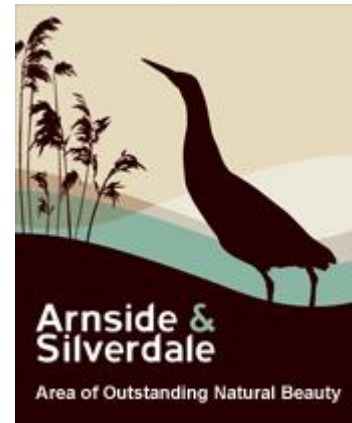


Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership

Executive Committee meeting

2pm, 28th April 2021, via Microsoft Teams



AGENDA

1. Welcome, apologies and introductions
2. Minutes of meeting held on 11th November 2020
3. Matters arising
4. Presentation: Gateway project by Belinda Barclay (Local Nature Reserves Warden)
5. AONB Budget 2020/21 and 2021/22 (report circulated) **Decision required**
6. AONB Team work programme update (report circulated)
7. Communications and funding work programme update (report circulated)
8. Planning work programme update (report circulated)
9. Farming in Protected Landscapes Scheme update
10. Brief updates from partners
11. Update from the National Association for AONBs (including National Arts Strategy)
12. Any Other Business
13. Dates for your diary and dates of future meetings

Latest 4pm finish

Arnside & Silverdale

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday 11th November 2020 at 2.00pm
Via Microsoft Teams



MINUTES

Attending

Members of the Executive Committee:

Fiona Allan	Arnside/Silverdale AONB Landscape Trust
Cllr Kevin Briggs	Warton Parish Council
Cllr Jim Ferguson	Silverdale Parish Council
Andrew Frankish	Environment Agency
Cllr June Greenwell	Lancaster City Council
Cllr Keith Halford	Arnside Parish Council
Sue Harrison	CLA
Brian Jones	Local User Group (Ramblers)
Ann Kitchen (Vice Chair)	Local Business (Bittern Countryside CIC)
Georgina Lofthouse	National Trust
Cllr Mike Macklin	Yealand Redmayne Parish Council
Cllr Pete McSweeney (Vice Chair)	Cumbria County Council
Cllr Brian Meakin (Chair)	Beetham Parish Council
Julian Oston	Farming/Landowner (Dallam Tower Estate)
Maggie Robinson	Natural England
Sam Stalker	National Trust
Andrew Tait	CPRE (Friends of the Lake District)

In attendance:

Lucy Barron	AONB Manager
Barbara Henneberry	AONB Communications & Funding Officer
Sue Hunter	AONB Officer
Dougie Watson	AONB Countryside Officer
Richard Camp	Lancaster City Council
Rachel Whaley	Cumbria County Council

Apologies:

Cllr Helen Chaffey	South Lakeland District Council
Damian Law	South Lakeland District Council
Elliott Lorimer	Lancashire County Council
Alastair McNeill	South Lakeland District Council
Jarrold Sneyd	RSPB
Cllr Phillippa Williamson	Lancashire County Council

1 Welcome, apologies and introductions

- 1.1** The Chair welcomed everyone, and each person present introduced themselves. Apologies received are listed above.

2 Annual re-endorsement of User Groups, Business and Farming representatives

Under the terms of the Constitution, representatives of the local interests are subject to annual re-endorsement by the other members. The current members are Ailsa Gibson (User Group: NLBS), Brian Jones (User Group: Ramblers), Ann Kitchen (Business: BCCIC), Craig Russell (Business: Beetham Holiday Homes) and Julian Oston (Farming/landowner: Dallam Tower Estate)

Proposed: to re-endorse en bloc: Cllr Pete McSweeney (Cumbria County Council); Seconded Fiona Allan (Landscape Trust)

AGREED: to re-endorse User Group, Business and Farming representatives en bloc

3 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- 3.1** Under the terms of the Constitution, the Chair is to be elected from among the voting members of the Executive Committee. Nominations for the position were requested. Cllr Brian Meakin (Beetham Parish Council) indicated that he was willing to stand for one more year but suggested that consideration be given to finding someone to take over in 2021. This was the only nomination.

