Park Strategy and Vision Committee

MINUTES of a meeting of the Park Strategy and Vision Committee held at the National Park Office, Wayfaring House, Murley Moss Business Park, Kendal at 10.00 am on 7 August 2025.

Present

Ms J Boak
Mr M P Brereton
Mr J Jackson
Mrs S Lansbury
Ms S Mosner
Mr D F Rathbone
Mr P Walter
3 vacancies

Also in Attendance

Chair of the Authority: Ms T Hunt MBE

Apologies

Mr R Outhwaite

No Apologies Received

Mr A Pratt

30/25 **Appointment of Chair**

Mr Jackson nominated Mr Walter to be appointed as Chair and Ms Hunt seconded the appointment. There were no other nominations.

Decided: That Mr Walter be appointed as Chair for the coming year.

31/25 **Appointment of Deputy Chair**

Ms Mosner nominated Mr Rathbone to be appointed as Deputy Chair and Ms Boak seconded the appointment. There were no other nominations.

Decided: That Mr Rathbone be appointed as Deputy Chair for the coming year.

32/25 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr R Outhwaite.

33/25 **Minutes**

Decided: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2025 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

34/25 **Chair's Announcements**

The Chair announced to the Committee and members of the public that the meeting was being livestreamed and that a digital recording of the meeting would be made.

35/25 **Declarations of Interest**

Ms Mosner declared a potential disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to the Local Development order to permit installation of package treatment plants. She left the meeting and took no part in the debate.

36/25 **Questions**

There were no questions relating to the business of the Committee.

37/25 **Public Participation**

There were no questions, petitions or deputations of a general nature relating to the business of the Committee.

Ms Mosner left the meeting at 10:06 for the duration of item 9 (38) and returned at 10:11.

38/25 **Local Development Order to permit installation of package treatment plants**

The Chair invited questions and comments from Members on a report seeking approval to proceed with a Local Development Order for public consultation permitting the replacement of septic tanks with package treatment plants without the need to make a planning application.

Members asked various questions relating to a concern about potentially increased noise levels. The Planning Manager explained that fluctuations in background noise can have a significant effect on measurement of site-specific noise levels making noise impact difficult to establish.

Members suggested a long-term watching brief in relation to potential increases in noise levels in areas where package treatment plants had been installed.

Decided:

a. Members approved the Local Development Order (Annex 1) for public consultation;

b. Members delegated authority to the Director of Sustainable Development to make any amendments resulting from this meeting; and

c. Members delegated adoption of the Local Development Order (Annex 1) to the Director of Sustainable Development in consultation with the Chair of Park, Strategy & Vision Committee if there are no substantive comments raising concerns resulting from the public consultation exercise.

37/25 **Windermere Villas Conservation Area**

Members were asked to approve the consultation draft of the proposed boundary and Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) for a new conservation area on the eastern shore of Windermere: Windermere Villas Conservation Area. Approval was sought to progress with a six-week period of public consultation in Autumn 2025. It is intended that the final version of CAAMP will be brought to Members following public consultation to seek approval later this year.

The Built Environment Adviser presented a series of images to provide context for the proposed Windermere Villas Conservation Area, outlining its geographical scope from Bowness town centre to Beech Hill Hotel, and highlighting its architectural and landscape significance. The area includes notable Arts and Crafts villas, as well as vernacular farmsteads and wooded landscapes. The presentation emphasised the importance of preserving the character of the Lakeshore, including its buildings, boathouses, and tree cover.

Members expressed strong support for the proposal, praising its thoroughness and the clarity of the visual contrasts presented by the Built Environment Adviser. Members stressed the need for proactive communication with businesses and

residents to ensure understanding and support. Concerns were also raised about enforcement, particularly regarding incremental changes that could harm the area's character. Officers clarified that while the conservation area designation itself doesn't significantly alter planning permissions, it strengthens the ability to refuse inappropriate developments and protect trees.

Members acknowledged the importance of the conservation area in preserving the unique character of Windermere's built and natural environment and recognised the need for ongoing engagement and enforcement to ensure its success.

Decided:

a. Members agreed the proposed boundary and draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for public consultation (Annex 1 and 2); and
b. Members delegated any minor pre-consultation amendments to the Director of Sustainable Development.

(The meeting finished at 10:39)