Subject Fwd: Responses to issues raised E and KPC

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Date 24/07/2022 11:42



Jane Coltman Clerk to Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council

----- Original Message ------

Subject: Responses to issues raised E and KPC Date:22/07/2022 10:53 From:"May, Kevin" <kevin.may@forestryengland.uk> To: Jane Coltman < clerk@eandkpc.co.uk>

Hi Jane

I hope this email finds you well and I apologise for being a little slow responding to your queries. Please see below.

In terms of responding to your points:

Bowness Knott Car Park - there was a complaint that retail vans were there all weekend 14th May (ice creams, tea & coffee etc).

This is unauthorised activity. In this specific instance the operator was contacted by our team immediately and requested to cease trading activities from our car park. We do not issue permits for these retail activities from Bowness Knott car park.

They also said that there was lots of wild camping and that FE rangers were turning a blind eye to it all. What is your view regarding what is and isn't permitted in this area and what should people do about something they witness if it's not allowed?

What we describe as 'Fly camping' is not permitted on Forestry England land, our ranger patrols (and those of partners) will ask groups to pack up and leave if discovered. You will appreciate that our staff are not enforcement officers, and they will assess the situation and their personal safety in dealing with these issues. We do work as part of the multi-agency 'safer lakes' initiative to co-ordinate patrols with the National Trust, Lake District National Park Authority and Cumbria Police – particularly at peak weekends.

Defibrillator in Croasdale - There is a phone box in the village of Croasdale that the residents plan to adopt and install a defibrillator. They are trying to raise funds for this and we wondered whether FE might consider sponsoring this vital amenity for the area?

I appreciate this is a worthy project, of which you will appreciate there are many across the 1000's of communities we work across. As such, we do receive many similar requests for sponsorship across the North of England. Unfortunately, our status as a public body with clear objectives around the long-term management of the nation's forests (as opposed to being a grant giving body) we are unable to provide grants to local communities for these types of initiatives.

Consultation method - Following on from the presentation on 14th April, we are still being asked what alternative suggestions that you may have for a consultation process. Bearing in mind a lot of people may struggle with internet connections, what suggestions could you offer? If you can put some suggestions forward, we can try to get some feedback for you.

It was clear that attendees of the public meeting did not feel that our previous consultation methods were sufficient and we were asked to clarify the next steps in the process and consider how further engagement and consultation could be arranged locally to ensure the views of residents are considered in the development of the beaver project and in the decision of Natural England. The licensing process for the species reintroduction is managed by Natural England on behalf of Government, they expect that the community is consulted on plans by the applicant.

There will be a further opportunity for the public to formally comment on the plans, via a consultation that will be hosted on the Citizenspace portal online, with printed versions provided in key community locations. All these responses will be passed to Natural England as part of the licence application. Following formal consultation a response to the comments will be published. It will be for Natural England as the licencing body to make a final decision on a beaver release. We anticipate that the formal consultation process will take place in the late autumn of 2022, and we will ensure this is publicised widely.

In essence we are proposing an online consultation process with a parallel paper based process available in key community locations. Please feel free to suggest where you feel these key community locations should be, in support of making printed versions widely available, alongside an online approach.

I hope the above responds appropriately to your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any of my responses further.