Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **Item 14**

25 June 2024

Report of The Chair

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update on meetings/engagement I have been involved in since the last Authority meeting in March 2024.

Media

- As Chair of NPE, featured on BBC Radio 4's Farming Today discussing the impact of farming on the landscape.
- Interview for BBC *Countryfile* on my farming enterprise.

Events

- An on-line training workshop to increase understanding of what Youth Participation is and how to create a culture of inclusivity that enables Youth Voice and Involvement.

Meetings

- Two Yorkshire Dales – Farming in Protected Landscapes [FiPL] - Local Assessment Panel Meetings
- Interview panel to fill vacancies on the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
- National Parks Partnership Board Meeting
- Conducted the CEO's annual appraisal.
- The Spring Southern Parish Forum, chaired by Liz Appleton Hall with representatives from 8 Parishes in attendance.
- The Spring Northern Parish Forum, chaired by Allen Kirkbride with representatives from 4 parishes in attendance.
- The Spring Western Parish Forum, chaired by Libby Bateman with representatives from 8 parishes in attendance.
- Annual National Park Management Plan Forum held at Settle Victoria Hall.
- Yorkshire Dales Access Forum.
- Friends of the Dales/YDNPA liaison meeting.
- Two National Parks Partnership Board meetings – one with pre-dinner in Kendal.
- Three Dales Project consortium meeting.
- Along with the CEO a meeting with the CEO and Leader of North Yorkshire Council, and the CEO and Chair of the North York Moors NPA, to discuss Public Rights of Way.
- Chaired a meeting of Member Champions.
- National Park Management Plan Partnership Meeting

- On behalf of NPE, a Defra round table discussion, chaired by Minister Moore, on productivity, wider land uses and efficiency in connection with preparations ahead of publishing a Land Use Framework.
- A meeting with the Director of NPE to discuss performance framework.
- On behalf of NPE, a quarterly meeting of the Defra Group Arm's-Length Bodies (ALB) Chairs to share information, and provide update on current departmental priorities, including Outcomes Programme work, and Resilience Strategy.
- A briefing meeting ahead of the Protected Landscapes Partnership meeting in May
- As Chair of NPE, a relationship building online meeting with representatives of the CLA
- As Chair of NPE, Protected Landscapes Partnership Governance Committee Meeting with representatives from National Trails UK; NPE, National Landscapes Association; Natural England and Protected Landscapes Partnership Manager.
- The NPE AGM and Board meeting: The election of Chair and Deputy for NPE took place and Vanessa Rowlands Chair of South Downs NPA was elected Chair; and Tiffany Hunt Chair of Lake District NPA was elected Deputy Chair.
- UK NP Chairs' Forum held in Loch Lomond.
- On behalf of NPE, a National Parks nature recovery roundtable discussion between NGOs and NPAs to agree ambitions recommendations to land with a new Government, and how we can work together better together to deliver 30x30 - hosted by Campaign for National Parks.

In addition, the Deputy Chair represented me at a Ripon Cathedral Consultative Council Committee meeting.

Item for members to note:

My time as Chair of YDNPA has come to an end. I step down from the Chair role at this meeting.
My time as Chair of NPE has therefore also come to an end. I stepped down from the Chair role of National Parks England at the NPE AGM meeting held on 5 June 2024.

Neil Heseltine
Chair