



## Steering Group Agenda- White Peak Partnership

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 12:30 – 16.00 NT Ilam

Chair – Felicité Dodd (NE)

Note taker – Jon Stewart (NT)

Present also- Sue Fletcher (PDNPA), Mark Haslam (EA), Tim Birch (DWT), Tim Allen (HE- for part of meeting via phone)

### 1. Introductions, apologies and conflicts of interest

Jo Smith (Tim Birch to deputise)

### 2. Vision update

- a. Soft launch & farm walk- it is for the WPPartnership
  - outline Vision at start of meeting so informs both farm visits- SF to do
  - invite WPPartnership c30 people, expect c20 come. Possibly invite reps from Peak District Land Managers Forum eg Brexit sub-group.
  - FD/SF organising day and invite/liaison with host farmers
  - pay for lunch **AP-SF/FD** circulate revised proposal and roles for steering group members
  - what next section at the end?
- b. Discussion around community involvement, agreement on text below.
  - Amendments made at meeting as track changes in text below.
  - AP- SF** to develop mechanism to promote the Vision to local communities involved in Neighbourhood Planning.
  - AP-** At soft launch ask how we might promote the vision and what we are doing.

### 3. Update from HE on cultural capital pilot

- a. It is a pilot for the ecosystem services concept being applied to cultural heritage.
- b. Consultants appointed- **AP- TA** to get an update on progress so relevance to WPP can be gauged for next WPP meeting (5/7) + circulate any draft/progress report if there is one before the meeting.
- c. PDNP Farmsteads Guidance- **AP- SF** to arrange for communication of final version on web to be circulated.



#### 4. Update on Water Environment Grant (WEG).

- a. Joint EA/NE initiative. Submission by 11/5/18. Very tight turnaround.
- b. PDNPA submitting bid and NT for Dove.
- c. Initial ideas- **AP- SF** to circulate. Focus on Upper Wye Valley SSSI/SAC freshwater interest and phosphate impact from diffuse pollution. Yr1- feasibility- employ consultant to work out what measures needed with farmers. Yr2/3- implement on priority farms plus events on eg soil health.
- d. Discussed focussing on feasibility- for Wye and/or wider WP as we can deliver that and info is then available to inform future projects, funding bids and agri-environment schemes. Demo farm another option.
- e. Meeting on Thursday to work up further at Aldern House- Sarah Bird organising.
- f. Others:
  - i. NT Dove- weir work the focus. Request for invasive species to be included by PDNPA ecologists. **AP- JSt**
  - ii. MFTF- proposal for gully blocking and woodland expansion feasibility study (that would include the WP).

#### 5. Update from Defra pilot workshop.

- a. Testing, trialling and piloting land management support ideas under a Defra small team. May be an opp to test or trial some aspects in the WP. Pilot will take place in 2021 and will be organised nationally to look at the proposed universal scheme, which will involve 4% of the eligible community.
- b. Reflect on what we have submitted so far in light of latest Defra guidance shared by SF at the meeting (**AP- SF** to circulate). Can we suggest a particular focus for the WP? **AP- all**. Permanent pasture, pollinator habitat (“% by land area), water quality may be the areas to concentrate on.
- c. Defra have asked National Parks to pull together their submission. SF involved with Exmoor and Yorks Dales. **AP-SF** to circulate the ask from Defra to the National Parks that led to our submission.
- d. **AP- SF** to pull together a WPP Brexit sub-group after SF has met other conservation orgs to look at what we might offer to test or trial.



## **6. Update on strategic approach to the Projects –Project Task & Finish Group**

- a. Need to identify what are the most important projects to deliver the strategy for the WP. **AP- JSm** to circulate final version of the Thornbridge workshop report. (this contains the list of prioritised projects that the Task and Finish Group needs to consider) **AP- JSm** to pull together a group.
- b. Woodland Trust HLF application for Treescapes ie trees, small woods in the landscape. White Peak one of thirteen areas identified but need to reduce scope and so drop to eight areas then develop an application to HLF. Not known if WP retained. **AP- SF** to advise steering group when known.
- c. Great Crested Newt –surveys (DNA presence in ponds only –doesn't give numbers and can give false negatives) by consultants in the WP this year as background to review of how licensing is carried out- better understanding of meta-populations. Wildlife Trusts have concerns and have not engaged.

## **7. Review and agree Action Plan**

- a. Not available for the meeting- **AP-JSm** to circulate Action Plan GANNT chart.
- b. Key action is review of projects and in light of that considering what grants might be bid for.

## **8. Agree date and location of next meeting**

- a. 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 DWT offices, Chair NT, Note taker PDNPA
- b. Next dates:
  - i. 4/5/18- telecon to review arrangements for soft launch and progress on projects/key messages for launch.
  - ii. 21/9/18 10.00am DWT offices Middleton by Wirksworth.
  - iii.

## **9. AOB**

Note takers/chair – in alphabetical order: DWT, EA, HE, NE, NT, PDNPA



## Text for item 2b

*“The White Peak Partnership started from concerns about the amount and connectivity of special habitats in the White Peak following both the Lawton and the more recent State of Nature Reports. In considering the scope of the Partnership it was agreed that rather than a single focus on the natural environment that a more multi-objective approach should be taken so cultural heritage, access and communities are included. At the same time it was agreed that the farming and land management community were integral to the partnership as around 94% of the White Peak is privately owned. So the partnership was widened to include a representative sample of White Peak farmers, land managers and land owners. ~~Broadening the partnership out still further to the wider community was considered but there were concerns that this would make the partnership too large and potentially start to duplicate the work of the NPMP. There has been broad support for the White Peak Partnership through the NPMP review process. As the project develops there will be opportunities to consult with the wider local community.~~”*

*So far a series of task & finish groups have been established: -*

- 1. Vision task and finish group - has developed a vision and supporting summary which is in the process of being finalised.*
- 2. Brexit task & finish group – set up and now developing ideas for a new farming and land management support system which will deliver for the White Peak post Brexit. (Linked to the work of the PD Land Managers’ Forum)*
- 3. Price Review 2019 task & finish group – exploring opportunities of working with Severn Trent Water*
- 4. Projects task & finish group - a brief for this group is being drafted. There will need to be an overarching strategy with clearly identified targets/outcomes to ensure that existing and future activities/projects work effectively together and collectively deliver the vision for the White Peak.*

*A number of the projects ideas relate to engagement with local communities e.g. Valuing our White Peak Cultural Heritage (A community based heritage project working with communities in the settlements of the White Peak to research and understand the historical and archaeological development of their settlements, and their wider landscape.), Exploring the White Peak Heritage - Create a series of accessible routes (foot, bike and horse) from/around various White Peak villages to explore the local heritage, which could be supported by interpretation created by local communities.*