



**Lake District
National Park**

Authority: 30 September 2026
Draft Minutes Subject to Committee Approval

Agenda Item: 2
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Authority

MINUTES of a meeting of the Lake District National Park Authority held at the National Park Office, Wayfaring House, Murley Moss Business Park, Kendal at 10.00 am on 24 June 2026.

Present

Mr J Jackson (Chair)	Ms T Hunt MBE
Mr P Walter (Deputy Chair)	Mr M Kidd
Miss J Bailey	Mrs J Lancaster
Ms J Boak	Mr R G Minshaw
Mr M P Brereton	Ms S Mosner
Mr W Clark	Mr D F Rathbone
Mr P Dixon	Mr C J Southward
Ms J A Drake	Mrs S Stolberg
Mr M Hatton	

Apologies

Mr Outhwaite
Ms S Lansbury

No apologies received

Mr A Pratt

18/26 Appointment of Chair

In line with the Authority's election process adopted on 24 October 2018, the Chief Executive advised that a sole valid nomination had been received to appoint Mr Jackson as Chair, proposed by Mr Clark and seconded by Ms Mosner.

The Chief Executive declared Mr Jackson duly elected as Chair of the Authority.

The Chair thanked the nominees and Members for their support.

Decided: That Mr J Jackson be appointed Chair of the Authority for the coming year.

19/26 Appointment of Deputy Chair

In line with the Authority's election process adopted on 24 October 2018, the Chair advised that a sole valid nomination had been received to appoint Mr Walter as Deputy Chair, proposed by Ms Hunt and seconded by Ms Lansbury. The Chair declared Mr Walter duly elected as Deputy Chair of the Authority.

Decided: That Mr P Walter be appointed Deputy Chair of the Authority for the coming year.

20/26 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr Outhwaite and Ms Lansbury.

21/26 Minutes

Decided: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2026 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

22/26 Chair's announcements

The Chair thanked Tiffany for her work over the previous four years and noted that she would continue to support the Authority in a different capacity. The Chair also

placed on record thanks to Stephen Ratcliffe at his final Authority meeting in his current role.

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.

The Chair acknowledged the size of the agenda pack and advised Members that further work would be undertaken to make future packs clearer, with a distinction made between items for noting and those requiring discussion. The Chair explained that the order of items 16 and 17 on the agenda would be swapped to allow the grouping of 'to note' reports.

The Chair also advised Members that he intended to stand down as Chair of the Resources Committee. Pending the appointment of a new Chair of Resources, Members supported an interim urgency powers arrangement whereby any urgent expenditure decisions beyond delegated powers would be supported by the Chief Executive, the Chair of the Authority and the Deputy Chair of Resources. The Authority Solicitor agreed this as acceptable in the circumstances but noted that technically there was no Chair / Deputy Chair of Resources until one was elected at the Resources Meeting following the AGM.

23/26 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of a registrable interest or disclosable pecuniary interest relating to any of the business of the Committee.

However, following the Public Participation item linked to agenda item 21, Mr Clark noted that he knows the family personally and sails from the property, and Mr Rathbone that his partner also sails from the property and has personal involvement with the family. Both Members stated that they would therefore disqualify themselves from voting but were encouraged to contribute to discussions around Belle Isle and the wider Conservation Area.

24/26 Questions

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

25/26 Public participation

The Authority Solicitor read out a statement received from Ms Janet Lefton, the owner of Belle Isle, regarding the inclusion of Belle Isle in the Windermere Villas Conservation Area:

“Dear Stephen

Thank you for your email [information protected under the Data Protection Act has been removed]

I can see however from the amended plan that the proposal is that the Round House and Belle Isle still be included in the Windermere Villas Conservation area.

I have strong support for the new conservation area, but do believe it is “after the horse has bolted” and even now, has not logically included property and land which should be included, especially the Windermere villas in the north lake and indeed opposite the land involved. This would pre-empt similar planning issues arising on that land.

I have been given strong advice that the Round House and Belle Isle should not be included which agrees with the advice originally given by your professional advisors. It was not clear when we last recently spoke that you had even gone back to your professional advisors to take further advice regarding the inclusion of the Round House and Belle Isle or not. And as we discussed I do not think you are personally entirely sure that Belle Isle should be included.

