members day on 12 June 2018

Action: RB to set RMS Steering Group for mid / end May 2018

## **8. Liaison with Advisory Group and date of next meeting**

- 8.1 Previously discussed.

## **9. AOB**

- 9.1 Agreement from Steering Group organisations may be needed to sign off the draft actions before going out to public consultation, in particular at the Verderers Court on 16 May 2018.