



JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

10.30 am, 3 April 2025, Council Chamber, NNL Office

1.0 Attendance and notification of substitutes

1.1 Attendance:

Cllr. Andrew Murday (NYC)
Sheila Miller (Parish Council rep)
Martin Hockey (Ramblers Association)
Claire Walker (British Horse Society)
Heather Garnett (Friends of Nidderdale AONB) *[left after item 6]*
Jan Arger (CPRE)
Jon Parkes (YWT)
Justin Scully (National Trust)
Andy Croucher (NNL Volunteers)
Andrew Smith (NFU)
Richard Bruce (Nidderdale Plus)
Lisa Harrowsmith (Yorkshire Water)
Stephen Ramsden (CLA)
Lindsay Wallace (YDMT)

1.2 Officers:

Rachael Balmer (NYC)
Iain Mann (NNL)

1.3 Apologies:

Cllr. Nathan Hull (NYC)
Cllr. Felicity Cunliffe-Lister (NYC)
Richard Dimon (Natural England)
Paul Trewitt (Parish Council rep)
Joanna Wright (Parish Council rep)
Shaun Berry (NYC)

1.4 Substitutes:

There were no substitutes.

2.0 Declarations of interest

2.1 No interests were declared.

3.0 Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2024

3.1 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record (proposed by RBr, seconded by CW).

4.0 Matters arising from the minutes

4.1 *JAC Membership (item 7):*

Tenant Farmers Association are willing to join the JAC; suggestion that the TFA representative should be a tenant farmer who farms within the National Landscape was strongly endorsed by JAC Members.

JAC Executive has reviewed the wider membership and does not consider there is a need for any other new JAC members at present, although this could change in the light of the Management Plan review.

Parish Council elections for a new Parish Council representative are ongoing; there have been three nominees and the deadline for voting is 30 April.

Local Plan (item 9):

RBa updated on Local Plan progress since the October workshop with JAC Members: NYC are about to start consultation on the Local Plan Issues and Options paper; JAC will respond to this consultation, and JAC Members decided that all Members should be involved in response (rather than via Executive).

RBa also noted that the landscape character assessment process is being externally commissioned; that new Local Plan regulations are expected from Government in the summer; and that the timetable to complete the NY Local Plan is 2028/29.

Action: IM to lead preparation of JAC's response to the Local Plan Issues and Options consultation and to consult all JAC Members as part of this.

5.0 Review of delivery against 2024/25 Business Plan

5.1 IM circulated a written report prior to the meeting.

Purpose of report: to provide JAC Members with a summary of delivery against the 2024/25 Business Plan.

Recommendations: JAC Members were asked to note the report on 2024/25 delivery and feedback any comments to the NNL Manager.

IM provided an overview of the actions by the NNL team during the 2024/25 financial year. He highlighted:

- The priority across the team of maintaining support and advice for the farming community.
- The achievements of the Skell Valley Project, which is finishing in May 2025.
- The delivery of more than £1.1M in grants through Year 4 of the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme.
- The other major project delivery, including Wetlands Project, Beyond Nature and Woodland Creation.
- The significant contribution from volunteers through Nidderdale Conservation Volunteers, the walling group, Skell Valley Project and curlew projects.

5.2 AM congratulated the NNL Team on the scale of delivery across a wide range of work during 2024/25 and asked that the Manager ensures this work is well-promoted so that people can recognise what is being achieved.

Action: IM to consider mechanisms to improve promotion of NNL Team work.

6.0 Friends of Nidderdale AONB and YDMT

6.1 AM thanked Heather Garnett on behalf of all JAC Members for her contribution over many years and also reflected on the important work of Friends of Nidderdale AONB, which has now closed.

HG spoke about the history of Friends of Nidderdale AONB and the many different projects that they had been involved in. JAC Members were unanimous in congratulating HG and Friends of Nidderdale AONB on their many achievements.

HG left the meeting at this point.

- 6.2 AM welcomed Lindsay Wallace from Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust (YDMT). YDMT are joining the JAC in place of Friends of Nidderdale AONB.

LW gave a presentation on the work of YDMT to JAC Members.

7.0 Election of new Special Interest Group representative to the JAC Executive

- 7.1 An interim election (until the autumn JAC meeting) was held to appoint a new Special Interest Group representative to the JAC Executive, following HG/Friends of NAONB leaving the Committee and Executive.

Nomination for Special Interest Group representative: SM nominated Richard Bruce and this was seconded by JS. There were no other nominations. RBr is the Special Interest Groups representative on the JAC Executive.

8.0 Management Plan update

- 8.1 IM presented the 2050 vision statement that was included in the 2019-2024 Management Plan and proposed that this vision statement should be retained in the new Management Plan, subject to some very minor wording updates.

JAC Members considered the revised vision statement and agreed that this was appropriate for inclusion in the 2025-2030 Management Plan draft document.

- 8.2 IM circulated a written report prior to the meeting.

Purpose of report: to set out the draft Management Plan objectives and seek JAC approval to undertake an informal stakeholder consultation on these objectives.

Recommendations: JAC Members were asked to approve the proposed draft Management Plan objectives for informal consultation with the National Landscape's stakeholder group.

JAC Members considered the draft objectives and agreed to proceed to the informal stakeholder consultation phase of the Management Plan review.

Action: IM to undertake the informal stakeholder consultation on the Management Plan draft objectives.

9.0 Summary of planning application responses

- 9.1 A summary of planning consultation responses was circulated prior to the meeting, showing that in the period October 2024 to March 2025, the JAC (via the JAC Executive) commented on 23 planning applications, with a total of 42 applications scrutinised during this period.

- 9.2 Members reflected on the Nidd Valley Sawmills proposal, noting the importance of affordable housing provision (as per the JAC consultation response) and of addressing flood issues.

10.0 Reports from partners

10.1 JS highlighted the Skell Valley Project celebration events that will be taking place in May at Fountains Abbey; members of the JAC will be invited and are warmly welcomed to attend.

SR noted concerns from the CLA and local communities about the issue of fly-tipping, including the costs to landowners.

11.0 Any other business

11.1 There was no other business.

The summer meeting of the JAC is 17 July and will include an afternoon site visit to see some of the new wetlands created through the Wetlands Project.

The autumn meeting of the JAC (including elections) is 2 October.