

Cooperation not Conflict: Securing Thriving Farm Businesses in an area of International Significance for both its Cultural and Natural Heritage: The English Lake District

8th April 2019: Meeting Note

The participants in their discussions considered the following draft statement:

In this time of change we in the Lakes will work collectively to empower and enable thriving farm businesses and communities to create enhanced habitats and networks for nature in this celebrated cultural landscape.

and agreed;

We recognise this is a time of unprecedented change for both farming businesses and the environment; there is an urgency to address the risks from changes in:

- farm economics
- climate change and
- biodiversity decline

and build resilience for the environment, farm businesses and communities.

That thriving farm businesses and communities are central to the future success of a culture rich and nature rich landscape for the English Lake District

To support change we need to be more confident both building on current best practice and developing radical solutions recognising;

- the influence and interdependence of farming, food production, communities and the environment
- that blending the local knowledge of farmers alongside best practice and innovation from elsewhere is central to developing shared solutions
- the public benefits provided by the Lake District have national and international significance and value
- sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of this cultural landscape World Heritage Site can and should occur in tandem with restoring and enhancing its natural heritage and Special Qualities
- the Lake District will have a diversity of management and outcomes across and within the 13 valleys

Next Steps

We urge the Lake District National Park Partnership to work collaboratively to build a framework to enable farm businesses to proactively adapt to this change. Our aim collectively and individually is to deliver improved outcomes and resilience for our cultural landscapes, the natural environment, businesses and communities. Our work going forward will include;

- Developing and influencing a range of support, advice, data and guidance to respond effectively to this unprecedented change
- Shaping future agricultural and environmental policies and schemes to deliver a nature rich and culture rich landscape
- Enabling the empowerment of farming communities to self-organise to secure profitable resilient businesses delivering multiple outcomes including agricultural produce
- Harnessing skills and resources from both within and outside the Lake District and creating space for mutually respectful consideration of evidence to help our decision making.

Participating Organisations and their attending representative: the discussion was non attributable

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Name</u>
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Steve Trotter*
Defra	Andrea Ledward
Defra Review of NPs & AONBs	Julian Glover
Federation of Cumbria Commoners	Joe Relph
Foundation for Common Land (convenor)	Julia Aglionby
Herdwick Sheep Breeders Association	Will Rawling*
John Muir Trust	Andrew Bachell
Lake District National Park Authority	Richard Leafe* & Peter Allen
LDNP Partnership	Stephen Henwood*
National Farmers Union	Thomas Binns
National Trust	Hilary McGrady
Natural England	Amanda Craig
Pasture Fed Livestock Association	Russell Carrington*
Prince's Countryside Fund	Lord Curry
RSPB	Kevin Cox
The Farmer Network	Adam Day
United Utilities	Jo Harrison
University of Cumbria	Julie Mennell & Lois Mansfield
Woodland Trust	Beccy Speight

Thank you to all the speakers and facilitators, some are listed above () and others below:*

Jeremy Barlow	National Trust
Susan Denyer	ICOMOS-UK – Advisor to UNESCO
Viv Lewis	FCL: Our Common Cause: Our Upland Commons Facilitator
Liam McAleese	Lake District National Park Authority
Claire Saunders	Prince's Countryside Fund
Danny Teasdale	Ullswater CIC
Veronica Waller	The Farmer Network

HRH The Prince of Wales joined the meeting for the concluding session

The Meeting was convened by the Foundation for Common Land and hosted by the University of Cumbria at their Ambleside Campus with the support of the Lake District National Park Authority. We thank the Heritage Fund for financial support towards the event as part of the Our Common Cause: Our Upland Commons project and to the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation as FCL's core funders.