The Round House and Belle Isle are already well protected by grade 1 and grade 2* listings and as discussed with you has considerable differences to the proposed Windermere Villas Conservation Area. For over a third of a century I have worked well with the planning department in a positive manner and this is the first time we have had a major disagreement. If Belle Isle and the Round House were to be included I will have no hesitation in taking the matter further, and am advised, will be successful in

getting Belle Isle and the Round House excluded. Surely this is an application neither party must want.

I therefore ask you finally to reconsider.

Janet “

A second statement had been received from MWT Planning on behalf of the owner of Belle Isle and was read by the Authority Solicitor:

“The following representation is made by MWT Planning on behalf of the owner of Belle Isle, who asks that Members reconsider the proposed Conservation Area boundary and exclude Belle Isle.

The owner does not dispute the significance of Belle Isle. Its importance is precisely why it is a Grade I listed building, set within a Grade II* registered park and garden, inside both the National Park and the World Heritage Site. It already carries the highest level of heritage protection the system can give.

Significance is not the test for inclusion. The test under section 69 of the 1990 Act is whether designation is *desirable to preserve or enhance* an area's character. Conservation area status exists to manage change. So, the question before Members is a simple one: what will this designation preserve or enhance on Belle Isle that is not already protected?

The Authority's own evidence answers that question. Annex 6 confirms that inclusion is “not based on vulnerability”, that there are no identified risks to the island's ongoing conservation, and that the only practical effect of designation would be a requirement to notify tree works. That is not a conservation benefit. It is an administrative burden.

Belle Isle was never in the study area. The initial scoping exercise did not propose it. Donald Insall Associates, the heritage consultants the Authority engaged to write the appraisal, did not propose it either. Both placed Belle Isle in the setting of the

conservation area, outside the line. It was added only after representations during the consultation, and Annex 6 records that the justification was written afterwards. That is conclusion first, evidence second, precisely what paragraph 204 of the Framework and Historic England's guidance caution against.

Belle Isle is a detached island, and its inclusion would leave the Authority with a fragmented, three-parcel conservation area. Its group value, its influence on the villa tradition, and its contribution to Outstanding Universal Value are all matters of significance and setting that are already fully protected, and already material to decisions the Authority takes. A line does not need to be drawn around the island for it to be conserved.

Excluding Belle Isle does not weaken the proposed Conservation Area. It keeps the designation coherent, robust and defensible. It is therefore respectfully requested that, should Members choose to designate the Conservation Area, Belle Isle should not be included."

The Chair provided the following response to the statement:

"Dear Mrs Lefton and Mr Tonge

Thank you for your statements regarding the proposed Windermere Villas Conservation Area boundary. As requested, this matter has been brought to the attention of the Authority. You'll appreciate this matter is Agenda 21 on our meeting today, and we will reflect on these statements as part of our consideration of the Officer's report.

(If present) you are welcome to stay for that item"

26/26 Chief Executive's update

The CEO explained that his focus would be on updates and issues although Members would be able to ask questions on the contents of the report.

National Parks England

The Chief Executive reported on a recent National Parks England (NPE) meeting attended alongside the former Chair. The meeting focused on the first months of the

new Executive Director's tenure, governance matters, and the future role of NPE. There was broad support among National Park Authorities for strengthening NPE's ability to respond to national policy issues and increasing its operational capacity. However, discussions on how any expansion should be funded remain ongoing, with options including additional Government funding, external funding opportunities or increased contributions from individual National Park Authorities. Members were also advised of the appointment of new Chief Executives at Dartmoor and Northumberland National Parks.

Parish Cluster Meetings

An update was provided on the programme of Parish Cluster Meetings held across the National Park. Attendance levels had varied between Distinctive Areas, with some meetings attracting strong participation and others proving less successful. Despite this, the discussions had been productive, covering planning matters and wider Authority priorities. The Chief Executive noted a noticeable improvement in the relationship between the Authority and Parish Councils and a greater understanding of the Authority's role, particularly in visitor management. It was suggested that Secretary of State Parish Members could be promoted as contacts for Parish Councils to strengthen engagement further.

Celebrating Volunteers

Members were informed about the recent annual Volunteer Celebration Event held at Thirlmere. The event recognised the significant contribution made by volunteers across the Authority's services. The Chief Executive highlighted that volunteer hours delivered over the previous year were equivalent to approximately 25 full-time members of staff, demonstrating the considerable value volunteers provide. Long-service awards were also presented to volunteers with commitments ranging from 10 to more than 25 years. Formal thanks were recorded to both the volunteers and the staff team responsible for managing and supporting the volunteering programme.

