



Quantock Hills National Landscape

Role Profile

Role title	Parish Representative	
Directorate	Quantock Hills – Climate & Natural Environment - EDSC	
Reporting to	Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee	
Background Information		
The Quantock Hills National Landscape is one of England’s most special places – a wonderful National Landscape of rugged upland heathlands, intricate farmland, bounded by rich hedgebanks, extensive wooded combes and a geologically stunning stretch of Jurassic coast. Local people and visitors share this land and seascape with a dazzling array of wildlife and heritage. In recognition of its special qualities the Quantock Hills was designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) on 9th May 1956, recently renamed as a National Landscape, the first to be designated in England. At 99km² it is one of the smaller National Landscapes, however its diversity of landscapes, habitats and wildlife makes it a wonderful place to live, work and explore. Find out more on the Quantock Hills National Landscape website - Quantock Hills National Landscape The Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership was formed on 21st May 1975 in order to assist the constituent local authorities with fulfilling their statutory duties in respect to the designation. The Partnership is constituted as a Joint Advisory Committee (JAC). The Partnership brings together organisations to provide a strategic and coordinated lead for the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty within the Quantock Hills. As of January 2025, the Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership champions the National Landscape, providing a united voice to promote its care and management. By bringing together a wide range of interests the Partnership, through its dedicated team of staff and in consultation with others, develops and reviews the Statutory Management Plan and takes direct action by leading and supporting initiatives in the area. In order to do this, the Partnership oversees the production and implementation of a Management Plan every five years, which details how natural beauty will be conserved and enhanced. The Partnership meets four times per year, often in-person but sometimes online. In between meetings, work is furthered by meetings of sub-groups and via email. As of January 2026, the Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership consists of the following organisations and individuals:		
Somerset Council (6 members)	Country Landowner Association	Quantock Commoners Association
National Trust	Friends of the Quantocks	Forestry England
Natural England	South West Heritage Trust	
Parish Representative (4 members)	Co-opted members (specialist roles) (up to 2 members)	
Role purpose		
A parish member will be regarded as broadly representative of parish interests but is not a delegate, so cannot be mandated by the parish councils concerned. The involvement of parish members is to ensure that the Quantock Hills Partnership takes full account of the needs of their local communities and to improve the links between the Partnership and local residents. Parish members should not just be spokespeople for the local issues, but		

ambassadors for wider concerns. Parish members are appointed to reflect 'truly local concerns' but, in that, to represent the wider National Landscape view, not just that of their own parish

The Community Representatives on the Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership seek to further strengthen the link between the work of the Partnership and local communities. Community input into all of our work is essential and is considered vital for success, and the Parish Representative role is one important strand of this. The Parish Representative will be engaged with the work of the Partnership through attending Partnership meetings and staying updated via email. Where possible, they will also attend other National Landscape events. The Parish Representative will help to flag landscape issues raised by their local community, and also to help disperse information from the National Landscape Partnership to the local community on important consultations or events. This role is only open to parish council representative of parishes within or abutting the Quantock Hills National Landscape, which are:

Bicknoller	Bishops Lydeard	Broomfield
Combe Florey	Cothelstone	Crowcombe
East Quantoxhead	Enmore	Goathurst
Holford	Kilve	Kingston St Mary
Lydeard St Lawrence	Nether Stowey	North Petherton
Over Stowey	Sampford Brett	Spaxton
Stringston	West Bagborough	West Monkton
West Quantoxhead	Williton	
Note – Bold denotes parishes partially or wholly within the National Landscape boundary		

Principal responsibilities

- Attend Partnership meetings (4 per year) and represent the local community on relevant agenda items.
- Receive and engage with email communication relating to the Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership.
- Represent and convey the prevailing views and feelings of the local community to the Partnership where appropriate.
- Champion the interests of the Quantock Hills National Landscape Partnership and help to build community support and engagement with the work of the Partnership.

Skills needed for this role

- Has good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Has basic IT skills and is able to use email, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel (accommodations can be made).
- Is able to commit to spending a small amount of time on the role (average 2-3 hours per month minimum, but may be greater at times).
- Has a passion for conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Quantock Hills
- Is comfortable with community working and can listen to and convey the views of others as well as their own.