



**Cornwall  
Area of Outstanding  
Natural Beauty**

**Minutes of Cornwall AONB 'Online' Partnership Meeting on TEAMS – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022, 2pm**

**In attendance:**

**Partnership Members:**

Gill Pipkin	Cornwall AONB Partnership Chairperson
Cllr Sharon Daw	Cornwall Council
Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher	National Farmers' Union
Simon Browning	Westcountry Rivers Trust
Sophie Johnson	CALC
Corine Dyke	Natural England
Lisa Goodall	Environment Agency
Lawrie Sampson	FWAG South West
Sally Weston	Cornwall & West Devon World Heritage Site
Grace Twiston-Davies	ESI/University of Exeter
Aletha Mays	South West Coast Path Association
Jonathon Jones	Cornwall Agri-food Council
Cathy Woolcock	Cornwall Heritage Trust
Mark Camp	Visit Cornwall
Rupert Hanbury-Tenison,	CLA/Association of Bodmin Moor Commons Landowners

**Supporting Officers:**

Ann Reynolds	Cornwall Council, Historic Environment Service
Steve Ford	Cornwall Council, Environment
Caroline Court	Cornwall Council, Public Health
Davina Pritchard	Cornwall Council, Planning
Emma Browning	Cornwall AONB Partnership Manager
Melodie Manners	Cornwall AONB Business Development Officer
Coralie Barrow	Cornwall AONB Project Development Officer
Karen Johns	Cornwall AONB Office & Finance Manager
Natalie Haly	Cornwall AONB Monumental Improvements Project Manager
Jacob Parry	Cornwall AONB Monumental Improvements Activities Officer
Iwona Brooks	Cornwall AONB Admin Officer – FiPL and Monuments Matter project
Lily Gray	Cornwall AONB Admin Officer – FiPL and NEIRF project

**Apologies:**

Cllr Martyn Alvey, Cornwall Council  
 Cllr Kate Ewert, Cornwall Council  
 Cllr Jennifer Cruse, Cornwall Council  
 Helen Rawe, Cornwall Heritage Trust  
 Justin Whitehouse and Nick Lawrence, National Trust  
 Elliot Hutt, CLA  
 Ann Preston-Jones, Historic England  
 Cheryl Marriott, Cornwall Wildlife Trust



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Peter Marsh, Cornwall Council Environment  
 Jim Wood, Cornwall AONB Planning Officer  
 Sean O’Hea, Cornwall AONB FiPL Farm Engagement Officer  
 Louise Wood and Rob Lacey, Cornwall Council Planning  
 Hannah Harris, Cornwall Council Transportation

		Action(s)
1	<b>Hello and ‘Check in’ to virtual platform</b> – everyone was welcomed to the meeting.	
2	<b>Introductions</b> – The Chairperson asked all attendees to introduce themselves.	
3	<b>Apologies</b> – see above	
4	<b>Minutes of last meeting (5 Oct 2021)</b> – minutes were agreed as an accurate record.	
5	<b>Presentation by Westcountry Rivers Trust – Simon Browning, Senior Data &amp; Evidence Officer about Monitoring and Bude Climate Partnership</b>	
	<p>Simon Browning, started his presentation with a 6 minute film about the Bude Climate Partnership – link to film <a href="https://www.budeclimate.org/">Wonderful waterways (budeclimate.org)</a>. The film focussed on Climate Change resilience, water quality monitoring, opportunities mapping, biodiversity, soil condition and management.</p> <p>There are 12 Bude Climate Partnership projects. More info on the website <a href="https://www.budeclimate.org/">https://www.budeclimate.org/</a> including the report and data viewer via this link: <a href="https://www.budeclimate.org/catchment-resilience-project">https://www.budeclimate.org/catchment-resilience-project</a></p> <p>Simon shared a presentation on ‘Rivers, Rivers Everywhere and the problems and what you can do about it’. The Westcountry Rivers Trust is the oldest rivers organisation. People are never far from a river and what people do/their actions may well impact on a river somewhere.</p> <p>Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher, NFU said it was a really powerful presentation but he’d like to see food production mentioned more and the importance of food production. Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher and Simon Browning will link up to make better connections between agriculture and rivers e.g. farmers to be encouraged to be involved in the citizen science investigation (CSI) programme</p> <p>Rupert Hanbury-Tenison also found the presentation really interesting, he used to see Westcountry Rivers Trust involved previously with issues on Bodmin Moor to help farmers but has not seen this recently – would be good to see Westcountry Rivers Trust become more involved again. But Rupert added that, Bodmin Moor farmers would not necessarily be keen to see members of the public monitoring rivers (citizen scientists) – this would require landowner permission.</p>	Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher & Simon Browning
6	<b>Cornwall AONB Exec Board brief summary update</b>	

