

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE VIRTUAL (MICROSOFT TEAMS) MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 8 MARCH 2021 AT 2 PM

Attending:

Members: George Bisson (Chairman)
David Harrison (Deputy Chairman)
Edward Heron
Victoria Mander
Leo Randall

Officers: David Stone Corporate Services Manager
Rosalind Alderman Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Jo Murphy Information and Data Protection Officer
Rachel Bonathan Administration Officer (Minutes)

Part I

1. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

David Stone opened the meeting and invited proposals for an Interim Chairman to oversee the election of the Standards Committee Chairman. Leo Randell was proposed and seconded as Interim Chairman. George Bisson was nominated by David Harrison and duly seconded by Edward Heron as Chairman of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year. There being no further nominations, the nomination was put to the vote and carried. George Bisson was accordingly elected as Chairman.

Resolved, that George Bisson be appointed as Chairman of the Standards Committee for the period up to the next Annual meeting of the Authority.

Voting: Unanimous

George Bisson thanked members for their support and confidence in electing him as Chairman. He then oversaw the appointment of the Deputy Chairman. David Harrison was proposed by George Bisson and seconded by Victoria Mander. There being no further nominations, the nomination was put to the vote and carried. David Harrison was accordingly elected as Deputy Chairman of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

Resolved, that David Harrison be appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Standards Committee for the period up to the next Annual meeting of the Authority.

Voting: Unanimous

2. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

3. Declarations of Interest

Edward Heron declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute item 6 as a member of Hampshire County Council and abstained from voting on that item. Following advice from the Monitoring Officer, the other local authority appointed members present at the meeting also abstained from the vote on this item.

4. Minutes

The minutes of 28 October 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

5. Public Question Time

There were no public questions on this occasion.

6. Renewal of Dispensations Under the Localism Act 2011 (NFNPA/SC 50-21)

Members supported the recommendation in the report.

Resolved, that the following dispensation be granted under Section 31(4)(a) and (b) of the Localism Act 2011:

A dispensation beginning on 8 March 2021 and expiring on 7 March 2025 is issued from the provisions of Section 31(4)(a) and (b) of the Localism Act 2011 to all Members of the Authority who are in receipt of an allowance under the members' allowances schemes of Hampshire County Council, Wiltshire Council, New Forest District Council or Test Valley Borough Council, thereby enabling all Members of the Authority to participate and vote in any Authority business relating to Hampshire County Council, Wiltshire Council, New Forest District Council or Test Valley Borough Council insofar as they would otherwise be prevented from so doing under that Act and the 2012 Regulations.

Voting: Approved (2-0 (3 Abstentions))

7. Review of the 'Arrangements for Dealing with Allegations' Brought Under the Code of Conduct (NFNPA SC/51-21)

Members supported the proposed amendments to the 'Arrangements for dealing with allegations' brought under the Code of Conduct, as set out in the paper.

Resolved, that the revisions to the 'Arrangements for Dealing with Allegations' Brought Under the Code of Conduct be supported and recommended to the full Authority for approval.

Voting: Unanimous

8. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

No items considered

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the meeting: 4 October 2021 at 2pm.

The meeting ended at 14:15 hours.

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Chairman

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Date