Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **Item 20**

24 June 2025

Chief Executive's Report

Engagements

Since the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Executive has been involved in the following: -

Media

- Interview for Sky Dancer Day at Malham (Hen Harrier Action).

Events

- National Parks Authority roundtable discussion with Minister Creagh at DEFRA HQ.
- A CEO Webinar which included items on; current funding situation, presentation on Coast to Coast, presentation on social prescribing projects.
- Launch of the Pennine Way 60th Anniversary Exhibition at Dales Countryside Museum.
- Presentation to the Yorkshire Society on '*How a unique natural and cultural heritage defines who we are'* at the Yorkshire Heritage Symposium 2025.
- A day with the Land Management Projects Manager looking at his area of work.
- Produced a short welcome film to introduce new members of staff to the Authority.
- Presentation to Land Use Consultants on the National Park Management Plan; Our work with Government/Defra; and new/possible Legislation.

Meetings

- Two meetings on potential national park revenue streams with external consultants.
- European Atlantic Isles Board meeting which discussed governance, finance, recruiting a new co-ordinator, Europarc Conference 2025, strategy and advocacy.
- Garsdale-Hawes Member steering group.
- NPE Board meeting, hosted by South Downs NPA. Agenda items included: NPE work in 2024/25; NPE subscriptions 2025/26; Protected Landscapes Partnership update; NPE plans for 2025/26 and NPE Budget 2025/26; Pro Bono work on funding for NPAs. Discussion on aspirations for NPE and policy priorities for the year ahead.
- Chaired two Active Travel Officers Meetings.
- Two Informal Finance Working Group meetings.

- Spring Parish Forum for the Northern Parishes, held at West Burton Village Hall – Chaired by Allan Kirkbride.
- NPMP Partnership meeting where the following were discussed: results of the public consultation on draft objectives; final changes to the objectives; other parts of the full Management Plan 2025-30; Protected Landscapes Targets & Outcomes Framework; and Annual Progress Report.
- Spring Parish Forum for the Western Parishes, held at Sedbergh People's Hall – Chaired by Libby Bateman.
- Along with the Deputy Chair, the UK Chairs and CEO Forum, hosted by the Peak District National Park Authority. The forum covered: National Park climate action plans; Team Nature update; EDI update; Branding update; UK Comms Unit discussion; New Member induction training contract; Paul Hamblin Award presentation. Visit to Chatsworth House to see whole estate plan and discussions covering on-going and potential site developments, natural capital, visitor pressure, audience engagement and development. Peak District presentations on : AI land use mapping project; Green financing test and trail work; Moors for the Future Partnership; and Landscape Connections project
- An on-line introductory meeting with Lizzi Collinge MP for Morecambe and Lunesdale to discuss matters of mutual interest relating to her constituency within the National Park.
- Spring Parish Forum for the Southern Parishes, held at Grassington Town Hall – Chaired by Neil Heseltine.
- An introductory meeting with the new Bolton Abbey Estates Director.

David Butterworth
Chief Executive

2 June 2025