

## BOWLAND AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER AT RATHMELL VILLAGE HALL CRAVEN DISTRICT

Report submitted by Cllr Rosie Elms

Elliott Lorimer from the AONB opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Cllr Shaun Turner LCC was voted in as chairman and Mr Maxwell Scott as vice chair.

### Brief Partner Updates

Cllr Rosie Elms and Elliott Lorimer explained the HARP (Hawes water aqueduct replacement) application and gave progress updates, discussion about the project followed and many are unhappy with UU (United Utilities) responses and lack of answers about the Ecology and Environmental part of the application and many other issues. It was agreed to have a meeting with UU, possibly at Newton in the near future.

Cllr Shaun Turner informed the committee that all street lamps would have new energy saving bulbs fitted by Feb 23 to meet the energy saving agreement

A member from Wyre Borough Council stated that the general state of dilapidation of footpaths was appalling and more should be done to keep them maintained and prevent excess wear and erosion around the original path. This would make them safer and more user friendly.

Farmers were criticised for putting private land signs up on tramper trails, but a committee member pointed out that the trails mostly were on private land and of a certain width which users should adhere to and not roam all over the place.

Wyre Borough have a flood management scheme in place and have managed to raise £1.5 million pounds from local groups and sponsorship to do some more work.

North Yorkshire County Council reported that they were doing very well with their climate change agenda, Craven District Council very active with tree planting schemes with a formal White Rose Forestry plan on the way.

Cllr Rosie Elms reported that Ribble Valley Council also now had a climate change working group but due to having the Castle Cement factory in Clitheroe would never be able to attain a zero carbon outcome.

### Farming in Protected Areas

A new initiative was started in July 2021, overseen by the ANOB, NFU, Natural England, local Farmers and other partners. The main focus points are, Meadow management, support Nature and Biodiversity, Tree Planting, Reduce Flood Risk, improve management of Natural Habitat, Conserve and repair of Historic Features, Maintain Character of the Landscape, Farm Diversification, support of local food brands and Carbon Reduction from farming. The project has got funding for 3 years with varying grants available for projects.

### Landscape Review Board

Two new areas of AONB to be started, one in Cheshire and one in the Yorkshire Wolds

### Pendle Hill Project

Now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, have got a lot of public engagement with projects like footpath repair, dry stone walling, woodland management, archaeology, volunteering, outdoor schools and many other projects.

### AONB Team Report

Elliott Lorimer gave an update on working with the Yorkshire Peat Partnership, they have got a grant for restoring some blanket bog in Bleasdale.

### Bowland Haytime Project

Aims to restore over 500 hectares of species rich grassland on over 100 sites, this will connect over 7000 people involved with grassland heritage.

### Quermore and Condor Valley Landscape Enhancement Scheme

Spring 2021 the AONB got confirmation of a grant from the National Grid over 3 years to support Hedgerow Creation, Dry Stone Walling restoration and Woodland planting.

### Discover Bowland Guide

Now working on the new book, will be out next year.

### Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

Granted extension until March 2022 to focus on soil carbon testing and farm carbon