

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of the general meeting held on 10 November 2015

Eve opened the meeting with the sad news that David Wakelin, "the horseman of Bolton le Sands", had passed away peacefully at the age of 92. Many members will have known David who was a keen supporter of all things horsey. David's own horse led the cortege from the family home in Bolton le Sands.

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed new member Nick McCarthy.
2. **Apologies:** Kate Lennox, Julie Sico.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Frances Clisham, seconded by Ann Rigby.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Tack Thefts** Once again news of a large tack theft in Lancashire has been reported. Please continue to be vigilant.
6. **NLBS Tack Sale** – A big thank you to all who helped in any way. The total taken for the day was £653.39 – door money £175.86; refreshments £247.53; Tables £230.
7. **Bridleway Clearance, Sunday 27 Sep:** 12 volunteers turned up to help. On arrival at the bridleway near Borwick it was discovered it had already been cleared so a quick decision was made to re-route to a byway near Hutton Roof where volunteers began clearing the route from both ends. There is still the middle section to clear so a further session is needed to finish the work. Thank you to all the volunteers. We would also like to thank Christine Huddleston for allowing us to park 2 cars on her land as there is very limited parking near the byway.
 - (i) **Purchase of hedge trimmer** – Eve proposed the group should purchase a hedge trimmer. Eve asked for show of hands, with the majority in favour it was decided to go ahead with the purchase. Public Liability cover for the use of the trimmer is provided under the Group's affiliation with British Horse Society. Personal injury is not covered therefore anyone using the machine will do so at their own risk.
 - (ii) **Date for follow up clearance** – to be advised.
8. **Bridleway routes:** A sub-meeting was held to discuss various local routes which need recording on the definitive map and to establish if there are any ideas for new/link routes. The notes from this meeting were displayed on noticeboard at November meeting. In summary:
 - (i) Keep in touch with other groups interested in multi user paths including the Ramblers and Dynamo (Cycling group).
 - (ii) Review Permissive Bridleways when they are due for expiry, there are a few around Yealand (if there are any others in your local area please let us know).
 - (iii) Look into historical routes around Thursland Hill Farm and the potential for a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO).
 - (iv) Look again at the work done in 1999 re Highfield Lane, Bolton le Sands (BLS) and see if it is possible to take this forward.
 - (v) Take another look at routes from Kellet Lane to Shaw Lane, Nether Kellet.
 - (vi) Other routes that maybe worth a look, David Goode, Rights of Way Officer to be contacted:
 - a. Borwick south to Keer Bridge
 - b. Track from Dunald Mill Lane to Addington Road

If any of these areas are your "local patch" and you would like to get involved please get in touch with Ailsa tel: 01524 824325 or email: ailsa.gibson@gmail.com.
9. **Padlocked Bridleway.** Member Fiona Gill reported padlocked gates at each end of Fowlers Wood BW near Ellel. Ailsa reported the matter to David Goode, ROW Officer and he removed them the same evening! Thank you David.
10. **Thwaite Brow Woods, Bolton le Sands Conservation Project** Next working party Sunday 15 November at 10am. Volunteers always welcome. Tools provided do as little or as much as you are able.

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11. **NLBS Fundraising Ride – Saturday 23 April 2016** This will be held in the Dolphinholme area. The ride is being held on a Saturday as there is clay pigeon shooting in the area on a Sunday. Volunteers needed for gates etc. Further information to follow.
12. **Slippery road surface, St Michael's Lane, Bolton le Sands** Eve has reported the slippery surface to Lancashire County Council on behalf of the Group and has visited local livery yards to encourage them to report the matter. If you ride in the area and have experienced your horse slipping on the new surface please report the incident at www.lancashire.gov.uk Report a Highway Fault, tel: 0845 053 0011 or 0300 1236 7870. Incidents should also be reported to www.horseaccidents.org.uk.
13. **Defibrillator** Following the Group's donation to the Memorial Hall Committee fund to purchase a defibrillator for the hall, a member of the Group has been invited to attend a talk on Tuesday 17 November to explain the use and benefits of the defibrillator and provide some training. Eve Hall and Kay Edwards will attend on behalf of the Group.
14. **Christmas Meal** Sheila has once again agreed to organise the Christmas meal which will be held at The Smithy Inn, Holme. This will probably be the third Friday in January 2016, date to be confirmed. Full payment will be collected at the January meeting.
15. **Any other business:**
 - (i) *Sue Clowes* has recently had a hip replacement. Eve sent a card on behalf of the Group and wished her a speedy recovery, adding she hopes to see her back riding soon.
 - (ii) *Viv Wood-Gee* – Viv has undertaken several long distance rides and is very interested in the old drovers roads. She recently gave a talk to Cumbria BW Society and agreed to give a talk to our Group next year, possibly September.
 - (iii) *Cumbria BW Group AGM and Quiz*– Thursday 19 November, Crooklands. All welcome.
 - (iv) *Projector Screen for sale* – the Group has a portable projector screen for sale. For further information please contact Eve 01524 824205
 - (v) *Used stamps* please save your used stamps and bring them to the next meeting (don't cut/tear too close to the stamp as this can cause damage, please leave about ½" of envelope around the stamp) . Eve will send them to Bransby Horses – Rescue and Welfare to help with their funds.
 - (vi) *Books for loan* – there is a small library of books available for loan. If you have any books on loan would you please return them at the next meeting.

Eve welcomed Meg Crossley, Consultant in Emergency Medicine, Airedale Hospital who gave an informative talk on First Aid for Riders illustrated with examples of the type of human injuries a rider may be faced with out on a hack or at the yard.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 12 January 2016

Hest Bank Memorial Hall, LA2 6JB

Please come along and bring a friend