**PEAK PARK PARISHES FORUM**

**Management Committee meeting 8 June 2020, held online at 2pm**

Present:

**PPPF Invited guests from PDNPA**

M Beer (Chair) A McCloy

S Beckett S Fowler

T Bellamy J Scott

P Brady B Taylor

J Collins S Fletcher

P Cooper

P Downing

P Leppard (Secretary)

Apologies received from L Granger.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

20/13 **Minutes of meeting, 11 February 2020**

These were approved as a correct record.

20/14 **Matters arising from 11 February minutes, not elsewhere on the agenda**

None.

20/15 **Covid-19 epidemic**

S Fowler gave an overview of the issues facing PDNPA since the start of lockdown on 23 March, and how they had been addressed within the Authority’s limited resources and powers. PDNPA had been in regular contact with DEFRA throughout, keeping the latter well-sighted on the issues. The Derbyshire Local Resilience Forum had facilitated multi-agency coordination.

The exceptionally high numbers of visitors to the Park on a number of days in May had been accompanied, in some cases, by behaviours which had been burdensome to local communities. A McCloy noted that such behaviours had been noted across the country, so it was a national problem.

Management Committee members urged more proactive messaging targeted towards urban communities who might otherwise have little appreciation of expected behaviours when visiting a national park. S Fowler acknowledged there was always more to do on communication; also, PDNPA’s outreach activity is a priority, within available resources. Volunteer Rangers, who had been stood down, are now starting to resume their roles.

B Taylor will progress how best to provide more regular communication to/from Parishes on current lockdown issues.

20/16 **Sustainable transport**

The recent very high numbers of visitors (and Government messaging discouraging use of public transport) had worsened the difficulties which already existed in the Park in coping with so many visitors’ vehicles. B Taylor described the recent formation of a cross-agency working group looking at possible integrated sustainable-transport solutions; it will report its findings to DEFRA in due course.

It was noted that the Hope Valley Explorer tourist bus cannot, with onboard social distancing, generate enough revenue to be viable, so will not run in 2020.

20/17 **White Peak Partnership**

S Fletcher gave a presentation on the Partnership’s work so far. It was agreed that PPPF will nominate a representative for (a) the project’s steering group and (b) its wider partnership group. S Fletcher will copy her slides to the Secretary.

20/18 **National Park** **Management Plan**

1. It was agreed that B Taylor will send to PPPF a request for clarifications/

updates on aspects of its “thriving & sustainable communities” definition. S Fowler agreed that J Scott will thereafter arrange for the definition to be consulted with the other bodies listed (re this action) in the Management Plan, so as to achieve a fully-finalised definition by December 2020 – which can then be utilised in policy development.

1. It was agreed that Climate Action issues are cross-cutting to a number of

other current workstreams and so will, at present, be progressed there.

20/19 **Matlock-Buxton/Chinley railway reopening proposal**

Despite ongoing activity by promoters, it was concluded that the chances of any of the currently-proposed schemes coming to fruition is extremely small.

20/20 **Parishes Day, 3 October 2020**

Because of social distancing requirements, the Day might not take place as usual, but it currently remains in the diary. Although February’s Management Committee had agreed that *The economic wellness of the Peak District* would be a suitable theme for the Day, the changed circumstances since then may now influence the agenda. The shape of the Day will be decided in August.

20/21 **Secretary’s report**

The Secretary noted that most subscription renewals for FY20/21 had now been received and that he was about to remind the few outstanding parishes.

20/22 **Finance**

The Secretary tabled (i) PPPF’s (as-yet unaudited) FY19/20 accounts and (ii) the FY20/21 current financial position, which were accepted.

It was agreed to approve a payment of £129.54 for the Secretary’s salary and expenses, Feb-May.

20/23 **Next meeting**

This will be on Monday 24 August at 2pm, hopefully at Aldern House Bakewell but, if not, online.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm.

Peter Leppard

Secretary