

## **EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Minutes of a special meeting of the Exmoor National Park Authority held on Tuesday 22 July 2003 at 2 pm in the Committee Room, Exmoor House, Dulverton.

### **PRESENT**

Mr S J Pugsley (Chairman)  
Mrs A Amory (Deputy Chairman)  
Mr J C Edwards (Second Deputy Chairman)

Mrs J Clark  
Mr M A Collins  
Mr J Dallyn  
Mr W J Dyke  
Mrs A M Foxhuntley  
Brigadier M Hodson  
Mr M H Knight  
Mrs C M Lawrence

Mr R J A Martin  
Mr A Moore  
Mr R Morrison-Smith  
Mr M J Pile  
Mr F Rawle  
Mr M E Taylor  
Mr R J Webber

Apologies for absence were received from Mr F J Bray, Mrs A M Clitheroe, Mr D E Gladding, Miss E I Stacey, Dr J F Travis and Mr J Yabsley.

### **28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were several declarations of interest made in respect of land identified in Appendix 3 to the report of the Head of Recreation and Tourism on Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2003 – Draft Access Map Response (Minute 32) and these appear below. The Solicitor and Monitoring Officer advised, however, that, as the meeting was likely to focus upon the generality of open access and not be concerned with individual land parcels, the interests were not sufficient to debar members. He suggested that they could contribute and vote in the meeting but with the proviso that their participation excluded any land in which they had an interest.

The following interests were declared: -

Mr Collins – item 46 (Section 3 Moor and Heath not included as open country – possible enclosed land). The personal and prejudicial interest was as the tenant of potential access land.

Mr Edwards – items 62 & 63 (Section 3 Moor and Heath not included as open country – possible enclosed land); items 49, 139 & 140 (Section 3 Moor and Heath not included as open country – general discrepancies); items 44 & 45 (open country but not Section 3 Moor and Heath – wholly or predominantly?). The personal and prejudicial interest was as the owner of potential access land.

Mr Pugsley – items 102 & 103 (Section 3 Moor and Heath not included as open country – general discrepancies). The personal and prejudicial interest was that his father may farm one or more of the parcels of land identified which could become access land.

Mr Rawle – item 44 (Section 3 Moor and Heath not included as open country – general discrepancies). The personal and prejudicial interest was as owner of potential access land.

(NB. The report, including Appendix 3, is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes)

29. **WELCOME**

The new Parish Member, Brigadier Michael Hodson, was welcomed to his first meeting of the Authority, as was the new Access Officer, Mr James Maben.

30. **MINUTES**

**Confirmation:** The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Authority held on 1 July 2003 were signed as correct. In response to comment, the Chairman advised that the reference to the appointment of the Chairman of the Exmoor Consultative Forum to The Chairman's Group being 'in principle' (Minute 14) was correct, as the matter had been left for further discussion. However, now that the position had been reviewed the appointment was confirmed.

(NB. Any Matters Arising would be considered at the Authority's next meeting on 2 September 2003).

31. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

32. **COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2003 – DRAFT ACCESS MAPS**

The Authority considered the report of the Head of Recreation and Tourism on a suggested response to the Countryside Agency's draft maps of registered common land and open country. The response was divided into two parts. Appendix 2 covering general comments about the mapping process and the methodology used, and Appendix 3 which identified individual parcels of land where it was considered further review by the Countryside Agency was necessary.

Appendix 1 to the report was general comments from the Exmoor Local Access Forum on the mapping and consultation process.

It was noted that the draft map stage was the only consultation in which the general public, the Authority and the Local Access Forum could comment. The second consultation, the provisional map stage, was solely for land owners and those with legal interests in land. However, there would be a role for the Authority and the Local Access Forum in making sure they were aware of what was proposed at that stage.

Members asked to be kept informed of the next stages of the process.

**RESOLVED:** to agree the response of the Authority to the Countryside Agency's draft maps of registered common land and open country, as set out Appendices 2 and 3 of the Head of Recreation and Tourism's report. (NB. The entire report is appended to the signed copy of these Minutes)

(The meeting closed at 2.45 pm)

Chairman