

**YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
AUDIT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE**

ITEM 4

Minutes of the meeting held at the Grassington Devonshire Institute (Town Hall), Grassington BD23 5AZ on Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 10:30am.

Members Present:

Mark Corner, Robert Heseltine, David Ireton, Allen Kirkbride, Sandy Lancaster, Julie Martin, Jim Munday (in the Chair following his election), Yvonne Peacock and Cosima Towneley.

Also present:

Ian Morton from Veritau Ltd (internal auditors).

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

12/21 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Jim Munday was nominated for the position of Chair of the Committee. Following his election address to Members,

RESOLVED –

By unanimous vote, that Jim Munday be elected Chair of the Audit and Review Committee, to hold office until the first committee meeting following the annual meeting of the Authority in 2022.

JIM MUNDAY IN THE CHAIR

13/21 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

Mark Corner was nominated for the position of Deputy Chair of the Committee. Following his election address to Members,

RESOLVED –

By unanimous vote, that Mark Corner be elected Deputy Chair of the Audit and Review Committee, to hold office until the first committee meeting following the annual meeting of the Authority in 2022.

14/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Richard Good and Liz Hall.

15/21 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2021, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

16/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS

No notifications of public questions or of the intention to make a statement had been received.

17/21 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING

No declarations of lobbying were made at the meeting.

18/21 AUTHORITY PERFORMANCE 2020-21

CONSIDERED – the report and presentation of the Deputy Chief Executive.

Discussion included the following:

- Members commended the excellent performance in 2020-21, particularly given the challenging circumstances during the year;
- Members were advised of the checks made before paying out grants from the Sustainable Development Fund;
- Members recognised the need to work in partnership with other authorities on climate change initiatives, and noted that this was happening across North Yorkshire and Cumbria;
- Members commended the installation of electric car charging points in Authority car-parks. Monitoring their use will assist in deciding whether more are needed;
- In terms of the objectives that had not been achieved in 2020-21, Members noted the factors that had adversely affected the delivery of the Development Management service. The achievement of the wildlife objectives will be affected by the current and upcoming national schemes such as ELM, Farming in Protected Landscapes and Local Nature Recovery Strategies. The Deputy Chief Executive reminded Members that the Biodiversity Forum was currently developing a new Nature Recovery Plan for the National Park, to be completed by March 2022.

RESOLVED –

To NOTE the Authority's performance in 2020 – 21.

19/21 DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT – PERFORMANCE REVIEW

CONSIDERED – the report of the Deputy Chief Executive. After discussion of reasons for the review, namely to examine the impacts of the Agile planning software system on the delivery of the core Development Management service, and of some of the issues which will be covered,

RESOLVED –

That a task and finish review group be established to lead on the performance review to assess the impact of the Agile planning software system on the Development Management service; that membership of the group is to include Jim Munday (as Member Champion for Development Management), and Yvonne Peacock (as Audit and Review Committee member), and that the terms of reference for the review group be those as set out in the Annex to the report.

20/21 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2021-22

CONSIDERED – the report of the Director of Corporate Services and the internal auditors, Veritau. After noting the one-off increase of 4 days to provide additional time to complete a review of implementation of the new planning system requested by management (the focus of which will be on lessons learned for future projects and which will feed into the performance review discussed earlier),

RESOLVED –

To approve the Internal Audit Plan for 2021 – 22 set out at Appendix A of the report.

21/21 TREASURY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE 2020 - 21

CONSIDERED and **NOTED** – the report of the Treasurer.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11:40am