



**Meeting of the Lake District National Park Partnership
Tuesday 13th July 2022 at 09.00 – Rheged, Penrith**

MINUTES

Partner Name	Organisation	Apologies received
Stephen Henwood	Independent Chair	
Fran Richardson	ACT	Lorraine Smyth
Graham Kennedy Markus Campbell- Savours	Allerdale Borough Council	
Paul Philips	United Utilities	Kevin Sayers
Eric Barker	Copeland Borough Council	
Sonia Hutchinson Leith Hallatsch	Cumbria Association of Local Councils	
	Country Land & Business Association	Lucinda Douglas Libby Bateman
Carole Barr	Cumbria & Lakes Local Access Forum	
	Cumbria LEP	Nigel Wilkinson
	Cumbria Tourism	Gill Haigh
Jane Wilson	Cumbria Wildlife Trust	
Keith Ashcroft Ellyse Mather	Environment Agency	
Ali Ross	Eden DC	Les Clark
Keith Jones Mark Holroyd	Forestry Commission / Forestry England	Kevin May
	Historic England	Trevor Mitchell Marie Smallwood
Sarah Swindley	Lake District Foundation	
Richard Leafe Hanna Latty Gavin Capstick Steve Ratcliffe Tim Duckmanton Tiffany Hunt	LDNPA	
Adrian Anderson Veronica Fiorato	LDNPP	
	National Farmers Union	David Hall
Chris Kaighin	Natural England	
Jez Westgarth	National Trust	
Blanaid Denman	RSPB	David Morris
Mike Turner	Business Task Force	Maria Whitehead
	Cumbria County Council	Chloe Tringham
Andrew Jarvis	SLDC	Dan Hudson
Lois Mansfield	University of Cumbria	

Judith Cooke Stuart Clayton	Friends of the Lake District	Laura Partington
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Observers/Speakers	Organisation	Apologies received
Ian Roberts	Sattva Associates	
	WCRT	Jodie Mills
Simon Johnson	Fresh Water Biological Association	
Michael Carter	LDNPA Member	

Pre-Workshop Partnership Business

A. Welcome/meeting management/purpose (Chair)

The Chair welcomed Partners to the meeting, noting it was a welcome return to the fully in person format following recent hybrid meetings in December (2021) and April (2022). This meeting would be a bit different, with a brief 'Partnership business' section at the beginning followed by a 'Ways of Working' facilitated workshop – the Chair thanked Partners that had been able to contribute financially to the costs of this session. Partners gave brief introductions given there were a few new faces in the room, apologies were noted. The notes from the April 26th meeting were approved.

B. Partnership Business

Michael Carter (LDNPA Member) – The Chair of the Plan Coordination Group (PCG) gave a brief update on the progress of delivery of the plan, which is coordinated by the PCG and delivered through the Key Outcome Groups (KOGS). They are making good, albeit slowish, progress as it has taken some time and effort to establish effective working groups.

The groups are still at different phases of delivery, but importantly implementation and monitoring arrangements for actions are now being put in places (including consistent highlight reporting). The proposals for the overall, long term monitoring will be presented to PCG in September (if asked by Lois for data Partners were asked to please try to provide). Partners will be kept up to date with Plan progress via the PCG summary which is distributed to all Partners, and specific KOG focuses for each edition of Partnership Press (most recent summer edition focused on Sustainable Travel and Transport).

Hanna Latty (LDNPA) – Gave an update on activity related to World Heritage and reporting requirements for an expected 46th session (this is not yet confirmed).

Keith Ashcroft (Environment Agency) – in light of the recent negative publicity regarding Windermere water quality Keith gave an update on a new '**Love Windermere Partnership**'. The Love Windermere partnership has members (including LDNPP Partners) from a broad range of sectors with the range of expertise and influence needed to bring about action. Led by the Environment Agency, the partnership includes the Freshwater Biological Association; Lake District Foundation; Lake District National Park Authority; National Farmers Union; National Trust; South Cumbria Rivers Trust and United Utilities. The increase in water temperature (1.5C above historic norm) has led to higher propensity for algal blooms which is a risk to health, and also the visitor economy.

