



Shropshire Hills  
AONB Partnership  
  
14 November 2017  
  
9.30 am

Item  
  
  
  
Public

**MINUTES OF THE SHROPSHIRE HILLS AONB PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON  
13 JUNE 2017  
9.30 - 11.45 AM**

**Responsible Officer:** Tim Ward  
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**Present**

**Local Authorities**

Shropshire Council	Cllr David Turner
Telford & Wrekin Council	Cllr Chris Turley

**Statutory/Voluntary Agencies & Individual members**

Individual Member	Andy Boddington
Individual Member	James Williamson (Chair)
Town & Parish Council representative	Hilary Claytonsmith
Town & Parish Council representative	Yvonne Holyoak
British Horse Society	Ronald Repath
Caring for God's Acre	Gill Binks
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Sarah Bury
Forestry Commission	Donna Tavernor
Longmynd & District Bridleways Association	Sue Lee
National Farmers Union	Carol Griffiths
Ramblers Association	Sue Jones
Strettons Civic Society	Ian Dormor
Shropshire Wildlife Trust	Veronica Cossons

**Observers/Officers**

Shropshire Council	Neil Willcox (Local Commissioning Manager) Tim Ward (Committee Officer)
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Staff Team	Phil Holden (AONB Partnership Manager)

## **1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence had been received from Mike Brogden (Shropshire Tourism), Alison Caffyn (Individual Member), George Chancellor (Individual Member), Lee Chapman (Shropshire Hills Tourism), Joy Greenall (Life, Land and Livelihoods), Rhona Goddard (Butterfly Conservation), Hazel McDowell, (Natural England), David Mills (SASTAK), Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council), Leo Smith (Shropshire Ornithological Society/Upper Onney Wildlife Group) and John Tucker (Parish Council Representative).

## **2 Minutes of the last meeting**

- 2.1 The note of the meeting held on 21 March 2017 had been circulated.
- 2.2 RESOLVED  
That the note of the meeting held on 21 March 2017 be agreed as a true record.

## **3 Update on Submission to Defra for Creation of a Conservation Board**

- 3.1 The AONB Partnership Manager informed the meeting that DEFRA had sent a letter to all AONB Partnership Chairs which had stated that DEFRA was not keen on the creation of new Conservation Boards but that where there were exceptional circumstances and a compelling case, applications may be considered.
- 3.2 The AONB Partnership Manager commented that the DEFRA civil servant that was dealing with the application had advised that it would be possible to re-submit the application.
- 3.3 The Chairman commented that alongside the work being carried out on resubmitting the application, the Transition Board was starting to consider alternative arrangements if the Conservation Board application was unsuccessful.

## **4 Brexit Issues And Shropshire Hills AONB**

- 4.1 Members received the report of the AONB Partnership Manager which set out some of the implications of Brexit issues on the AONB.
- 4.2 The AONB Partnership Manager commented that it was too early in the process to create a position statement but that the discussions would aid the Partnership in future discussions with partners.
- 4.3 A workshop session took place with members considering a number of issues. Each group reported back at the end of the session.

## **5 AONB Team Work Programme Update**

- 5.1 Members received the report of the AONB Partnership Manager which gave an update of recent activity by the AONB Team.
- 5.2 The AONB Partnership Manager reminded Members that the Conservation Fund was now being operated by the AONB Trust and informed them that under a written joint working agreement the AONB Team was continuing to provide support to applicants and the Panel for a small fee. He advised that in 2017-18, grants had been awarded to 18 Groups and organisations.
- 5.3 The AONB Partnership Manager advised that the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Uplands Common Project was to be resubmitted by the Foundation for Common Land. He informed the meeting that the North York Moors National Park had withdrawn from the project, which would now work in four areas of the country.
- 5.4 The AONB Partnership Manager advised Members that as part of the Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme, stabilisation works had been completed at the 1784 Engine House at Pontesford at a cost of around £100,000, which was the largest capital project within the scheme.
- 5.5 The AONB Manager advised Members that Nigel McDonald, the Sustainable Tourism Officer was reducing his days of work from full time to 3 days per week.
- 5.6 The Chairman thanked the AONB Team for all the work that they did.

## **6 Appointment of Trustees to the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust**

- 6.1 The meeting received the report of the AONB Partnership Manager which sought approval for the re-appointment of George Chancellor as a Partnership nominated trustee on the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust and nominations for a further trustee.
- 6.2 The AONB Partnership Manager reminded Members that three of the eight trustees of the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust were appointed by the Partnership, and that George Chancellors term of appointment had ended. The AONB Partnership Manager advised that Mr Chancellor was willing to continue as a Trustee and it was proposed that he should be reappointed.
- 6.3 The AONB Partnership Manager advised that there was currently a vacancy for a Trustee following Mrs Bury's decision to stand down. It was proposed that Veronica Cossons be appointed as a Trustee.
- 6.4 The AONB Partnership Manager reminded the meeting that the third Partnership appointed Trustee was Janine Hayter whose term of office expired in December 2018.
- 6.4 RESOLVED

That Mr George Chancellor and Lady Veronica Cossons be appointed to serve as nominated trustees on the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust.

**7 Joint Tour Event - 7 July 2017**

- 7.1 The AONB Partnership Manager gave an update on the arrangements for the Joint Tour event on 7 July and reminded Members to advise the office if they were planning to attend, if they had not already done so.

**8 Date of Next Meeting**

- 8.1 Members were advised that the next meeting of the Partnership would be held on Tuesday 14 November 2017 at 9.30am.