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# CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

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## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING held by telephone/ video conference on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 13.30PM

### PRESENT

Xander McDade (Convener)	Eleanor Mackintosh
Geva Blackett	Willie McKenna
Peter Argyle	Ian McLaren
Carolyn Caddick (Deputy Convener)	Dr Fiona McLean
Deirdre Falconer	<i>Anne Rae Macdonald</i>
Pippa Hadley	Dr Gaener Rodger
Janet Hunter	Derek Ross
John Kirk	Willie Munro
John Latham	

### In Attendance:

Grant Moir, Chief Executive  
David Cameron, Director of Corporate Services & Deputy CEO  
Murray Ferguson, Director of Planning & Place  
Andy Ford, Director of Nature & Climate Change  
Catriona Strang, Clerk to the Board

**Apologies:**            **Judith Webb**

### Welcome and Introduction

1. Xander McDade, the Board Convener, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

### Declarations of Interest

2. There was no declaration of Interest

### Election of Board Deputy Convener (Paper I)

3. David Cameron, Director of Corporate Service, introduced Paper I which notifies board members of the forthcoming end of appointment as a board member of the current Board Deputy Convener. The paper also sets out proposals for the election of the Board Deputy Convener following prior consideration of this matter by the Board's Governance Committee.

### Recommendations

**It is recommended that the Board considers the proposal of the Governance Committee and agrees to:**

- a) **Note the term of appointment of the Board Deputy Convener to the Cairngorms National Park Authority board will end on 30 September 2022.**
  - b) **Note the proposal to consider amendment to Standing Orders at the 9 September board meeting, to allow a temporary amendment to the term of office of the Board Deputy Convener for one year to 30 September 2023, for the next election of the Deputy Convener only.**
  - c) **Agree the principle of process and timetable for the election process for the Board Deputy Convener as a postal (or electronic if feasible) ballot under existing business continuity arrangements, commencing following the board meeting of 9 September 2022.**
4. The Board considered the detail in the Paper and discussions took place around the following:
- a) A member asked if a job shared would be considered for Deputy Convener Role.
  - b) David Cameron, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services, confirmed that within the standing order there is no provision for this. If this is a proposal, then would require legal clarity over amending the standing orders to include job share which would then need to come back at next meeting for consideration by board.
  - c) The convener asked the Director of Corporate Service to look at the provision within the act and seek legal clarity for the provision specifically for job share and report back to the board.
  - d) The Convener confirmed that the Governance Committee had discussed the different options and considered the changes in the board cohort in the coming months. The committee agreed a one-year appointment from the current board member would be best option. This would allow the new board cohort to get to know each other prior to an election in September 2023 for the standard 3-year period provided for in Standing Orders.
  - e) A member wanted confirmation on how many from the current board would be eligible to stand.
  - f) CEO confirm that all continuing members would be eligible. CEO confirmed that there will be five local authority members joining in October. 2 ministerial appointments will come to the end of their 2<sup>nd</sup> term in 2023 and the direct elections will take place in March 2023.
  - g) The convener confirmed that the 5 ministerial appointments that are coming to the end of their first term would hear shortly about the terms of their appointment for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. .

- h) A member asked if an alternative measure could be considered until the directly elected members are aware of their position next year.
- i) The convener confirmed that the protocol is for the convener to delegate to the deputy in their absence and explicit wording would need to be added to the standing order for a temporary appointment prior to next year. The deputy convener receives additional remuneration which would also need to be accommodated in any temporary measure.
- j) The Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Service noted there was nothing to preclude a person to stand again for a full three-year term after this initial one year.
- k) A member asked if the time of elections could be amended from September to May or June. As it is noted that between September and March there are several changes in the board and some of the above questions will re-emerge at the next election period.
- l) Deputy convener agreed with the one-year appointment. This would allow new members of the board to be nominated for deputy convener soon after their appointment should they wish. Current Deputy convener tenure was due to end next year so the approach suggested does chime with this timing as well.

**5. Action Points Arising:**

- a) Director of Corporate Service to seek legal advice on job share
- b) Provide recommendation in a paper to board meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2022.

**Date of Next Meeting**

6. Next formal Board meeting to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Motion to take paper in confidential session.

7. The public part of this meeting closed 13.58