	<p><b>6.1 Partnership Agreement</b> – 4 signatories outstanding. Partners were asked to sign the Partnership Agreement which Karen Johns has previously circulated and asked that Partners sign this by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.</p> <p><b>6.2 Additional Defra Core ‘top up’ Funding 2021/22</b> was received in January to be spent by AONBs by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The success of bidding for this ‘top up’ funding has enabled a range of additional work and activities for the AONB Unit team to initiate and progress, which includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art in the Landscape project resulting in ‘12 Cornwall AONB stories’ for the 12 sections of the AONB;</li> <li>• Research and development of the Bee Healthy Bee Happy project</li> <li>• Training for the AONB Unit team</li> <li>• Planning support</li> <li>• Natural Capital mapping</li> </ul> <p><b>6.3 Government Response to Glover Protected Landscapes Review – Consultation to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b> In January 2022, Government delivered the awaited response to Julian Glover’s Landscapes Review: <a href="https://www.cornwall-aonb.gov.uk/government-response-to-the-julian-glover-landscapes-review-the-cornwall-area-of-outstanding-natural-beauty">Government response to the Julian Glover Landscapes Review – The Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (cornwall-aonb.gov.uk)</a> The National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) have been meeting and discussing with all AONBs and will be submitting a response to the consultation.</p> <p>A proposed Draft Response from the Cornwall AONB Partnership will be circulated to all Cornwall AONB Partnership members so that partners will have the opportunity to provide their feedback before a formal response is submitted by the AONB Unit on behalf of the Cornwall AONB Partnership by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 consultation deadline.</p>	AONB Unit
7	<p><b>7.1 AONB Management Plan Q&amp;A</b> <b>7.2 Publicity launch post May 2022 Cabinet – Discussion</b></p> <p>The new Management Plan 2022-2027 has now commenced the Cornwall Council Democratic Services process, culminating with the Plan being reported to Cabinet on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 recommended for approval and adoption.</p> <p>Towards the end of May, the AONB Unit will create a briefing paper that will be circulated to Partners with links, useful info, etc so that this can be used amongst partner organisations and wider stakeholders etc to share and promote the new Management Plan 2022-2027.</p> <p>Mark Camp offered to promote via the Visit Cornwall e-newsletter to members</p> <p>Corine Dyke suggested talking through the new Management Plan at one of their Natural England Cornwall team meetings. Emma Browning confirmed she would contact Corine to arrange this.</p>	<p>AONB Unit</p> <p>Mark Camp</p> <p>AONB Unit</p>



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8	<p><b>AONB Unit Projects and Planning Update (briefing paper attached):</b> A Briefing Paper was included in the agenda papers for Partners to read in advance and prepare any questions and feedback. The Briefing Paper included updates on the following work and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8.1 Planning (Jim)</li> <li>8.2 NEIRF, Cornwall AONB Trust; Art in the Landscape '12 AONB Stories' (Melodie)</li> <li>8.3 Penwith Landscape Partnership, Bee Healthy Bee Happy; Monuments Matter (MM); Cornish Hedge Working Group (Coralie &amp; Jacob for MM)</li> <li>8.4 Monumental Improvements Project (Natalie &amp; Jacob)</li> <li>8.5 Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) (Sean)</li> <li>8.6 AONB Management Plan; Kerdroya; Linking the Lizard; Bodmin Moor Peatlands (Emma)</li> </ul> <p><b>Cornish Hedge Working Group</b> – Patrick asked about any progress by Natural England regarding national recognition status for the Cornish Hedge? Emma recently met with Defra and showed them the new Cornish hedge illustrations that the AONB Unit commissioned which are included in the new Management Plan – these clearly and visibly show the importance of the Cornish hedge. Patrick is keen to be involved in discussions.</p>	AONB Unit/ Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher
9	<p><b>Round Table Updates</b> - Partners provided a brief update on their work within the AONB:</p> <p><b>Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher, NFU</b> – a lot of work going on with the new farming schemes particularly with tenanted farmers. Supporting and obtaining information for farmers related to infrastructure and greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher now sits on the Linking the Lizard Partnership.</p> <p><b>Simon Browning, Westcountry Rivers Trust</b> – Citizen Science work ongoing and working towards delivery phase of the Bude project. European funded project on managing nutrients in some catchments. Other ongoing small community initiatives, with more community groups coming forward, friends of groups etc – much more connection with locally based groups is continuing to develop</p> <p><b>Corine Dyke, Natural England (NE)</b> – is involved in FiPL and Linking the Lizard Partnership and pleased to see the Linking the Lizard Partnership back up and running.</p> <p>Defra has given NE more funding which has been welcomed and been able to take on more staff – more Senior Advisors appointed, Local Nature Recovery Strategy Officer and Team Leaders. NE can now be more outward facing again now more staff will be in place.</p>	



