

Dartmoor Farming in Protected Landscapes

Local Assessment Panel

Wednesday 19th June 2024, Teams

Attending: Russell Ashford, Layland Branfield, Peter Harper, Alison Clish-Green, James Sharpe

Dartmoor staff attending:

Rachel Cooper, Bea Dunscombe

Apologies:

Dan Alford, Will Dracup, Laurie Phippen, Sarah Blyth, John Howell, Christine Malseed

Notes

This is an additional FiPL LAP meeting, as requested by the Panel, so that two applications from the meeting prior could be re-considered after further information was obtained.

The FiPL team consulted Defra's guidance because the Panel was not quorate. This states that "Panels can choose to meet virtually and also decide by correspondence by local agreement". The Panel members that were present unanimously agreed that we could include one additional vote by correspondence from an absent Panel member.

Therefore, John Howell's vote was included by proxy for the below two applications.

Applications

Meavy Barton

Presented by Rachel Cooper

Summary of application

The creation of an on-farm, in-shed classroom to engage primary to higher education students in the process of rearing forage fed beef from hill suckled calves to finish. This will link to the applicant's Butcher's shop a 3-minute drive away, where students will be able to end their field to fork day.

Declarations of interest:

None.

Discussion points:

- The Panel expressed concern regarding the size of this project and the short timeframe remaining of FiPL. The FiPL team reassured the Panel that measures have been put in place to help the applicant with their plans, reduce risk, and ensure that the project is completed by the end of the programme.

Decision:

To approve this project in full.

For: 6 (including proxy vote)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Haytor Erosion Works

Presented by Rachel Cooper

Summary of application

A project to repair 1,880m of footpath erosion across Haytor Down, Bagtor Down and Rippon Tor Newtake, including around Haytor rocks.

Declarations of interest:

- *James Sharpe – Dartmoor National Park Authority staff member*
- *Peter Harper – Dartmoor National Park Authority member*

DNPA owns some of the land included in the application, and so the above two declarations of interest were noted. While the applicant is the Haytor Commons Association, there is solely public benefit from this work and no private gain.

It was decided that neither James or Peter had any direct or commercial benefit to this application, and therefore it was acceptable for them to attend and vote.

Discussion points:

- The Panel queried where the growan was being sourced, and if possible it should be sourced from Dartmoor. The FiPL team confirmed that it is coming from Dartmoor.

Decision:

To approve this project in full.

For: 6 (including proxy vote)

Against: 0

Abstained: 0