The group is developing evidence-based, long-term plans to maintain and improve water quality in the lake while balancing the needs of nature, the community and the local economy. One of the first aims of Love Windermere is to collate more scientific evidence to understand which solutions will be most effective and to help prioritise activity. Actions are also taking place to understand the views of local people – the EA recently hosted a

citizens' panel to engage with the community and raise awareness of the challenges affecting the lake. Surveys, reed bed restoration, septic tank information and technology upgrades, fatty waste advice for businesses and pollution monitoring across bathing sites are all part of the planned activity.

Richard Leafé advised that the LDNPA had been trying to engage with a local campaigner who had recently contributed to the recent publicity, but this has not yet been successful. Simon Johnson (FBA) said that interested Partners could find information on the state of Windermere, including studies, on the FBA website. The activity of the Love Windermere Partnership was also recently featured in Partnership Press, and progress will be highlighted in the newsletter in future editions.

Fran Richardson (ACT) – gave a brief update on the Esmée Fairbairn funding that has been committed to ACT, which will be used to support elements of Partnership activity and resourcing. A number of learning forums and community collaboration projects will form part of this, and Fran has been observing on the Plan Key Outcome Groups to better understand where opportunities for new ways of working lie. The Chair noted this work fitted in well with the aims of the Plan and look forward to future updates on progress.

Lois Mansfield (UoC) – as a pre-emptive request, Lois asked Partners to support requests for data for the upcoming State of the Park (SOTP) report. These will be coming to Partners as the project develops – please make your data controllers/analysis teams aware. Lois advised Partners that the aim was to find new ways of using data, and be able to create a master dashboard capable of producing multiple reports (thus moderating the resource spike required every time State of the Park comes around).

ACTION: Lois to produce an explanatory process note about SOTP for Partners. See link [State of the Park Report overview.docx](#).

Chris Kaighin (Natural England) – asked if, given the increasing focus on Windermere, the LDNPP Plan needs to be updated to reflect this? The Chair agreed this should be discussed at the next PCG (15th September).

Chair (LDNPP) – the Partnership will need to recruit a new Chair for when the current term runs out in June 2023. The Chair said the Partnership will need to think about who it wants next, and cast a wide net to find a candidate. Work is underway to understand the timescales for recruitment – with ideally there being some overlap next Spring between the new Chair and current Chair for continuity. It is the intention for a panel of volunteer Partners to be convened to review recruitment materials (job spec) and in due course interview candidates. A paper on progress will be provided to Partners at the November Partnership.

Tim Duckmanton (LDNPA) – Tim reminded Partners about a recent request for information about their carbon reduction/net zero plans and activity, and thanked those who had been able to provide information (particularly data 'cut' specifically to the Lake District). Tim will follow up with others to see what more can be provided.

Partnership Ways of Working Session

The Chair gave an introduction to the session, noting it had been some time in the making and delayed, like the Plan, by the pandemic. He thanked Partners for engaging with 'their homework' – providing facilitator Ian Roberts with completed questionnaires as well as reviewing existing Partnership governance documents ahead of the meeting. The questionnaire results were used to extract scores and material to inform this session. It is important to review processes and ways of working in light of the need to deliver the Plan,

and the Partnership's existing governance (MOU) outlines that periodic reviews should be undertaken. The Chair noted it is important to recognise the journey the Partnership has been on from the State of the Park report, the identification of the Key Outcomes (including input from the Glover Review) and the development of the Plan itself. Each stage has come with challenges, but Partners have been supportive and willing to overcome these together.

