

Ref: Item 9: New Homes Bonus Allocation to Dartmoor National Park Authority

1. Background

When approving the 2015/16 Budget at its meeting on 12 February 2015 (Minute 66/14 refers), part 11 of the resolution was agreed as follows:-

“That the Council transfers £5,779 of its allocation of the New Homes Bonus for 2015/16 to the Dartmoor National Park Sustainable Community Fund. (NOTE: the funds are awarded as a one off payment to Dartmoor National Park, to award projects on an application basis administered by Dartmoor National Park). The following conditions will apply:

- *decisions must be taken in consultation with the South Hams District Council local Ward Member(s);*
- *funding can only be used for capital spending on projects in those parts of Dartmoor National Park which fall within the South Hams District Council Boundaries and enable the Dartmoor National Park to carry out its social economic responsibilities; and*
- *Dartmoor National Park reports on the progress in the application of, and use of the funds to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel on a six monthly basis and in time for budget decisions to be made (i.e. June and November).”*

2. Dartmoor Communities Fund 2014/15

- 2.1 Total grant requests of £63,280. Funding of nearly £40,000 was allocated to 10 projects with a total project value in excess of £200,000. Further details and list of project supported is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 9 projects have claimed and received funding. One project in West Devon with a grant offer of just over £4,000 is currently outstanding. We are working with the applicant to bring the project to completion, any underspend will be brought forward to the 2015/16 fund.

3. Dartmoor Communities Fund 2015/16

- 3.1 Allocations for 2015/16 have been confirmed as:

- Teignbridge £25,000
- West Devon £17,610 *
- South Hams £5,779

* includes £15,000 brought forward from 2013/14 NHB allocation

- 3.2 The DCF opened to applications during October. The applications are currently being assessed by the Communities Officer, with reference to the appropriate local WDBC & SHDC Ward Councillors, DNPA Parish Link Members and the relevant Parish Council, with the final decision being delegated to the National Park Officer in accordance with the existing Scheme of Delegation.