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	<p><b>Lisa Goodall, Environment Agency</b> – habitat creation work around Truro and surrounding areas and coastal areas. Landscape Recovery Bids are being supported which might have benefit to the AONB. Red River Catchment – working with stakeholders to pool resources and work towards a joint aim. Also working with Cornwall Council footpath team more jointly.</p> <p><b>Lawrie Sampson, FWAG</b> – currently dealing with applications and working with individual landowners; there are several LEAF applications. Bird conservation – focussing on Lizard Peninsula, linking volunteers and farmers to collect data and FWAG will then use the data.</p> <p><b>Sally Weston, WHS</b> – been working on procuring governance and management plan and is due to meet with Emma Browning in a couple of weeks to discuss links to Cornwall AONB.</p> <p><b>Grace Twiston-Davies, ESI</b> – Meadow Match project – species rich wildflower meadow sites – contact <a href="mailto:g.twiston-davies@exeter.ac.uk">g.twiston-davies@exeter.ac.uk</a> if you're interested in linking in on this project.</p> <p>The University has just received good news on a new RENEW project ('Renewing biodiversity through a people-in-nature approach') working with National Trust and Duchy of Cornwall improving quality of farmland, supporting woodland creation – see <a href="#">Research news - UK biodiversity renewal project to revive nature and communities receives £10 million investment - University of Exeter</a> for more info.</p> <p><b>Aletha, SWCPA</b> – co-ordinating the response on behalf of National Trails on the consultation of the Government's response to Glover Review. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next week and also 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cornwall section for the SWCP. Also 'Year of the Coast' next year.</p> <p><b>Mark Camp, Visit Cornwall</b> – new website coming soon, and will link with Cornwall AONB Unit on anything that can be updated, promoted or improved in relation to AONB information.</p> <p><b>Rupert Hanbury-Tenison, CLA/Association of Bodmin Moor Commons Landowners</b> – met recently with Emma and others to discuss scrub and deep peat wetland and Rupert said regarding Natural England new staff, Bodmin Moor could really welcome a full time advisor to help farmers – Corine Dyke confirmed they are aware of this. Dogs on leads 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> July during lambing season – appreciate it if all partners could help share this message to encourage responsible dog owners.</p> <p><b>Caroline Court, Public Health</b> – keen to link in with the AONB Unit/Partnership more, time has not permitted this recently due to the priorities of Covid</p> <p><b>Jonathon Jones, Cornwall Agri-food Council</b> – currently busy mapping trees for the tree map project and there are a few water monitoring projects running throughout the Tregothnan Estates.</p>	All Partners
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	<p><b>Cathy Woolcock, CHT</b> – just purchased Caer Bran which is really exciting news. Have a Volunteering Officer starting with them soon which will get their volunteering team going. Projects are planned at Carn Euny and The Hurlers.</p> <p><b>Ann Reynolds, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service</b> – involved in many of the projects mentioned during the meeting e.g. hedge project and reiterated they are committed to promoting the importance of the Cornish hedge and aspiration of getting them nationally recognised. Landscape Characterisation Refresh involvement, Ann feels that this new reiteration is very good and welcomed. Supporting the Cornwall Council Countryside Team, looking at Tehidy Country Park to see how the site can be improved including doing some work at the Tehidy Kennels which is often not seen by many visitors and how the historic buildings can be re-used and re-purposed.</p>	
10	<p><b>Any other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment Column articles in weekly Cornwall newspapers</b></li> </ul> <p>As some Partners will be aware, the Cornwall AONB Unit co-ordinates the weekly Environment column in the West Briton, Cornish Guardian and Cornishman newspapers. Karen Johns would welcome articles from more Partners and will circulate information on word count etc to request articles and agree dates for the forthcoming schedule of copy deadlines, which is a great opportunity for partner organisations to share and promote all the projects, work, activities they are doing.</p> <p>Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher, NFU offered to provide an article in Sept 2022 about ‘Back British Farming’ – Karen will email Patrick to arrange.</p> <p><b>Ecological Emergency Summit - 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b> – partners were encouraged to attend the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly’s first Ecological Emergency Summit on 24<sup>th</sup> March and also make their pledge for nature, both as individuals and organisations via <a href="https://naturecious.org.uk">Cornwall &amp; Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership   Pledge for Nature (naturecious.org.uk)</a></p>	<p>AONB Unit</p> <p>AONB Unit</p> <p>All Partners</p>
11	<p><b>Date &amp; Time of next meeting</b> – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 1pm ONLINE TEAMS MEETING which will focus on the launch of the new Cornwall AONB Management Plan 2022-2027</p> <p>It is hoped the subsequent meeting arranged for 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 will be a face-to-face meeting and include possible site visit out in the AONB.</p>	All Partners