

## NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

### Minutes of the general meeting held on 13 January 2015

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed new members Catriona Gibson. Membership currently stands at 222.
2. **Apologies:** Karen Barnes, Sharon Cash, Sue Clowes, Liz Davison, Ailsa Gibson, Kate Lennox, Sheena Robertson,.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposer: Anna Twinane, seconder: Sheila Kissack.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Christmas Meal - Friday 23 January 2015.** Menu choices and monies were collected in advance of the meal. There is also an option for two courses. Further information from Sheila Kissack.
6. **Bridleways Research update:**
  - (i) Ailsa was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following via email: "We are initially looking at Thwaite Brow Lane, Bolton le Sands up through the woods to Mount Pleasant, then along Mount Pleasant, dropping down to and across the canal outside Carnforth. At the moment part of it is a footpath, and the rest has no status.  
  
We will hopefully be submitting an application to modify the Definitive Map. Officers at Lancashire CC have been very helpful with this and have got us started with info we need. We hope to submit an application in February, and we can add further evidence to it once it is in the "queue" however it would be good to be as complete as possible from the start.  
  
User evidence is important, not just what the route looks like on old maps. Please could you ask anybody who has ridden the route for at least 10 years, preferably lots more, to contact me if they would be willing to complete a short form saying how and when they have used the route? We already have this info from some people, so I don't need this again. Please can anybody else contact me on 01524 824325 or ailsa.gibson@gmail.com"  
  
Members at the meeting proposed a vote of thanks to Ailsa and Liz for taking on this project.
  - (ii) **Canal Paths** – Bridleways member Samantha Haywood is interested in formally approaching the Canal and River Trust to get official permission to ride on more stretches of towpath. Samantha and Ailsa plan to get together to take this forward.
  - (iii) **Volunteers needed** to cut back vegetation on path through woods at Bolton le Sands. Liz and Ailsa have spoken to the lengthsman. A volunteer working party meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month to maintain the woods, next 2 meetings are 8 February and 8 March. Bridleway members would be very welcome to help cut back the vegetation. Contact Eve or email Liz Davison at [klmdavison@btopenworld.com](mailto:klmdavison@btopenworld.com) for more information.
7. **Email addresses:** Julie Trafford regularly sends out updates and NLBS info but recently she has had a problem with her contacts list so if you think you have been missed off the list please email Julie Trafford at [nlancsbs@hotmail.com](mailto:nlancsbs@hotmail.com).
8. **Vale of Lune Point to Point races, Whittington – Easter Sat 4 April 2015:** Once again volunteers are needed to help on the gate in return for a donation to bridleway funds. Contact Eve if you'd like to help or let her have your name at the next meeting.
9. **Annual Fundraising Pleasure Ride** – this will take place around the end of April/ beginning of May – date and venue to be confirmed. Volunteers will be needed to help on the day.
10. **Any other business:**
  - (i) *Assistant Bridleways Officer (ABO):* Chris Peat, BHS Regional Access & Bridleways Officer is willing to set up a course in our area for anyone interested in Access, even if you don't want to become an ABO. If you are interested contact Julie Sico, email: [horseyjulie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:horseyjulie@yahoo.co.uk).
  - (ii) *Outback Riders* – There was an article sent via the BHS about outback riders in Liverpool. Several members thought this was a good idea and it was suggested it would be good for our area. Julie has looked into it and to do this you have to have a Rider Leader Qualification (Level 2 and 3). If interested we have contact numbers. Email Julie for further information [horseyjulie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:horseyjulie@yahoo.co.uk).

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- (iii) *Letter from Mark Weston, BHS Director of Access:* Eve read out a letter of thanks received from Mark Weston following his visit to the Group in November.
- (iv) *Donation to BHS Access Fighting Fund:* Eve read out an article from BHS website which outlined the work of our Group and achievements to date. To view go to [www.bhs.org](http://www.bhs.org) click on the *Our Charity* tab then *News and Media*, under Area select *North West*
- (v) *Horse riding in Morecambe Bay* - Eve was contacted by someone working with Morecambe Bay Partnership about horse riding in Morecambe Bay. Eve explained we use the edge of the bay and marsh area, not riding out into the Bay, although there are occasional rides across the Bay led by the Queen's Guide, Cedric Robinson.
- (vi) *Used Postage Stamps* – bring them along to next meeting and Eve will send them on to Bransby Horses to help them raise funds. Please don't cut too close to the stamp, leave about ½" margin all around the edge.
- (vii) *Think Horse Signs* are available. These need to put up on private land.
- (viii) *Defibrillator* – a £30 donation was made to the Memorial Hall towards the purchase of a defibrillator. Proposed: Frances Clisham, seconded: Diane Richmond.
- (ix) *Screen for projector:* instead of transporting the screen to meetings Frances suggested leaving it at the hall or perhaps a permanent screen could be fixed in the hall for both our use and all hall users with NLBS making a contribution to the cost. Frances will contact the hall secretary to discuss.
- (x) *Speakers* – ideas for future speakers always welcome

Peter Boustead, fell pony breeder and well known judge gave an informative talk on conformation.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, 10 March 2015**

**Speaker: John Cunningham, Field Officer for World Horse Welfare**

**Hest Bank Memorial Hall, LA2 6JB**

**Please come along and bring a friend**