Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Finance and Resources Committee **Item 2**

Minutes of the meeting held at Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Officers, Yoredale, Bainbridge, Leyburn DL8 3EL, on Tuesday, 16 December 2025.

Members Present:

Libby Bateman, Richard Foster, Julie Hutton (Chair), Dan Holmes, Peter Jackson, Ian Mitchell, Andrew Murday, David Noland, Stuart Parsons, Karin Sedgwick, Derek Twine.

Co-opted Members Present: Zac Anderson and Katie Norgate.

Copies of all Documents considered are in the Minute Book

36/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Neil Heseltine and Nigel Swales.

37/25 Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2025, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

38/25 Public Questions / Statements

No public questions or statements had been received.

39/25 Declarations of Lobbying

There were no declarations of lobbying.

40/25 Probation Policy

The Committee **Considered** the report of the Head of Human Resources.

Resolved – To **approve** the Probation Policy, as set out in **Appendix A.**

41/25 Income Generation Strategy: Progress update

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Deputy Chief Executive.

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Members' attention was drawn to specific income generation projects currently going through the funding process - Jewels of the Dales, 3 Counties Landscape Partnership and the Coast to Coast through Nature Trail. The Authority is waiting to hear if the FiPL scheme will be continuing beyond 31 March 2026.

In **response** to a Member's question about what FiPL staff would be doing if the FiPL scheme is not extended, the Director of Conservation and Community explained that staff had started to move towards delivery of the National agri-environment schemes.

In **response** to a Member's question about the 'Jewels of the Dales' project which is in the predevelopment stage and whether there are any indications that this will develop into a fully funded programme, the Director Conservation and Community advised that it's difficult to predict with large funding bids and there is a long way to go yet. We may get a better indication of this at development stage.

In **response** to a Member's question about whether there may be opportunities for our Co-opted Young Members to be involved in the Young People - skills and opportunities project, the Director of Conservation and Community confirmed that arrangements were in place to contact and involve them.

The Chief Executive queried why the Active Travel fund bids (particularly the home to school routes) were not included in the pipeline. The Director of Park Services explained that details of the fund had only just been announced and were unknown at the time the report was produced. This will be included in future reporting.

42/25 Financial Performance Report: 1 April 2025 to 31 October 2025

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Head of Finance.

The Head of Finance highlighted the increase in the limit for reporting variances to the Committee from £10k to £20k.

The Head of Finance agreed to ensure that all accepted quote/tender figures are included in the Delegated Decisions section (Appendix 4) of future Financial Progress reports.

An explanation and examples of 'leased assets' was provided by the Head of Finance.

43/25 Treasury Management Performance – Mid Year Review

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Treasurer.

44/25 12-Month Investor in People Review

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Head of Human Resources.

45/25 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report

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The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Head of Human Resources.

46/25 Staffing

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Head of Human Resources.

47/25 Sickness Absence

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Senior Administrative Officer.

48/25 Resolution to exclude the Press and Public for Item 15

All officers left the room except for the Chief Executive Officer.

Resolved: To exclude the press and public from this item as the report contains information which is exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the authority holding that information).

49/25 Pay Review

The Committee **Considered** and **Noted** the report of the Chief Executive

Resolved - Members

(i) Agreed that pay structure proposal - Option 3 – as set out in the Consultant's report is the most appropriate option to address the issues identified in the review; and will

(ii) Provide for the cost of this proposal in the new Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and budget which will be considered by this Committee in February 2026.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11:30 a.m.

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