

## **NEW FOREST CONSULTATIVE PANEL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at the Linden Hall, Lyndhurst Community Centre,  
Lyndhurst, SO43 7NY  
on THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 at 7.30 pm**

**Those present:** Andrew Gilruth (Chairman)  
Steve Avery (NFNPA)  
Craig Harrison (FE)  
Vicki Gibbon (Panel Secretariat)

### **1 Apologies for absence**

Brian Tarnoff – Friends of the New Forest  
John Goodwin – Copythorne - Graham Chilcott substituting  
Stephanie Osbourne – Hythe and Dibden Parish Council  
James Young – Commoners Defense Association  
Gordon Bailey – Test Valley  
Pamela Keen – Norleywood District and Society  
John Korbey – Brockenhurst Parish Council  
Graham Saunders – Minstead Parish Council – Richard Taylor substituting  
Graham Ferris - Verderers

### **2 Approval of Minutes from the meeting held on 9 June 2022**

2.1 The minutes of the Panel on 9 June 2022 were approved.

### **3 Matters Arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising on this occasion.

### **4 Matters for Reporting**

#### **4.1 Forestry England Update – Craig Harrison**

Craig Harrison began his presentation by highlighting Forestry England's working strategy; Growing the Future. He explained that this was a five-year plan which identifies priorities to help respond to challenges faced by wildlife, people and climate.

Mr Harrison advised that the HLS wetland restoration programme continues with contractors returning to previously worked sites to make small repairs, which in turn would make these streams and surrounding habitats more resilient during droughts and floods. This year had been a successful year with regards to goshawks in the forest with 38 known breeding pairs.

Mr Harrison was pleased to announce the recent Community Resolution Order which was issued to a dog walker for not having her dogs under control

during ground nesting bird season. A number of rare eggs were destroyed as well as disturbing the Curlew's nesting area. Highly visible signage was installed on the forest in the spring highlighting sensitive nesting areas and advising to keep dogs under control.

The New Forest show was a huge success this year, with Forestry England's theme being the New Forest Code which encouraged visitors to get involved and educate them on how we can all care for the forest. Forestry England were currently in the process of selecting new campsite operators in preparation for next year's season and hoped that this would be finalised by autumn.

Mr Harrison explained that fly-tipping continues to be a problem across the forest, however they were working on a range of measures to combat this together with the police and NFDC. Again working with partner organisations around the forest helped to alleviate the risk of major wildfires, there had been quite a few fires in the Waterside area however with the help of local fire crews these were dealt with quickly and efficiently.

Finally, Mr Harrison was pleased to highlight the recent picnic Forestry England's Ranger's helped to host in the forest for Ukrainian guests which featured in a celebration episode of Countryfile.

#### **4.2 NFNPA Update – Steve Avery**

Steve Avery began his presentation by advising Panel members that the Partnership Plan was officially launched at the New Forest Show this year. He explained that by law all National Parks were required to have a Management Plan in place, the Plan was produced jointly by all the main organisations with interests and responsibilities in the National Park and is therefore a joint Plan and not specifically a Plan for the National Park Authority.

Included in the Plan were five key themes; net zero with nature, nature recovery, an inclusive national park, thriving forest and team new forest. Within in each theme was a list of priorities and actions on how the Partnership Plan would be delivered. For more information see the website here - [Re:New Forest - Partnership Plan 2022-2027 - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk).

A Leadership Panel was being established to oversee the delivery of works and would meet 3/4 times per year to ensure actions were being met.

Mr Avery advised that the Planning department were moving onto a new planning software system during the first week of October 2022. Due to the need to migrate all existing records onto the new system they would be unable to register or determine any planning or tree work applications during the week commencing 26 September.

Mr Avery explained that the Authority in conjunction with NFDC and Forestry England were looking at evidence to support the introduction of PSPO's

(Public Space Protection Order's) in the forest. The Article 4 Direction relating to pop-up campsites in the forest which was endorsed at the January Authority meeting would come into effect at the end of September.

Finally, Mr Avery was pleased to announce the recent opening of the Calshot to Portsmouth section of the England Coast Path and gave a short update on the Solent Freeport.

**5 Statutory Consultations – Steve Avery**

There were no further consultations.

**6 Any other items the Chairman feels urgent**

There were no further items.

**7 Dates of next Panel Meetings.**

7.1 Thursday 1 December 2022