National Recognition for Planning Work

The Chief Executive advised Members that the Authority had attended the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Planning Awards. Although the Authority did not win the top award, it was highly commended and recognised as a runner-up at the national awards ceremony. This national recognition was attributed to the high-

quality planning and strategic work being undertaken by the Authority's planning team and formal thanks were recorded.

Future Investment Opportunities

The Chief Executive reported that the indicative capital settlement from Defra for future years had been confirmed and with a one-off uplift in National Park Grant funding. Senior Leadership Team members were currently developing proposals for both capital and revenue investment opportunities. To ascertain Members views and input on prioritisation, all Members would be invited to an informal workshop on 1 September to discuss potential investments and help shape future spending decisions. Members were encouraged to submit project ideas, including opportunities linked to visitor facilities, infrastructure improvements and nature recovery.

Statutory Officer Changes

Members were advised that the meeting was the final Authority meeting attended by the current Monitoring Officer in that capacity before moving into a new role within the organisation. Members were informed that the Authority Solicitor would assume the role of Monitoring Officer, with the Head of People and Organisational Development becoming Deputy Monitoring Officer. This would ensure continued fulfilment of the Authority's statutory governance responsibilities.

In response to a question about visitor information services in Keswick, the Chief Executive advised that commercial discussions were ongoing and that he was confident that a form of visitor information would be available in the Keswick area for the peak summer season, with further detail to be discussed outside the meeting.

The Chair reinforced the importance of Member engagement in determining future investment priorities. Members were encouraged to submit proposals as soon as possible so they could be included in the assessment process before the September workshop. Particular interest was expressed in any nature recovery opportunities along with projects that could deliver multiple benefits, such as improved visitor infrastructure combined with income generation and environmental improvement. The Chair stressed the need to reach decisions quickly to maximise the Authority's ability to spend the additional funding effectively within the available timescales.

Decided: Members noted the update on key topics since the last meeting.

27/26 Minutes of Committees

The Minutes of the meetings of the following Committees were laid separately before the meeting and in respect of each Committee it was agreed that the Minutes should be approved and recommendations relating to the functions not delegated to a Committee should be confirmed.

a. Park Strategy and Vision Committee

Mr Walter presented the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2026.

b. Development Control Committee

Mr Kidd presented the minutes of the meetings held on 4 March and 1 April 2026.

c. Resources Committee

Mr Jackson presented the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2026.

d. Conservation Covenants Board

Ms Latty, Assistant Director of Sustainable Development, presented the minutes of the working group held on 25 March 2026.

It was noted that the first meeting of the Conservation Covenants Board had established the governance approach for assessing applications, considered decision criteria, risks, cost monitoring and document expectations, and approved several schemes.

28/26 Member representation on outside bodies and partnerships

It was noted that the most recent external engagement had already been covered within the Chief Executive's report.

Members were encouraged to inform officers in advance where they had matters of wider interest to report from outside bodies, so that these could be included appropriately on future agendas or through a short paper for Members.

29/26 Appointment of Members to serve on Committees

The Chair introduced the proposed appointments to standing committees from 1 July 2026 to 31 July 2027.

It was noted that one Member's name appeared on three committees and that this could be reviewed if the workload became too much.

A question was raised about the impact of forthcoming elections on Committee membership; the Monitoring Officer advised that Members would continue as members of Committees until the Authority was formally notified of any change by nominating authorities.

Decided: Members agreed to the appointment to Standing Committees, serving from 1 July 2026 until 31 July 2026.

30/26 Appointments to outside bodies and partnerships and to the Authority's Commercial Strategy Board and Conservation Covenants Board

The Chair presented the report requesting the appointment of Members to represent the Authority at meetings of various other organisations (Outside Bodies and Partnerships), alongside to the internal Commercial Strategy Board and Conservation Covenants Board.

He noted that many roles fell to the Chair but invited Members to express interest in deputy roles where appropriate, particularly where attendance could not always be guaranteed by one representative.

Decided:

- a. Members agreed the composition of appointments to outside bodies and partnerships as set out in Annex 1 of the covering report;
- b. Members agreed the composition of appointments to outside bodies and partnerships as set out in Annex 1 of the covering report; and
- c. Attendance at meetings of the Outside Bodies and Partnerships, the Commercial Strategy Board, and the Conservation Covenants Board be an approved duty for the purpose of the payment of travelling and subsistence allowances.