Proposed: to elect Cllr Brian Meakin as Chair: Cllr Pete McSweeney (Cumbria County Council); Seconded Julian Oston (Farming/landowner representative)

AGREED: to elect Cllr Brian Meakin as Chair. The appointment is for one year.

- 3.2** Nominations for the two positions of Vice Chair were requested. Ann Kitchen (Bittern Countryside CIC) and Cllr Pete McSweeney indicated they were willing to stand for a further year. These were the only nominations.

Proposed: to elect Ann Kitchen and Cllr Pete McSweeney as Vice-Chairs: Maggie Robinson (Natural England); Seconded Julian Oston (Farming/landowner representative)

AGREED: to elect Ann Kitchen and Cllr Pete McSweeney as Vice-Chairs. The appointments are for one year.

4 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2019

- 4.1** The minutes were accepted and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting held on 16th October 2019.

Note: the meeting due to take place in March 2020 was unable to take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown restrictions.

5 Matters arising

- 5.1** (9.1) The AONB Manager reported that the AONB Business Plan and Work Programme are having to be adapted and modified to take into

account changing priorities due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

6 AONB Team work programme update (report circulated)

- 6.1** Members were advised of changes to the staff team. Ruth Colbridge left in May to take up the role of Communications Manager for the National Association for AONBs. The AONB Manager took the opportunity to thank her for her valued contribution, in particular her work on the WILD! Project and events such as the National Moment. Helen Rawlinson has returned from maternity leave at 0.6FTE and Dougie Watson has stayed on at 0.8FTE. Barbara Henneberry will be retiring in March 2021 and again, the AONB Manager took the opportunity to thank her for her outstanding contribution over the last 18 years.
- 6.2** The AONB Manager also asked the Committee to recognise the efforts of Belinda Barclay, the LNR Warden, in responding to a tragic incident at Warton Crag in September when she called the emergency services and performed CPR until their arrival.
- 6.3** The AONB Manager reported that the Covid-19 pandemic has obviously had an impact on the work of the Team but nevertheless, a great deal has been achieved, as can be seen from the report circulated. A selection of photos highlighting some of this work was then shared with members.
- 6.4** Fiona Allan (Landscape Trust) thanked the Team for their help and advice in re-starting the Trust's volunteer tasks, setting up arrangements according to an approved Covid-19 risk assessment and implementing additional safety precautions.

7 AONB Budget 2019/20 outturn and revised 2020/21 (report circulated)

- 7.1** A report with explanatory notes detailing the 2019/20 budget outturn and in-year changes to the 2020/21 budget was circulated.

The AONB Communications & Funding Officer confirmed that Lancaster City Council has made changes to its accounting procedures which now mean that going forward they will cover the full cost of recharges. This effectively means an additional £9000 is available to spend elsewhere in the budget this year.

AGREED: to note the report and approve the revised 2020/21 budget.

8 Planning protocol and work programme update (report circulated)

- 8.1** The AONB Planning Protocol has been reviewed in consultation with the local planning authorities following the adoption of the AONB DPD and the revised National Planning Policy Framework, and updated accordingly.

Maggie Robinson (Natural England) asked how often the document would be reviewed as planning requirements are constantly developing (eg: net gain). The AONB Manager confirmed the document can be reviewed whenever the Team or Committee feel necessary.

Proposed: to formally approve the updated AONB Planning Protocol: Cllr Pete McSweeney (Cumbria County Council); Seconded Andrew Tait

(CPRE)

AGREED: To formally approve the updated AONB Planning Protocol

8.2 There were no questions on the planning work report.

AGREED: to note the report

9 Local Government Reform (documents circulated)

9.1 Cllr Pete McSweeney advised members that last month Government sent letters to councils in Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Somerset inviting submissions on 'locally-led proposals for unitary government' in those areas. That means councils in these areas could formally submit initial proposals for local government restructure to replace the existing two-tier system of county and district councils with a system where there is a single tier for any given area.

9.2 He confirmed expressions of interest were put forward by both Lancashire and Cumbria County Councils together with a proposal for a new unitary authority around Morecambe Bay submitted by Barrow Borough Council, Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council. Fully costed proposals need to be submitted by 9th December 2020.

