

**Lowland Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Local Nature
Partnership**

BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday 25th March 2014
Toyota Motor Manufacturing (UK) Ltd**

MINUTES

Attendees

Tony Walker (TW)	Toyota
Chris Hughes (CH)	Derby University
Allison Thomas (AT)	Derbyshire County Council
Tony Hams (TH)	E M Biodiversity Partnership
Sophie Churchill (SC)	National Forest Company
Tom Moat (TM)	Natural England
Martin Suthers (MS)	Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board
John Everitt (JE)	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
Frank Lucas	RSPB
Tim Farr (TF)	Trent RFCC

In attendance

Rosy Carter (RC)	LDN LNP
Geoff Richards (GR)	Defra (via telecon)
Adam Lathbury (AL)	Derbyshire County Council
Nick Moyes (NM)	Lowland Derbyshire BAP
Heather Stokes (HS)	Nottinghamshire County Council
Chris Jackson (CJ)	Nottinghamshire BAP
John Malpas (JM)	Toyota

1. Welcome and Introductions

TW welcomed everyone to the meeting and particularly the new attendees, Rosy Carter, Chris Jackson and Geoff Richards. RC has recently been appointed as the Co-ordinator for the LDN LNP and she gave a brief introduction to her background. All welcomed Rosy to the LDNLNP.

2. Apologies

Anne Western	Derbyshire County Council
Mike Ashworth (MA)	Derbyshire County Council
Andrew Critchlow (AC)	National Farmers' Union
Helen Ross (HR)	Public Health, N. City Council
Rob Crowder	RCAN/ D2N2 LEP Board

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the last meeting held on the 29th January 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate account of the meeting with one erratum (Magnesian Limestone needs to be substituted for Magnesium).

Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda included:

- Item 4 iii) TW had written to Peter Richardson regarding the SEP
- Item 5 The meeting with NM and CJ had taken place at Derbyshire CC
- Item 6 Contacts have been made with Centre Parks, Barratt Homes, Boots and Lafarge Tarmac. Centre Parks has nominated Chris Brooks, all others are currently investigating suitable nominees.
- Item 8 Health and Wellbeing Working group needs to meet to review the draft paper.
- Item 9 ii) The process for LNP planning responses still needs to be confirmed, including agreement on what constitutes a “significant” application.

Action:

- 1. All to send views on thresholds for significant applications to RC, who will collate and disseminate for discussion.**

4. Updates

i) Ministerial Meeting 12th March 2014:

TW noted his attendance with HS and the note circulated with the papers for the Board meeting. HS outlined the key points of the meeting arising from the presentations by a range of LNPs, the Chair of the Thames Valley Buckinghamshire LEP, Lord de Mauley (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for natural environment and science) and a representative of the current evaluation programme.

There was a discussion about several of the ideas raised in the presentations, including the delivery model of the Humber LNP, the evaluation process, state of the environment reports, the offsetting metric, natural capital and the planning charter. Individual Board members volunteered to follow some of these ideas up.

Action:

- 2. GR to find out more about the evaluation process and report back.**
- 3. JE to follow up offsetting metric and natural capital.**
- 4. AT to follow up planning charter.**
- 5. Wildlife Trusts to look at own versions of State of the Environment Reports with a view to producing a single LNP version (JE/ TH).**

ii) LEED Workshop, 20th February 2014:

HS provided a summary of the information contained in the draft documentation produced after the workshop. A number of Board members had comments and queries. TM pointed out that this was still a draft document and that the LEED2 process would go further into the specifics. It was agreed that the Board needed to know the process for feeding back comments and would feed back as an LNP. The Board also agreed to look at the SEP submission at the next Board meeting.

Action:

- 6. HS to investigate feedback process and circulate with the 6 Appendices.**

iii) LEP:

HS reported that, as there had been slippage in the timescales, there was nothing further to update from the original document provided by Mandy Ramm.

5. Website:

NM gave a presentation on his work to develop proposals for an LNP website. The guiding principles were that it should be business-like and efficient, low cost, easy to maintain, capable of being jointly managed and able to display partner images. The recommended domain name would be ldnlnp.org.uk.

NM recommended using a wordpress site and gave a sandbox demonstration of the kind of information it could contain. The advantages are that it is very low cost (approximately £70 p.a.), fits the Local Authority procurement policies and can be easily and jointly managed. The disadvantages are that there is a risk (very low) of loss of control, no secure area for members and the LNP would need to ensure that the annual renewal payment was made.

The site could be up and running very quickly in the new financial year. Board members commented that the status and credibility of the LNP needed to be at the forefront, the content should be factual and not stray into opinion or political commentary, and in the longer term the layout should reflect the interests of visitors to the site.

All agreed to proceed on the basis that moderation should be by RC and NM and that the Board would review the initial content before it goes live.

6. LDN Landscapes and Biodiversity

NM and CJ gave an introduction to the Biodiversity Action Plans, from their origins in 1992 Summit, through the UK Biodiversity Action Plan to the formation of County-based Action Plans which provided a local focus on the national suites of priority habitats and species.

CJ gave a précis of the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group, which started in 1998 and now comprises 50+ groups and organisations, with Action Plans for 12 species and 19 habitats. More recently the Officer role has changed from co-ordination to a more delivery focussed role, with projects looking at, for example invasive non-native species control.

NM advised that the Lowland Derbyshire BAP Officer's role was still largely a co-ordination role with a focus on the collation and mapping of information. The LDBAP has recently moved to action planning based on landscape character areas.

This was followed by a session looking at maps showing the high-level biodiversity and landscape information that is available across the LNP, including landscape character areas, statutory designations such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, local designations (Local Wildlife Sites) and the habitat mapping that underpins recent work on biodiversity opportunity mapping.

TW thanked NM and CJ for an interesting and informative presentation.

7. Work Programme

JE tabled the draft work programme. Board members commented that the plan will need updating as we move forward, that a strategic plan for the LNP is required and that the Board should be clear about the outcomes it is wanting to achieve. NM has 1.25 days per week for LNP work and it was agreed that this should be focussed on the website and data gatekeeping. RC has 3 days per week and will focus on the more strategic elements.

All agreed that the draft was a good start and to proceed accordingly.

Action:

- 7. All to send comments on the Work Programme to JE and RC.**

8. Any Other Business

- TH raised the issue of working with the Peak District LNP and other neighbouring LNPs. It was agreed that it would be useful to get neighbouring LNPs together in the next 6 months.
- AT asked to be added to the circulation list.

- TW advised that he was in the process of fixing a date to meet with the Leader of NCC.
- JE asked if we should invite the LEP to the next meeting to discuss how we are going to work together effectively, what the funding opportunities might be and what constitutes a green LEP.
- TM advised that this would be his last LNP Board meeting as he is moving to a national role. TW thanked him for his valuable contribution to the work of the LNP, including the initial work on forming the Partnership, and wished him well in his new role. TM's successor as Area Manager would be in touch.

9. Dates of next meetings

- 1400hrs 27th May 2014
- 1400hrs 29th July 2014
- 1400hrs 30th September 2014
- 1400hrs 25th November 2014