

## WYE NAVIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

### *Purpose*

To nominate a representative from the AONB Partnership to the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee (Wye NAC).

### *Recommendation*

That the JAC nominate the Wye Valley AONB Manager, Andrew Blake, to represent the Wye Valley AONB Partnership on the Wye NAC.

### *Key Issues*

- The AONB Manager has represented the AONB Partnership on the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee (Wye NAC) since the establishment of Wye NAC in 2003 and his fifth 3-year term ended on 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- Several other members of the JAC sit on the Wye NAC in other capacities.
- The Environment Agency (EA) services Wye NAC and has membership guidance which recommends that appointments should not exceed 10 years unless there is good reason.
- The JAC needs to consider who should represent it on Wye NAC for the next three years.

### *Reasons*

The Wye Valley AONB Manager, Andrew Blake, has served five 3 year terms on Wye NAC. The Guidance issued by the Environment Agency make it clear that no appointments should exceed 10 years in total unless there are exceptional circumstances and no appointment should be for more than 3 consecutive terms unless there is good reason.

### *Implications*

There are good reasons why the AONB Manager should continue to represent the AONB on Wye NAC. The continued attendance of an experienced officer as a member of Wye NAC will enhance the Navigation Committee, particularly when there is significant change of other members. Other JAC members sit on Wye NAC representing other bodies and they could be asked to represent the AONB Partnership. However this may reduce the influence of AONB issues on Wye NAC. Alternatively the AONB Development Officer, Nick Critchley, could represent the AONB. He is involved in project development along the river. However he does not regularly attend JAC meetings. It would seem an unnecessary duplication of AONB staff duties for him to also attend JAC.

### *Background*

The Wye Navigation Advisory Committee was established in 2003 following the Wye Navigation Order. The Wye NAC meets twice a year and advises the Navigation Authority, the Environment Agency, about issues along the public right of navigation between Hay Bridge downstream to Bigsweir Bridge. The Gloucester Harbour Trustees are the Navigation Authority for the tidal Wye downstream of Bigsweir.