**COTSWOLDS CONSERVATION BOARD**



**Fifty-Third Meeting of the Board**

**10.00 a.m., Thursday 6th December 2018**

**Council Chamber, Cotswold District Council Offices,**

**Trinity Road, Cirencester**

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| NOTES:1. It is requested that MOBILE TELEPHONES be switched off or set to ‘silent’ during the meeting.
2. To optimise meeting time, Members are asked to read the agenda papers **in advance**; and to contact the reporting officer(s) for any clarifications or further information.
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**AGENDA**

 1. **Apologies**

2. **Introductions and Announcements**

3. **Declarations of Interest**

4. **Public Questions**

To receive any written public questions, submitted to the Director no later than 5.00 p.m. two working days before the day of the Meeting.

5. **Minutes of Board Meeting**

 **(Page 1)**

 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on 28th June 2018 (copy attached).

6. **Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings**

 **(Page 9)**

 To receive the Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Committee held on (i) 19th July 2018; (ii) 20th September 2018; and (iii) 8th November 2018 (copies attached).

7. **Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2018 - 2023**

 **(Oral Update)**

**Summary:** To receive an oral update in relation to the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan.

**Officer Ref:** John Mills, Planning and Landscape Officer (01451 862004**)**

8. **The Glover Review of National Parks and AONBs**

 **(Page 35)**

 **Summary:** To consider a response to the Glover Review of National Parks and AONBs.

*Recommendation:*

 *That, subject to any comments at the Meeting, the Board agrees its response to the Glover Review of National Parks and AONBs.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

9. **Position Statement on the Case for a Cotswolds National Park**

 **(Page 52)**

 **Summary:** To consider a Position Statement on the case for a Cotswolds National Park.

*Recommendation:*

 *That, subject to any comments at the Meeting, the Cotswolds National Park Position Statement be agreed for submission to the Glover Review.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

10. **Dark Night Skies**

 **(Page 76)**

**Summary:** To present a report on the benefits of darks skies, the potential for dark skies designation and the criteria and process for application.

*Recommendations:*

 *(a) That the Board resolves that the dark skies of the Cotswolds AONB should be actively conserved and enhanced and enable the public to understand and enjoy them;*

*(b) That a draft Position Statement on Dark Skies and Artificial Light is prepared for adoption at the March 2019 Board meeting;*

*(c) That the Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for the Cotswolds AONB is reviewed by June 2019 to ensure the recognition, conservation and enhancement of dark skies is properly taken into account;*

*(d) That the support of local authorities and parish councils is sought in acknowledging the dark skies of the Cotswolds and their conservation and enhancement leading to appropriate local plan policies;*

*(e) That opportunities are sought to raise public awareness of the importance of dark skies and their protection and enhancement;*

*(f) That appropriate external funding bids are made and resources secured in order to make an application to the IDA for Dark Sky reserve status and for maintaining that status.*

**Officer Ref:** Mark Connelly, Land Management Officer (01451 862006)

11. **Presentation - Pilot Partnership Project Working with Young People**

 **(Page 99)**

**Summary:** To review progress in working in partnership with Young Gloucestershire to engage disadvantaged young people in countryside activities.

*Recommendation:*

 *That the presentation be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Simon Smith, Project Development and Business Planning Officer

 Rebecca Jones, Trails and Access Officer/Volunteer Co-ordinator

 (01451 862000)

12. **2019-22 Business Plan**

 **(Page 100)**

**Summary:** To invite discussion and comment on the 2019-22 Business Plan programme.

*Recommendation:*

*That comments on the 2019-22 Business Plan be invited both at the meeting and before the deadline of 14th December 2018.*

**Officer Ref:** Simon Smith, Project Development and Business Planning Officer (01451 862000)

13. **Updates**

1. **Task and Finish Groups and Working Groups**

 **(Page 119)**

 **Summary:** To receive a progress update on the Board’s task and finish groups and working groups.

 *Recommendation:*

 *That the progress updates be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

 (**b) Cotswolds Discovery Centre Partnership Board**

 **(Page 122)**

 **Summary:** *To provide an update on the Cotswolds Discovery Centre Partnership Board.*

*Recommendation:*

 *That the latest progress report be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

 **(c) LEADER Programme**

 **(Page 123)**

 **Summary:** To present an update on the progress of the LEADER Programme.

 *Recommendation:*

 *That the update report be noted.*

 **Officer Ref:** James Webb, Leader Programme Manager (01451 862033)

14. **Glorious Cotswolds Grasslands**

 **(Page 128)**

 **Summary:** To present an update on Glorious Cotswolds Grasslands.

*Recommendation:*

 *That progress be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Mark Connelly, Land Management Officer (01451 862006)

15 **Caring for the Cotswolds**

 **(Page 130)**

 **Summary:** To provide an update on the recent grant awards through the Caring for the Cotswolds scheme.

*Recommendation:*

 *That the update report be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Edward Bonn, Rural Skills and Grants Officer (01451 862032)

16. **Reserves Policy Review**

 **(Page 132)**

 **Summary:** To review the Board’s financial reserves policy.

*Recommendations:*

 *(a) That the reserves policy and strategy set out below and in Appendix A be approved;*

 *(b) that the reserves policy be set at £130,000.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

17. **Members’ Attendance at Meetings**

 **(Oral Report)**

To receive an oral report on Members’ attendance, and determine appropriate action (if necessary).

 **Officer Ref:** Nigel Adams, Monitoring Officer

18. **Schedule of Board and Executive Committee Meeting Dates for 2019**

 **(Page 137)**

 **Summary:** To receive the agreed schedule of dates for Board and Executive Committee meetings in 2019.

*Recommendation:*

 *That the schedule for Board and Executive Committee meetings for 2019 be noted.*

**Officer Ref:** Martin Lane, Director (01451 862000)

19. **Draft Agenda for the Executive Committee on 26th February 2019**

 **(Page 139)**

20. **Executive Committee Forward Plan for 2018/19**

 **(Page 140)**

 21. **Date of Next Conservation Board Meeting (and AGM) - 26th March 2019**

 22. **Other Business** - Such other business which, in the opinion of the Chairman, is urgent.

Martin Lane, Director: 28th November 2018

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| Note:Should you be unable to attend the Meeting please forward your apologies to Ben Amor - telephone 01285 623236 or e-mail ben.amor@cotswold.gov.uk |

(END)