9.3 It is important that people have their say, whether they agree or disagree with the proposals, as any local government reorganisation will have significant implications for our communities and the way services are delivered.

9.4 How do the proposals affect the AONB? If the Bay bid were successful, the AONB would come under one local authority, rather than the current four. The AONB Manager sought confirmation that the combined funding would not be reduced.

9.5 It was reported that when the proposals were debated by Lancaster City Council, SLDC and Barrow Council, all gave very strong support for the Bay option.

ACTION: to circulate the joint press release with link to the online public consultation survey

AONB Manager

10 The Bittern Award

10.1 Each year the Bittern Award is presented to a group or individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the AONB. The AONB Manager asked for nominations for the 2020 award to be submitted by 1st December. The final decision will be made by the AONB Chairman in consultation with the AONB Manager.

ACTION: to submit nominations for the Bittern Award by 1st December

All

11 AONB Delivery Plan update by partners

11.1 The Landscape Trust

On a sad note, it was reported that Sheila May, ex-editor of Keer to Kent

had died. Volunteers continue to manage the reserves which seem to be attracting more visitors this year. The Landscape Trust 2021 Calendar is now available to buy from their website.

11.2 The Environment Agency

reported that unfortunately due to Covid-19, water quality monitoring as part of their work on reducing diffuse pollution in the Leighton Moss catchment area in line with AS12 of the AONB DPD, has been curtailed.

11.3 Natural England

Cumbria is one of five local authorities selected by the Government to help kick-start nature recovery on a countrywide scale. The selected authorities will receive a share of £1 million of funding to set up 'Local Nature Recovery Strategies' (LNRS) pilot studies to help map the most valuable sites and habitats for wildlife in their area and identify where nature can be restored.

11.4 Cumbria County Council

Cllr Pete McSweeney reported that following complaints about flooding on Black Dyke and Arnside Moss, he has been trying to get a response from Network Rail about debris on their land. Can the Environment Agency help in getting Network Rail to take some action?

ACTION: to consult with colleagues

**Andrew
Frankish**

The County Council will be working in partnership with organisations and across sectors, sharing skills, knowledge and resources, to deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategy pilot and help achieve the objectives of Nature Recovery Networks. This partnership working includes government, land owners and managers, businesses, local communities and conservation groups. Anyone wanting to be kept informed/be involved in future engagement with Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy should contact rachel.whaley@cumbria.gov.uk

11.5 Dallam Tower Estate

has continued work on Catchment Sensitive Farming schemes and is looking at how the Estate can contribute to connectivity and biodiversity net gain.

11.6 Bittern Countryside CIC

The CIC is continuing to support the Back on Our Map (BOOM) project.

11.7 Lancaster City Council

Whilst the Local Plan adopted in July 2020 does seek to address climate change, it was too far advanced in the plan preparation process to incorporate some of the actions and directions of the climate emergency declaration made in 2019. It has therefore been decided to enter into an immediate Local Plan review to ensure that the aspects of this important agenda are adequately considered and include the necessary mitigation and adaption measures necessary to address the climate emergency.

11.8 National Trust

reported that Covid-19 has had a massive impact, with the Trust losing about £200 million in revenue overall and as a result, there have been numerous redundancies. However, they have been able to retain the co-funded AONB Ecologist post and therefore Naomi Dalton will be continuing to carry out work on the AONB Nature Recovery Plan. There is a major

issue with ash dieback which the rangers are now having to deal with.

11.9 The AONB Team

The AONB Manager reported that Defra has offered the AONB Partnership additional funding to support the advocacy and communication of Countryside Stewardship (CS) and Environment Land Management (ELM) schemes as part of a project being led by the National Association for AONBs.

12 Update on the work of the National Association for AONBs

12.1 The AONB Manager reported that the NAAONB is working closely with Defra to explore how the Glover Review recommendations can be implemented. The Government's response has been delayed due to Covid-19 but we are hoping to hear about our funding settlement soon as the current agreement expires in March 2021.

