

**South Downs Land Managers
Executive Committee**
11.45 – 13.00 5th September 2019
The South Downs Centre, Midhurst

Present: William Wolmer, William White, Mike Tristram, David Ashcroft, Alison Tingley

Minutes

1. **Apologies:** James Cooper, Tim Bamford, Simon Ward, David Taylor
2. **Minutes** of the EC meeting held on 4th April 2019 were approved.
3. **Matters arising:** NPA have agreed to circulate the Rural Development Paper prepared for the Glover Review.

4. **Matters arising from AGM/Liaison meeting**

4.1 Format of future Liaison meetings: William Wolmer and William White had a meeting with Andrew Lee and had raised the issue of the Liaison meeting format. After some discussion it was agreed by the Executive Committee that there was value in keeping at least one joint Liaison meeting with SD Network, SDLM and SD NPA.

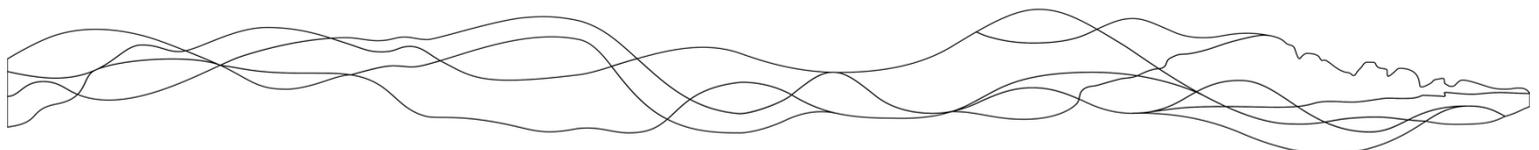
ACTIONS:

- WWo to go back to Andrew Lee to suggest that we hold 3 meetings per year, 1 of which is joint with the SD Network and the other two are between SDNPA and SDLM only. At least one of which is hosted on a farm that has examples/ experience of a particular theme or topic. It was suggested that the theme for the first meeting might be Whole Estate Plans, in particular looking at experiences from different estates
- Check with SDNPA that they would be agreeable to 5th December being used and that staff mentioned below would be available.
- Other persons to invite would be Hamish Janson and Richard Goring and from SDNPA Tim Slaney, Vicky Colwell and Nick Heasman.
- W White to approach John Robinson to see if he would host such a meeting.

4.2 Raising awareness

- AT to get details of South Downs Farming website from Bruce Fowkes and to discuss possibility of SD NPA incorporating the SD Farmland Bird Initiative into the website.

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- MT suggested that Members of the Executive Committee use other farmer meetings to introduce themselves as Members of the SDLM and to ask if there are any issues that landowners want us to raise with the NPA. Such meetings might include Farm Cluster events, NFU, CLA meetings and SDNPA Farmer Breakfasts.
- Raise awareness of SD Farmland Bird Initiative

4.3 'Members' survey

In order to drive the agendas with the SDNPA it was agreed that a survey of landowners for whom we have contact details be drawn up. **ACTION:** W White to discuss with NFU technicalities of doing this.

Suggested that survey should be in the format of tick box options: Strongly agree, Agree, No Preference, Disagree, Strongly Disagree. If possible, some questions may require a Yes /No answer

Should we be asking identifier questions? (This may be useful if they are raising issues that we want to follow up on)

Suggested questions, to be added to as appropriate:

- It would be better if Rights of Way maintenance were carried out by South Downs NPA rather than Local Authorities
- Planning applications are carried out in a timely and efficient manner
- The SDNPA should have a role in NELMs
- The SDNPA should have a role in climate change adaptation and mitigation
- The SDNPA should have a role in rural economic development
- The SDNPA should have a role in health and well-being
- A South Downs brand would help support local livestock sales
- SDNPA helps support Sustainable Tourism to the area
- Landowners are adequately represented on SDNPA Board
- Landowners are aware of who their local Ranger is
- Landowners are aware what SDLM and how they can help?

5. Any other business

None

Remaining dates for Liaison meetings

SDNPA : SDLMG

Thursday 05 December 10:00 – 11:30 Venue tbc - either Midhurst or on farm

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