31/26 Performance and risk monitoring report: Q4 2025 / 26

The Head of People and Organisational Development presented the quarter four report that updated Members on delivery of the 2025-2028 Business Plan at the end of 2025/26, and the management of key corporate and Business Plan risks. It was explained that this report used to go to Resources Committee and would now be presented at Authority in an abbreviated format.

Members were advised that 15 of the 19 key Business Plan actions were green and four were red; 18 of the 21 additional key actions were green and three were red. Service performance summaries were largely green, with Development Management continuing to report amber, and Strategy and Partnerships moving from green to amber. Members were also updated on corporate and business plan risks, with no critical or high risks reported. The Head of People and Organisational Development outlined that the risk matrix would remain within the abbreviated format as it offered Members additional explanatory information.

Members asked about the Authority's net zero commitment and Officers explained that the Authority's 2030 commitment remained the current position but achieving it would depend on finalising whole estate carbon accounting and clarifying the methodology, including the relationship with science-based targets.

A further question was asked about volunteering being rated red, and officers explained that the intended expansion of ranger and visitor management

volunteering had not been delivered by Easter because of staff capacity issues but was expected to progress over the summer.

In response to a question about a planning underspend while Development Management remained amber, Officers clarified that income levels from applications had been higher than expected.

Decided:

- a. Members reviewed delivery of the 2025-2028 Business Plan during 2025/26, as summarised in Annex 1 and detailed in Annexes 2 and 3; and
- b. Members reviewed the management of corporate risks and Business Plan risks, as summarised in Annex 1 and detailed in Annex 4.

32/26 Health and Safety Annual Report 2025 / 26

The Head of People and Organisational Development presented the annual Health and Safety report that highlighted health and safety data for 2025/26, set out progress against the Health and Safety Action Plan, as well as looking ahead at the key priorities for 2026/27.

Members were advised that 25 accidents had been reported, significantly fewer than in previous years. The report also highlighted a slight increase in staff accidents and stressed the importance of near-miss reporting, including incidents of verbal abuse and unacceptable behaviour.

In response to a Member's question about whether reporting could be improved across other age groups, Officers explained that, particularly within the ranger team, incidents were reviewed collectively and used to improve team practices, such as refresher checks and practical safety procedures. Members noted the importance of continuing to promote reporting and thanked officers for the work undertaken.

Decided:

- a. Members reviewed and commented on the Health and Safety Annual Report for 2025 / 26, which was included in Annex 1.

33/26 Draft out-turn 2025/26 and capital programme update 2026 / 27

The Head of Resources presented the 2025 / 26 draft out-turn including virements for approval and the 2026 / 27 capital programme for approval.

It was explained that the accounts were still being finalised and would be subject to audit. Members were advised that the financial position was favourable, with an underspend against working budgets, much of which had been anticipated when the Medium-Term Financial Plan was set. A key driver of this had been in Visitor Services, and particularly car parking income. The capital programme included full use of the £1.5 million Defra grant, including investment in the solar canopy and vehicle purchases.

There were no substantive questions. Members noted the positive end to the year, and the Chair thanked Mr Hatton and the Head of Resources for their ongoing work to simplify future financial reporting to assist Members' understanding and scrutiny.

Decided:

- a. Authority noted the positive year end position
- b. Authority approved the virements of £101k into the Planning Reserve and £156.3k into the investment Reserve
- c. Authority approved the updated 2026/27 capital programme as set out in Annex 2.

34/26 Review of Member allowances

The Head of Resources presented an amended scheme of Members Allowances for approval explaining that while the wording of the scheme had been reviewed recently, the substantive level of allowances had not been reviewed for over a decade. The report proposed removing the separate IT allowance and incorporating it into an increased basic allowance of £3,250, introducing annual indexation linked to the employee pay award, and harmonising travel and subsistence arrangements with staff arrangements, including appropriate discretion where costs exceeded normal limits.

Members discussed the implications of removing the IT allowance, including whether Members had been offered equipment and whether the Authority should provide tablets where needed. Officers advised that providing equipment was likely to offer better value than a recurring allowance. Members also asked about the role of independent remuneration panels, and whether indexation should be applied retrospectively. Officers explained that the proposals were Officer-led, benchmarked against other National Park Authorities and Local Authority approaches, and would be reviewed again within the period required by the regulations. Members also noted that allowances could help reduce barriers to participation and support wider diversity of future Authority membership.

