



JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MINUTES

10.30 am, 10 October 2024, Council Chamber, NNL Office

1.0 Attendance and notification of substitutes

1.1 Attendance:

Cllr. Andrew Murday (NYC)
Cllr. Nathan Hull (NYC)
Cllr. Felicity Cunliffe-Lister (NYC)
Paul Trewitt (Parish Council rep)
Claire Walker (British Horse Society)
Heather Garnett (Friends of Nidderdale AONB)
Jon Parker (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust)
Richard Dimon (Natural England)
Andy Croucher (NNL Volunteers)
Richard Bruce (Nidderdale Plus)
Stephen Ramsden (CLA)
Lisa Harrowsmith (Yorkshire Water)
Jen Taylor (National Trust)

1.2 Officers:

Rachael Balmer (NYC)
Helen Golightly (NYC)
Chloe Temple (NYC)
Iain Mann (NNL)

1.3 Apologies:

Sheila Miller (Parish Council rep)
Martin Hockey (Ramblers Association)
Shaun Berry (NYC)
Justin Scully (National Trust)
Sue Welch (Parish Council rep)

1.4 Substitutes:

Jen Taylor for Justin Scully

1.5 New Members

AM noted that Graham Spooner has retired from his role representing Nidderdale Conservation Volunteers, who will now be represented by Andy Croucher. AM thanked Graham for his contribution to the JAC over the years and welcomed AC.

2.0 Elections

2.1 Nomination for the Chair: PT nominated Andrew Murday and this was seconded by CW. There were no other nominations. AM is the North Yorkshire Council representative on the JAC Executive.

Nomination for the Vice Chair: PT nominated Jo Wright and this was seconded by NH. There were no other nominations. JW is the Parish Councils representative on the JAC Executive.

Other members of the JAC Executive (1): AM nominated Heather Garnett and this was seconded by RB. There were no other nominations. HG is the Special Interest Groups representative on the JAC Executive.

Other members of the JAC Executive (2): AM nominated Paul Trewitt and this was seconded by RB. There were no other nominations. PT is the second Parish Councils representative on the JAC Executive.

JAC delegate to the Knabs Ridge Community Fund Steering Group: Nathan Hull to continue to represent the JAC.

JAC delegate to the Greenhow Enhancement Fund Steering Group: Jo Wright to continue to represent to the JAC.

3.0 Declarations of interest

3.1 No interests were declared.

4.0 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2024

4.1 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record (proposed by HG, seconded by RD).

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes

5.1 *2024/25 Business Plan (item 5.2):* Following interest from Ramblers Association via Martin Hockey to have more involvement in surveying/maintaining NNL promoted walking routes, IM has put MH in touch with the NNL Volunteer Coordinator.

2024/25 Business Plan (item 5.3): IM noted that the proposed closure of Friends of NAONB and donation of remaining funding to YDMT with YDMT then taking on the role previously played by Friends as discussed is now going ahead with the formal procedures to close the Friends of NAONB underway.

Nature Recovery Plan (item 6.0): IM reported that the Nature Recovery Plan was finalised over the summer and has now been published.

6.0 Management Plan review update

6.1 IM provided a verbal update on progress with the 2025-2030 Management Plan review:

- NNL staff have been meeting with organisations and specialists to carry out the evidence-gathering phase, which has covered access, transport, planning, heritage, climate change, tourism and farming. This information used to add to issues identified at the spring JAC workshop.
- Also updating relevant data, e.g. the most recent census data for the area.
- Just completing initial public consultation process, where we asked questions about what people value most about the NNL area and what change they most want to see. This was sent, using a freepost postcard format, to everyone living and working in NNL.
- Participated in a Defra/Natural England workshop on implications of the Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework.
- NNL Nature Recovery Plan has been published and will feed into the biodiversity part of the Management Plan.
- Running a Management Plan workshop in late October with wide range of stakeholders (including all JAC Members) to focus on identifying actions to address the issues.

- Outputs from workshop will lead to drafting of high-level objectives for the Plan.

7.0 JAC Membership update

7.1 IM circulated a written report prior to the meeting.

Purpose of report: to explain some proposed changes to the JAC membership and ask Members to review and decide on these.

Recommendations: JAC Members were asked to:

- Note the need to run a parish council election process to fill the vacant parish council representative position.
- Agree to remove Nidderdale Chamber of Trade from the membership of the JAC, due to the Chamber of Trade ceasing to exist, and to amend the JAC Constitution to reflect this change.
- Agree, upon closure of Friends of Nidderdale AONB, to substitute their place on the membership of the JAC to Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust, and to amend the JAC Constitution to reflect this change.

Members agreed the proposed changes (proposed by SR, seconded by RD).

SR suggested that the Tenant Farmers Association be invited to join the Committee to ensure that the voice of tenant farmers is heard. Members agreed to this proposal and suggested that the JAC Executive should consider if any other representatives should be proposed for membership.

Action: IM to contact the Tenant Farmers Association to invite them to join the JAC; IM and the JAC Executive to consider if any other representatives should be considered for membership.

8.0 Dark Skies Supplementary Planning Document

8.1 IM provided an overview of the Dark Skies SPD that has been adopted by North Yorkshire Council as part of the Harrogate District Local Plan. The SPD covers the NNL area and divides it into three zones, E0, E1 and E2. E0 in the north-west of the National Landscape has the darkest skies and consequently the more stringent measures to seek to conserve these dark skies. Zone E2 to the south, while reasonably dark compared to many areas, has the most light pollution in the National Landscape (mainly from the nearly conurbations to the south) and therefore has less stringent measures. Zone E1 to the east of the National Landscape falls between E0 and E2 in terms of darkness and hence requirements. The SPD only applies to new development but it contains a range of information that will raise awareness of the issue and help people retrofit inappropriate external lighting where they are willing to do so.

9.0 North Yorkshire Local Plan

9.1 Rachael Balmer, Helen Golightly and Chloe Temple from the Planning Policy team at North Yorkshire Council introduced the process for developing the new North Yorkshire Local Plan. The Plan will cover the whole of North Yorkshire and will replace the various existing local plans, including the Harrogate District Local Plan that currently covers the NNL area.

9.2 Members were then invited to participate in a workshop session to explore the different issues that they consider important for the new Local Plan to address.

Action: RB, HG and CT to provide feedback/notes from the workshop session for IM to circulate to members.

10.0 Summary of Planning Application Responses

- 10.1 A summary of planning consultation responses was circulated prior to the meeting, showing that in the period April to September 2024, the JAC (via the JAC Executive) commented on 21 applications, following scrutiny of a total of 30 planning applications, which included responses to 2 Environmental Impact Assessment Screening requests. Advice was also provided on a preliminary pre-application submission and a response was also made to a neighbourhood plan at its final consultation stage.

11.0 Reports from Partners

- 11.1 Following item 10, NH noted his role as Chair of the Skipton & Ripon Area Planning Committee and explained how the Committee operates. He extended an invitation to any Member to visit a Planning Committee session to see it at work.

12.0 Any other business

- 12.1 There was no other business.
- 12.2 Dates of 2025 JAC meetings will be circulated later this year.