Today would be a day for honest conversation and respectful plain speaking, to help clarify next steps and understand issues and opportunities that can be taken further. It will be impossible to cover everything today given time constraints, but the output of the session will inform the Partnership's future direction and Partners will have the opportunity to review and discuss the recommendations that come from the session. Whilst Ian would go on to outline the specific exercises and activity today, the Chair felt there were three key areas which should help inform the discussions:

- a. What brings us together as a Partnership? This should include reference to the existing MOU, how this can be brought up to date and how Partners can re-affirm their commitment (such as signing a new document).
- b. Plan Development – taking stock of how the process went, what went well and what lessons could be learned.
- c. Delivery – what is important and what are the priorities, and how can the Partnership best position itself for delivery and maintain effective relationships.

The Chair introduced Ian Roberts (Sattva Associates) who would be facilitating the session. Ian gave a synopsis of the session format – which consisted of a number of conversations and exercises related to the themes of 'Coming together', 'Our Current Reality' and 'Delivering the Plan' as well as a final exercise about how to strengthen the Partnership and commitments for the next 90 days. Ian explained the meeting was an exercise in exploring complexity and that contributions today would form an output report on recommendations and next steps. Ian gave an overview of the responses to the pre-workshop questionnaire, including key messages and metrics from that.

ACTION: As part of the follow up materials from the workshop this set of slides, drawn from questionnaire responses, would be shared with Partners for reference (*note the output document from the meeting would likely refine these further as next steps*).

ACTION: Output from exercises to be formed into a recommendations/next steps report/document and shared with Partners.

ACTION: Simon (FBA) recalled a BBC Podcast on how to 'disagree better' which he felt would be interesting listening for Partners. The link to this included [HERE](#).

Meeting Close

The Chair thanked all the participants for their positive engagement and contributions, and for being candid and honest in discussions. It has been a very useful exercise and it had been great to be back together in the room. The output from the session will be collated and worked through into recommendations which will be shared and reviewed with Partners.

Whilst not wishing to pre-empt the report from the meeting the Chair felt it was clear that challenges around resource commitment remain and that there is a communication gap (with, and between, Partners and also those that were consulted during the Plan and should remain engaged). The Chair also felt it is important to continue to articulate

and maintain the distinction between the LDNPA and the LDNPP, which allows the Partnership the space to say things the Authority cannot.

The Chair thanked Ian for his role in collating and distilling information from the Partner questionnaires ahead of the meeting, and for his facilitation throughout the session. He thanked the Partnership team for their role in meeting preparation, communication about the session and for arranging the logistics with the Rheged team.

REMINDER: Next Partnership Meeting: **10th November 13.30 to 16.30**, provisionally at LDNPA Offices, Murley Moss (*refreshments from 13.00*).

Partner Lunch – The Blue Room

Partners enjoyed a buffet style lunch and networking, and the meeting closed at 14.00.

General list of acronyms used at Partnership meetings:

AES	Agri-Environment Schemes
BA	Breakthrough Actions
BDUK	Broadband Delivery UK
BTF	Business Task Force
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CLS	Carbon Landscapes Scheme
CHF	Community Housing Fund
CLT	Community Land Trusts
CLH	Community-led Housing
CW	Cumbria Woodlands
CWT	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
FC	Forestry Commission
FLD	Friends of the Lake District
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
FTTP	Fibre to the premises
FTE	Full time equivalent
GS	Gain Share
HLS	Higher Level Stewardship
ICAP	ICAP is a leading markets operator and provider of post trade risk mitigation and information services
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment
LDNPA	Lake District National Park Authority
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnership
Mbps	Megabits per second
NCA	National Character Area
NE	Natural England
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council
NFM	Natural Flood Management
NFU	National Farmers Union
NT	National Trust
PES	Payment for Ecosystems
RESG	Rural Economic Sub Group (LEP)
SCaMP	Sustainable Catchment Management Programme
SEP	Superfast Extension Programme
SLMT	Sustainable Land Management Tool
SOTP	State Of The Park Report
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TOR	Terms of reference
TVGM	Tactical Visitor Management Group
UU	United Utilities
VESG	Visitor Economy Sub Group (LEP)