Decided:

- a. Members approve the amended scheme of Members Allowances presented at Annex 1.

35/26 Partnership Plan 2026 – 31

The Partnership Manager presented the Lake District National Park Partnership's Partnership Plan 2026-2031, alongside a report on changes to the Plan following public consultation, and asked Members to adopt the Plan as the statutory management plan for the Lake District National Park and English Lake District World Heritage Site.

The draft Partnership Plan 2026-2031 had been prepared over the past 18 months with extensive input from the 24 partner organisations, the Members' Strategic workshop in 2024, and from Strategy Meeting discussions. Following public consultation, the Plan had been revised, and the Lake District National Park Partnership had agreed that it should go to Authority for consideration for adoption.

Members were updated that late comments had been received from ICOMOS on behalf of UNESCO, including positive feedback on the clarity of the plan and concerns relating to the future of traditional agro-pastoral farming systems,

Partnership governance and the action plan. Officers advised that many of the concerns had already been addressed in the latest draft or would be addressed through the action plan and World Heritage Site work, including the drafting of an agro-pastoral strategy. The Partnership Manager advised that Government's advice was that the Plan should be considered for adoption notwithstanding these late comments.

The Monitoring Officer proposed additional wording to clarify that the Partnership action plan did not form part of the Authority's statutory management plan, because many actions were the responsibility of partner organisations. Amendments to the wording are shown below, with suggested amendments in bold text:

Action Plan

84. The Action Plan (also known as the Delivery Plan) outlines how we will transform our thinking into reality.

85. The Action Plan is a separate document to the Partnership Plan and is kept up to-date through regular review to enable an agile response to new opportunities or challenges that require a course of action. It initially identifies actions for the first two years of the Plan (2026-2028). **The Action Plan does not form part of the Lake District National Park Authority's statutory management plan. This is because many of the actions contained within the Action Plan are the responsibility of other Partner organisations. Those actions that form part of the Lake District National Park Authority's statutory management plan are contained within the Authority's Business Plan.**

Members discussed the plan, particularly the measures of success relating to access and visitor experience. One Member expressed concern that some measures were too focused on outputs, such as mileage of paths, rather than the quality of people's experience. Officers explained the importance of the rights of way network as part of how people experience the National Park and World Heritage Site and noted that the measures had already been considered in detail by the Partnership including

Member representation. Following discussion, Members agreed to adopt the plan, delegate final wording of paragraph 85 to the Monitoring Officer, and request that the Partnership review the access measures and consider whether better, or additional, measures could be developed. If that could not be secured through the Partnership, the Authority would consider the issue through its own business plan.

The Chair placed on record his thanks to the Partnership Manager, the Director of Sustainable Development, the Head of Strategy and Partnerships, the LDNPP Chair and the Officer drafting team for their hard work in bringing the Partnership Plan to fruition.

Decided:

- a. Members adopted the 2026-2031 Partnership Plan (Annex 1), as the Management Plan for the Lake District National Park and the English Lake District World Heritage Site;
- b. Members agreed to delegate final wording of paragraph 85 to the Monitoring Officer;
- c. Members requested an additional review of the access measures;
- d. Members agreed that, over the next five years, an attempt would be made to gather qualitative data and feedback for access from all user groups to help inform the implementation of this plan and the development of the next one; and
- e. Members agreed the 2051 vision and long-term ambitions for the Lake District to guide the 2026-2031 Partnership Plan and future Partnership Plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 for a 9-minute break and was reconvened at 11:51.

36/26 Local Plan timetable and notice to commence

The Team Leader – Strategy and Policy presented a timetable that had been prepared for the new Lake District Local Plan. Members were made aware that the Authority is required to prepare the plan in 30 months under the new plan-making system and that, before the 30-month period begins, several tasks are required to

get ready, including publishing a notice of intention to commence and holding a scoping consultation.

The Authority was part of the first wave of authorities preparing a local plan under the new system, alongside Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness Councils and other National Park authorities, with grant funding contingent on publishing the timetable and notice to commence.

Members asked when a call for sites would take place, and Officers advised that this was likely to begin within the next few months alongside scoping consultation and remain open for an extended period.