12.2 Arnsdale & Silverdale is already part of the Northern AONBs Forum where we share best practice etc but the NAAONB is now looking at developing a "Coastal Cluster" of AONBs where we will be able to benefit from help with issues particular to coastal habitats and communities.

13 Any other business

13.1 Cllr June Greenwell reported that she had received a number of emails voicing concerns about the Government's proposed reforms of the planning system. The AONB Officer confirmed that a consultation response had been submitted on behalf of the AONB Partnership raising concerns about certain aspects of the proposals. Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Councils had also submitted responses.

16 Dates for your diary

AONB Executive Committee meetings

Wednesday 17 th March 2021	2pm – 4.30pm	venue tbc
Wednesday 20 th October 2021	2pm – 4.30pm	venue tbc

Signed Date:

**Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Executive Committee 28.4.2021**

AGENDA ITEM 5

AONB Budget 2020-21 and 2021-22

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To provide the Committee with details of the revised 2020-21 AONB budget and proposed budget for financial year 2021-22

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) that the Committee notes the report and approves the budget for 2021-22

Background

The proposed 2021-22 budget is required by Defra.

Arnside & Silverdale AONB Budget 2020-21 and 2021-22

Expenditure

Category	Description	Budget Agreed Nov 20	Projected Outturn 20-21	Proposed Budget 21-22
Staff	Salaries, NI, Pensions	168,700	170,362 ¹	172,100
	Travel & Subsistence	1,100	208	1,100
	Training	1,500	1,039	1,500
	Staff Sub-total	171,300	171,609	174,700
Office	Repair & Maintenance, Property Charges	3,500	938	3,500
	Electricity	400	268	400
	Misc. Energy Charges	700	312	700
	Rent	3,100	3,380	3,100
	Rates	2,400	2,370	2,400
	Water Services	100	147	100
	Premises Related Insurance	400	400	400
	Office Equipment	1,000	272	1,000
	Telephones	1,000	0	900
	Covid-19 Expenditure	0	483	0
	Office Sub-total	12,600	8,570	12,500
Communications & Events	Printing & Stationery	600	164	600
	Exhibitions & Events	1,600	200	4,600
	Communications & Publicity	3,100	2,683	3,100
	Comms. Sub-total	5,300	3,047	8,300
Partnership	Employee Related Insurances	1,100	1,100	1,200
	Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	500	937	900
	Petrol & Derv	500	241	500
	Vehicle Licences	200	268	200
	Transport Related Insurance	1,200	1,249	1,200
	Equipment and Tools - General	1,000	808	1,000
	Clothing & Uniforms	300	209	300
	Support - Internal Recharges (System)	16,000	16,000	16,300
	AONB Executive Support	3,900	3,071	3,900
	Partnership Sub-total	24,700	23,883	25,500
Programme	Management Plan Projects ²	29,203	21,451	20,300
	LNR Management Programme	33,526	38,240	4,300
	Programmes Sub-total	62,729	59,691	24,600
Reserve	Contribution to Reserve Sub-Total	2,000	10,396	2,000
Total		278,629	277,196	247,600

¹ Increase due to ELM and NRN funded projects including staffing contribution. 0.2 Dougie Watson & 0.2 Helen Rawlinson from December – March.

² Includes consultants.

Income

Category	Description	Budget Agreed Nov 20	Projected Outturn 20-21	Proposed Budget 21-22
Government Grants	DEFRA	144,598	144,598 ³	144,600
	ELMS/CS	0	5,202	0
	Government Grants Sub-total	144,598	149,800	144,600
Contributions from Local Authorities	Cumbria County Council	8805	8,805	8,805
	Lancashire County Council	9000	9,000	9,000
	Lancaster City Council	30600	30,600	30,600
	South Lakeland District Council	11500	11,500	11,500
	LAs Sub Total	59,905	59,905	59,905⁴
Other Income	ARETI Grants ⁵	15,800	0	15,800
	NAAONBs	0	2,000	0
	NRN NE	0	4,000	0
	LNR Receipts from Other Bodies	29,526	35,574.26 ⁶	1,800
	Parish Councils & Vol. Days	6,500	4,490	6,500
	Fingerpost Donations	0	1,660	0
	Other Bodies Sub-Total	51,826	47,724	24,100
Feed In Tariff	FIT Credits	500	-33⁷	500
Reserve	Transfer out of Reserve	4,000	0	0
Host Authority In Kind ⁸	LciC in kind support	16,000	16,000	16,300
	LciC Property Services	1,800	1,800	1,800
	HA In Kind Support Subtotal	17,800	17,800	18,100
Reserves	LCiC Contribution to Reserves	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total		280,629	277,196	249,205

