

wildwaterforestmountains ennerdale

Meeting Notes Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council (E&KPC) (11.30am-12.30pm)

Wed 22nd June '22
FE Office, Peil Wyke, Bassenthwaite

Adrian Jones – FE
Rachel Oakley - WE
John Gorst – UU
Gareth Browning – FE
Victoria Lancaster – FE
Sandra Guise – E&KPC

Heather Devey – Wild Intrigue
Simon Webb – NE
Phil Chadwick - WCRT
Neil Thirkell - NT
Ric Outhwaite – E&KPC
Steve Tatlock - LDNPA

Apologies: Jane Saxon (NT)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Welcome to Ric Outhwaite & Sandra Guise.
Introductions from the Wild Ennerdale team.

2. General discussion

- a) PC & Wild Ennerdale can work together to address issues currently topical and divisive within the local community.

Rachel & 1 team member to attend alternate PC meetings (from autumn) or send an update to the Clerk ahead of meetings if unable to attend. Likewise for Ric and/or Sandra with invitation to alternate Wild Ennerdale meetings.

- b) Issues mostly focused at Forestry England and plans for car parking & charges, beaver introduction, lease review at LGFC and a narrative of 'commercialising the valley'.

Following the FE public meeting in April, more information will come to the PC from FE to help address questions/rumours currently circulating. All partners already have a commercial element to their business (NT, UU, FE), but all activity in the valley is guided by the Memorandum of Agreement.

- c) Parish Council structure changes recently with a new Chair. PC members are not democratically elected (unless multiple applications for a vacant post).

All PC members are to get a PC e-mail address. This gives clarity of information representing PC views (rather than from individuals).

d) A 'valley plan' with more detail on topic areas such as visitor management, car park plans etc would be helpful to address some local concern.

Suggestion of a neighbourhood plan also, led by PC.

The stewardship plan exists (2018-28) as does the Memorandum of Agreement. The team are working on the 'visitor engagement' theme which links with Wild Ennerdale & LDNP strategy and will share more detail with the PC in due course.

e) Car Parking charges

Rationale explained on basis of visitor numbers increasing and FE role to provide a safe and sustainable facility. This costs money and income can support this continued facility and an increase in ranger support. A membership scheme will be offered (annual subscription).

f) Need to reiterate key messages for beaver to help address concerns/rumours.

Key messages can be reiterated ahead of formal consultation later this year. PC can help support those communications.

Website (beaver page) remains a useful source of information.

g) NNR status and questions on boundaries & purpose

Clarity provided by NE that any NNR application can only be from 'approved bodies' which have a track record of delivering for nature conservation/recovery. All partners are approved bodies. NNR supports a long-term commitment in perpetuity (not about short-term headlines) supported by National Government with more focus on multiple land ownership NNR's.

3. LDNPA Member

Councillor Outhwaite is soon to be appointed a Member of the Lake District National Park Authority.

Ric & Sandra thanked for their time and input.