Questions were also raised about how the Authority's plan would overlap with Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness and the future mayoral combined authority. Officers explained that each local planning authority would prepare a plan for its own area, and ultimately, boundaries would not overlap. However, ongoing communication would be needed to manage the future strategic spatial development strategy.

Members also raised infrastructure levies and the need to engage businesses and partners on economic growth alongside housing. The Chair asked Officers to provide Members with an internal timetable showing when the Local Plan would come to relevant meetings so that Members could plan their involvement. This was added to the action log.

Decided:

- a. Members supported the publication of the local plan timetable (Annex 1) in accordance with regulatory requirements and agree that any subsequent changes are delegated to the Director of Sustainable Development.
- b. Members supported the publication of the Notice of Intention to Commence Plan Making (Annex 2) in accordance with regulatory requirements, formally beginning the plan-making process at the 'get ready' stage.

37/26 Historic Environment Strategy

The LSA – Historic Environment introduced the Historic Environment Strategy 2026–2031, explaining that it aligned with the Partnership Plan and would direct the work of the team for the next five years. A draft had previously been considered at the Strategy Meeting, and no changes had been made following that discussion.

Members welcomed the quality and coherence of the strategy and noted that it aligned with the main policy principles of Historic England’s recently published strategy. Members asked whether the team had sufficient resources to deliver the strategy. Officers advised that the extension of the graduate Historic Environment Assistant post for a further three years would support delivery, while acknowledging that additional resources would always be welcomed. Members also recognised the team’s success in securing external grant funding.

Decided:

- a Members agreed to the 2026-2031 Historic Environment Strategy, as attached in Annex 1.

38/26 Windermere Villas Conservation Area

There were two more Declarations of Interest relating to this item. Mr Dixon advised that he lived within the Conservation Area and Mr Clark highlighted that although he supported the recommendations, he would not vote as was the Chair of the (Windermere) Lake Administration Committee.

The Head of Strategy and Partnerships introduced the proposal to designate the Windermere Villas area as a Conservation Area, together with the supporting appraisal and management plan. Members were reminded that the proposal focused on the eastern shore of Windermere, characterised by a distinctive concentration of historic villas and designed landscapes that were considered desirable to preserve or enhance. The multi-year process, including evidence gathering, initial boundary definition, public consultation, amendments to the boundary and targeted consultation was summarised. Belle Isle had been added following consultation

feedback and review of its special architectural and historic interest, while Cockshot Wood Cottage had subsequently been removed from the proposed boundary.

Members discussed the inclusion of Belle Isle, the relationship between existing listed building protections and Conservation Area designation, and the additional protection given to trees within Conservation Areas. Officers explained that inclusion of Belle Isle was not based on vulnerability but on special architectural and historic interest and the desirability of preserving or enhancing character or appearance. Members noted that Conservation Area designation would give additional protection to trees, broadly similar to the protection afforded by a Tree Preservation Order, though using a different legal test.

In response to questions, Officers clarified that listing alone did not impose a general duty on owners to maintain buildings, although the Authority had powers where listed buildings fell into disrepair, and that Conservation Area status could afford extra weight in terms of notices and enforcement and be relevant to future change of use decisions where the proposal affected the significance of the heritage asset.

Members acknowledged the objections made through public participation but considered the recommendations as presented. Each recommendation was approved by 12 votes in favour, none against, and three abstentions.

Decided:

- a It is recommended that Members designate Windermere Villas Conservation Area (Annex 1).
- b It is recommended that Members adopt the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (Annex 2) and delegate final minor amendments to the Director of Sustainable Development.

The Committee passed the following resolution:

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items. This is because exempt information, as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act, may be disclosed during discussions.

Part Two

39/26 Storms Estate BNG project Conservation Covenant

Nature Recovery Ranger explained the role of Conservation Covenants and highlighted a clear market gap in Cumbria, with opportunities expected to increase over time. The benefits for local providers of buying local sites where a direct contribution to the local community could be shown were highlighted.

Risks to the LDNPA were discussed and Members were positive about the initiative as long as the current guardrails remained in place.

Decided:

- a Members agreed the approach in principle to enter into a Conservation Covenant agreement for the Storms Estate; and
- b Members delegate final decision-making powers for entering into a Conservation Covenant to the Director of Sustainable Development, with the decision to be made following consultation with the Conservation Covenant Board once terms have been negotiated, or, the item will come back to Authority if the terms are 20% below or adverse than those presented in the report.

(The meeting concluded at 12:45)