AONB reserve	20/21
Balance as at 31/03/19	39,133
Annual budgeted contribution into reserve	10,396 ⁹
Less transfer out of reserve	0 ¹⁰
Projected balance in reserve at 31/03/20	47,582

³ DEFRA contribution received April 2021, on accruals.

⁴ Lancaster City Council budget is £28,600 plus contribution.

⁵ Accruing £15,800 for 2 projects in 2021/22.

⁶ Includes Gateway Project and IIA from 19-20 (Gateway Project funds). RPA to be confirmed.

⁷ Currently being investigated.

⁸ Estimated for outturn & 2021/22.

⁹ Estimated: £2000 plus surplus. Transfer to reserves to be confirmed w/c 26/4/2021.

¹⁰ Previously projected £4000 transfer out of reserve for Gateway project, but not necessary to be transferred.

**Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Executive Committee 28.04.21**

AGENDA ITEM 6

AONB Team work programme update

Report prepared by: Lucy Barron (AONB Manager)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To provide the Committee with an update on the delivery of the AONB work programme

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) that the Committee notes the report

AONB staff changes

Barbara Henneberry retired on 5th March 2021. Barbara would like me to pass on her thanks for the many kind messages, cards and gifts that she received on her retirement.

We are delighted that Caroline Howard has joined the team as our new full time AONB Funding and Communications Officer. Caroline brings with her a wealth of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm. I'm sure you will all give Caroline a warm welcome as she settles into her new role.

Naomi Dalton, Ecologist (a shared post with the National Trust), left in February to move on to a role with Natural England. We wish Naomi the very best in her new role and thank her for her work, particularly on developing the State of Nature report and Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy pilot.

AONB Team work programme update

While many activities have continued to be affected by Covid restrictions, the AONB staff have worked on AONB work programme priorities throughout the pandemic and we have adapted the work programme accordingly. I would like to formally thank all the staff for their flexibility, resilience, commitment, and extremely hard work throughout.

Since November 2020, key achievements of the AONB Team include:

Outstanding landscape rich in natural and cultural heritage

- We have worked, taking a landscape-scale approach, as a key or supporting partner in projects/steering groups including the Morecambe Bay Local Nature Partnership, Cumbria and Lancashire Local Nature Partnerships and the Back On Our Map (BOOM) project.
- The Underground Visual Amenity scheme, the 'Warton to Barrow Scout scheme', has now been consented by the landowners and Electricity Northwest are continuing taking this forward.
- Work has continued the preparation of a State of Nature Report and a draft report has now been produced.
- Continued participation in the Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy pilot
- Participation in the national 'Coastal Cluster' of AONBs, working across the national AONB network on nature recovery.
- The 'Meadow Makers' project funded by the Green Recovery Challenge Fund and led by Plantlife successfully received funding and has now started. The project will contribute to the restoration/enhancement of 10 limestone grassland sites within the AONB and various community engagement activities. We are also working with Cumbria Wildlife Trust to support a traineeship for a young person as part of the scheme.
- A project led by Butterfly Conservation also successfully received funding from the Green Recovery Challenge Fund: Green Recovery in Morecambe Bay Woodlands. The AONB is working with Butterfly Conservation on delivery within the AONB.
- Ongoing conservation management of Trowbarrow and Warton Crag SSSIs via Countryside Stewardship agreements to maintain favourable condition status. Work to manage ash dieback also undertaken at both reserves.
- We have developed a draft proposal to develop Trowbarrow Local Nature Reserve as a geological education site.
- Provision of independent landscape-related planning and policy advice to local authorities, including reviewing and making formal responses to planning applications, according to an agreed Planning Protocol, and responding to other consultations, as detailed under agenda item 7.
- We have continued Dark Skies monitoring and working with both Friends of the Lake District and Lancaster University to develop a Dark Skies project proposal. We are hoping that Lancaster University will be able to support us to a great extent with this work.
- Practical volunteer days to carry out annual management of Bankwell and Woodwell for Silverdale Parish Council, completing woodland management at Dobshall Wood for the Woodland Trust, and completing annual work on the LNRs.
- Staff training on ash dieback completed and draft ash dieback policy compiled. Brief for Trees and Woodland Strategy completed.
- Attended the Coastal Flooding and Erosion Risk (Cumbria Coastal Strategy) meeting, and joined the Protected Sites Task Group for the NW Shoreline Management Plan Refresh.
- Continued work to develop NRN verges and hedgerow projects.

