

TECHNICAL OFFICERS'
WORKING PARTY REPORT

WYE VALLEY AONB
JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
6th March 2017

JOINT EVENT WITH BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Purpose

To pursue joint activity at a members' level with the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Recommendations

That the JAC

- A. Agree to arrange a joint members' event with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Key Issues

- The Future Landscapes Wales programme has facilitated closer collaboration between the AONBs and National Parks in Wales.
- The AONB Manager gave a presentation to the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA) in April 2016.
- The BBNPA were invited to join the AONB Partnership Tour in September 2016 but this clashed with a full NPA meeting.
- The a joint members' event with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has been proposed during 2017. The date and exact format is to be decided.

Reasons

There is a growing recognition between the AONBs and National Parks in Wales that we have much to share and to learn from each other. The Future Landscapes Wales programme has demonstrated the benefits of closer collaboration.

Implications

Initial thoughts are that the following items might be of interest or value to joint members' event with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority:

- Taking Future Landscapes Wales forward (following the anticipated Ministerial launch on 15th March)
- Planning and development control/management in (and around) our Designated Landscapes
- Ensuring application of the 'duty of regard' (CRoW Act 2000 Section 85 / Environment Act 1995 Section 62)
- Riverine issues – with the Wye and Usk being our most obvious common landscape feature.

The nature of the event has yet to be decided. Options include:-

- combining with the AONB Partnership Tour if dates are amenable,

- combining with some programmed members' training, or
- establishing a bespoke event.

Liaison with BBNPA is ongoing over timing, content and logistics.

Background

The JAC and BBNPA chairmen signed an Accord in 1998 and we have collaborated on numerous occasions with BBNPA, most recently with the Walking with Offa project and through the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) and the Monmouthshire Environment Partnership Board.