

The North Yorkshire Moors Association
Trustees' Report for the period April 2016 to March 2017.

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registered Charity Number 1169240

Address. 4 Station Road Castleton, Whitby, North Yorkshire. YO21 2EG

President of the Association, Ian Carstairs OBE

Vice presidents, Ron Foster MBE, Professor Allan Patmore.

Trustees March 2017

Tom Chadwick (Chairman)
Susan Chadwick
Albert Elliot
Ann Glass
Adrian Leaman
Dave Moore (Vice Chairman)
Brian Pearce (Hon. Treasurer)
Colin Speakman
Malcolm Watt
Elaine Wisdom
George Winn-Darley

Membership Secretary Gerald King.

Structure, Governance and Management.

The Association's governance is based on the 2016 CIO Constitution.

The "Council" is the body of Trustees who manage the Association. The Council members (Trustees) are nominated and seconded by members and elected annually at the AGM along with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Association has a Council representative on the Council of the Campaign for National Parks (CNP).

Change of legal Status

In 2015, the Association started the process of changing its charitable status to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). At the AGM in June 2015 a motion to change the legal status of NYMA was unanimously agreed by members. A new constitution was drafted and agreed at a Special General Meeting held in January 2016. In January 2017 a Special General Meeting (SGM) was held to complete the procedure for the change of status.

The purpose of the SGM was to vote on the dissolution of the North Yorkshire Moors Association, charity N^o. 517639, and the transfer of its assets to the North Yorkshire Moors Association, registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, N^o.1169240.

The following motion was proposed by Dave Moore and seconded by Colin Speakman: That the registered charity North Yorkshire Moors Association, registration no. 517639, be dissolved and its assets transferred to the North Yorkshire Moors Association, registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, N^o.1169240.

All those present voted in favour of the motion, and an additional 23 votes sent by email or by proxy were recorded. Subsequently, the old charity (N^o 517639) has been dissolved and the funds transferred to the new charity (N^o 1169240).

Membership

Membership at the end of March 2017 totalled 447, down 16 from March 2016.

The main Objective of the Association is:-

“To protect and enhance the characteristic beauty of the North Yorkshire Moors for present and future generations of those who live or work in, or visit the area “.

Major Development

Following the decision by the National Park Planning Committee to approve the development of the Sirius Minerals polyhalite mine there has been a period of fund-raising for the project and in 2016 the company announced it had secured phase 1 funding for the development of the Mine Head at Doves Nest Farm and the Mineral Transport System, i.e. the tunnel to Teesside. A further \$1.8 billion needs to be raised for phase 2 funding for the harbour facilities on Teesside. There have been some relatively minor road works by the NYCC Highways Department to make provision for the massive increase in HGV activity during the construction period, which is expected to be 5 years. Our Association will be closely monitoring the impact of the activity once construction work begins.

A key part of NYMA’s work is to support and cooperate with other organisations, since we believe much more can be achieved through partnership working rather than each working on its own. The activities listed below illustrate this approach.

Activities undertaken by the Association, including those for public benefit:

- Publication of a quarterly magazine for members of the Association
- Guided walks arranged for members and other members of the public
- History Tree Project
- Conservation Award
- Cornfield Flowers Project
- Park Wood Biodiversity Project
- MoorsBus funding provision and other support
- Website
- Liaison meetings with the North York Moors National Park Authority
- Participation in the national-level Campaign for National Parks

Publication of the Association’s magazine “Voice of the Moors” continues as a quarterly magazine covering such areas as conservation and wildlife, cultural heritage, and special features which include news from the Association.

Guided walks organised by Association members and co-operative walks arranged with other organisations run throughout the year. In 2016-17 there were 10 walks arranged by NYMA between April 2016 and March 2017 covering a wide area of the North Yorkshire Moors and Coast.

History Tree Project. Early in 2016 an engraved steel History Tree plate was set in resin-bonded special gravel within a containment ring at the National Park's Danby Moors Centre. It is a feature of interest to the wider public and to visitors to the National Park Centre. The engraved plate displays the names of significant historical figures who are part of the heritage of the "Moors" who lived during the period covered by the life of the Copper Beech tree which stood on the spot where the plate is located from around 1800-2007. With the help of a Heritage Lottery Fund Award of £9,800 it is intended that the Association will publish a book to accompany the historical background to the people and events that are featured on the plate, with associated activities such as preparation of a teaching pack for schools and guided walks to places mentioned in the book. It is expected that articles for the book will be written by a wide group of NYMA members and members of local history groups across the North York Moors and surroundings.

The Conservation Award is an award for conservation work which in some way enhances the National Park. The award is jointly funded by the Association and the National Park Authority and is presented at NYMA's AGM. Two applications have been received in 2017 and these will be considered for the award this year.

Cornfield Flowers Project. NYMA remains interested in continuing with a role in this project but we are waiting for a response as to how we can contribute to any future development.

Park Wood Biodiversity Project. This long-term project continued during the year with bracken management and repairs to fencing. Some additional tree planting is scheduled for spring 2017.

MoorsBus Funding. The Association is continuing to support the Moors Rambler bus service, which runs at weekends in the summer months, with funding and the provision of guided walks for members of the public. The funding provided by NYMA is from a ring-fenced bequest which is for the purpose of encouraging walking in the National Park. The service provides a means of getting people who do not have their own transport into the National Park from surrounding urban areas such as Darlington and Middlesbrough.

Website. NYMA's new website at www.north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk went live in October 2016 and continues to provide on-line information about the Association.

Meetings with the North York Moors National Park are held twice a year and take the form of round table liaison meetings with senior management from the National Park to discuss issues of common interest.

NYMA also meets three times a year with the Campaign for National Parks along with other National Park Societies. There are two meetings a year of Chairs and CEO's of National Park Societies.

NYMA also forms part of a closer liaison group with the Northern National Parks Societies, i.e. Friends of the Peak District, Yorkshire Dales Society and Friends of the Lake District.

Financial Review. The Association finances for the period April 2016 to March 2017 are sound with a small deficit for the year. During the year NYMA have received three funding awards: Heritage Lottery Funding of £9,800 for the History Tree Project, a Yorkshire Award sponsored by the Dalesman Magazine £1,500, and a grant of £1500 from the Esmee Fairburn Trust through the campaign for National Parks "Fighting Fund".

Membership fees are to be reviewed following our change to a CIO: this includes a proposed change to family/joint membership, the introduction of a new category of business membership, and slight increases to some of the subscription fees.

Tom Chadwick
Chairman NYMA