Vibrant and sustainable communities

- Provision of bespoke advice and support to landowners and managers on land management practices which help conserve and enhance the landscape and natural and cultural heritage of the area.
- Launched a new Farming and Land Management Group to strengthen relationships and provide support and information as we go through the agricultural transition period and prepare for the launch of ELM. A series of online events delivered, 1:1 support given and 1 Land Matters newsletter produced.
- Supported social forestry initiative Silverdale District Wood Bank.
- Provided advice and support to partners and Parish Councils to assist with visitor management.
- A new Visitor and Access Management Group launched, and first meeting held.
- Gateway project fully delivered to enhance visitor infrastructure and interpretation at Warton Crag Quarry. New interpretation panels, a stone bench and new waymarked routes and signposts installed. The Friends of Warton Crag volunteer group has continued outside periods of lockdown.
- Delivered the AONB Grants Fund - run jointly by the Arnside & Silverdale AONB Partnership and the Arnside/Silverdale Landscape Trust, working together to support projects which conserve and enhance the AONB or connect people with the landscape. 2 grant application currently under consideration.
- Ongoing and continued support for the AONB Landscape Trust and Bittern CIC
- Restarted the practical AONB Volunteer Programme outside periods of lockdown with reduced numbers and Covid measures in place. Supported office-based volunteers to work remotely through lockdown. Delivered an online annual volunteer thank you event in December. Organised and delivered volunteer brushcutter/strimmer training.
- Restarted AONB litter picks with Covid measures in place.
- Continued to build northern AONBs volunteer manager group.

A strong connection between people and the landscape

- Implemented the AONB Communications Strategy – provided and distributed a range of online, social media and printed communication and information materials. More details under agenda item 7.
- Following a significant increase in the numbers of visitors to the AONB as a result of Covid travel restrictions, used social media and posters to promote the Countryside Code and Social Distancing messages and supported communities and landowners to deal with any issues
- Continued essential maintenance and warden duties at Warton Crag and Trowbarrow Local Nature Reserves. Installed new access gate at Moss Lane entrance to Trowbarrow to allow easy access for all and to create access for Tramper route.
- Launched access sponsorship programme to assist with upgrades of finger posts. This has resulted in 6 donations to date and installation of 10 new/renovated fingerposts.
- Renovated and installed 4 limekiln interpretation panels
- Led negotiations between local climbers, the BMC and landowners, in particular the National Trust to come to a consensus regarding management of climbing activity on the limestone cliffs at Silverdale.

Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Executive Committee 28.04.21

AGENDA ITEM 7

Title of report: Communications and funding work programme update

Report prepared by: Caroline Howard, AONB Communications and Funding Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To provide an update for the Executive Committee on communications and funding work carried out by the AONB Team since the last meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive Committee notes the report.

Communications & Funding update

Barbara Henneberry retired March 2021. Caroline Howard started 1st March 2021, as 1.0 Communications & Funding Officer.

The AONB team are currently in the process of developing an Interpretation Plan, to lead communications across various media.

Social Media & Website

Current Social Media following is as follows:

Twitter: 3,857 followers

Facebook: 2,525 page likes, 2,809 page followers

Instagram: 433 followers

The following streams are set up but not yet in regular use:

YouTube: 9 subscribers

TikTok: 2 followers

Pinterest: 2 followers

The website had a reach of a total of 36,806 users (1/3/20 – 31/3/21), with 199,233 page views. The 'Discovery' pages are currently being updated following increased pre-visit searching due to visitors anticipating covid restrictions.

Social Media has been used to share the updated Countryside Code, launched April 2021. The resources (shared with us by NAAONBs) have also been circulated to the Visitor & Access Management Group.

Social media posting has been assisted by volunteers, who are now using Hootsuite (a content management system for various social media streams) to schedule and duplicate posts across platforms.

Events

Events programme for 20/21 cancelled due to covid 19 restrictions.

Events planning for 21/22 is underway, with contingencies for changing covid 19 restrictions.

This is still in development, but will likely include the following:

- National Hedgerow Week celebration (May – possibly online / social media only)
- National Meadows Day celebration (July)
- Dark Skies Week celebration (November)

Apple Day 2021 is currently tbc, as we don't wish to place undue pressure on partners this year.

Projects

Two ARETI Trust projects rolled over from 20/21 to be delivered during 21/22 – one working with a Pupil Referral Unit in Lancaster and Stomping Ground, and one working with 4 primary schools for a 'night under the stars' in the AONB and to create artwork for Light Up Lancaster.

Bittern Award

The Bittern Award was given to the Arnside Volunteer Group; a handover ceremony will be planned once covid restrictions allow.

**Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Executive Committee 28.04.2021**

AGENDA ITEM 8

Planning work programme update

Report prepared by: Sue Hunter, AONB Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To provide the Committee with an update on planning and development management work carried out by the AONB Team on behalf of the AONB Partnership

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) that the Committee notes the report on planning work

Introduction

The primary purpose of AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area and development management and planning are a key element in achieving this.

Background

The AONB Executive Committee is a consultee on planning matters, both planning policy and planning applications; it is not a decision maker. Planning decisions are made by the relevant local planning authority.

Planning policies for AONBs are contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans. AONB designation and the AONB Management Plan are material considerations in the planning process. Management Plans are adopted statutory policy of the local authority.

Planning applications

All planning applications within the AONB are reviewed and also any applications outside, but potentially impacting on, the AONB. Records are kept of all applications reviewed by the AONB Team and the responses made.

A summary is given below of the total number of applications reviewed in 2020/21 to date; the number of applications per individual parish is given. The number of formal responses submitted to the planning authorities is also given.

Planning applications reviewed so far in 2020/21 (to 31/03/2021)

Arnside	48
Silverdale	40
Beetham	46
Yealand Conyers	4

Yealand Redmayne	9
Warton	27
Total within AONB	174
Outside AONB	1
Total no. applications	175
Responses submitted	68

Of the responses submitted since the last Executive Committee meeting, 3 included formal objections to the proposed development. These applications are listed below, with the final planning decisions noted (where available):

- 20/01349/FUL – Application for erection of a detached dwelling (C3) and creation of a new vehicular access at Land North of 13 Main Street, Warton - **awaiting decision**
- SL/2020/0933 – Application for formation of manege for personal use only (Resubmission SL/2019/0924) at Land near Fell End, Hale Moss - **awaiting decision**
- 20/01428/FUL – Application for construction of a manege and creation of temporary storage area at Land adjacent to Fell view Barn, Moss Lane, Yealand Redmayne - **awaiting decision**

Formal objections made to applications reported at the last Executive meeting but where a planning decision had not been made at the time include:

- 20/00402/OUT – Application for erection of 3 dwellings and creation of vehicular access at Bank Barn, Crag Road, Warton. Amended application for the erection of 2 dwellings – **refused**
- 19/01581/FUL - Application for erection of one 2-bed dwelling with associated landscaping, re-grading of land and creation of a new access point at Land N of 27 Coach Road, Warton – **refused**
- 20/01038/FUL - Application for creation of a new vehicular access off Coach Road and construction of a driveway, erection of a stone boundary wall and gate and alterations to land levels at 29 Coach Road, Warton – **withdrawn**

Consultations responded to on behalf of the AONB Partnership

- Lancaster City Council Local Plan Review – Climate Change

Other planning related work

- Attended online the Lancaster District Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy
- Attended online the NW Marine Plan Implementation Training Session.