

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of the general meeting held on 8th November 2016

1. **Welcome and new members:** No new members this month. Present membership 215 but there are subs outstanding. 28 overdue from May 2014; 23 overdue from May 2015; 22 overdue from May 2016.
2. **Apologies:** Sue Clowes, Julie Sico, Anna Twiname.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** - The minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Frances Clisham, seconded by Bev Reade.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Update addresses of places to stay on holiday** Contact details of places to take your horse on holiday, shown on the NLBS website, are being updated. If you have any updates or new details to add to the list please contact Kate Lennox tel: 015395 58516 or email: membership@nlbs.org.uk
6. **Equestrians demand inclusion on cycleways** The British Horse Society (BHS) are behind a campaign to make routes being developed for walking and cycling available for equestrian use. More than 1500 equestrians have written to the Department of Transport (DfT) asking that they should not be banned from cycle lanes. They want the Highway Code rewritten. DfT are having to respond to these requests which is delaying the cycling blueprint. There is still time to add your voice to the campaign.
7. **Tack Sale** the sale raised £650. Well done to everyone who helped in any way. Thank you to Chris Bell who took the table bookings. Unfortunately Chris won't be able to take on this role next year so we need someone to be responsible for the bookings. Please contact Eve if you would like to help.
8. **Recipe leaflet/booklet** due to the great tasting cakes provided for the tack sale we thought we could compile a leaflet or booklet of members recipes to sell in aid of funds. Please bring your recipes along to the next meeting.
9. **Bridleway at Tunstall** – the landowners' permission has been obtained for the contractor to repair/replace the damaged gate.
10. **Suggest bridleway at Overton/Middleton** – There is a need for an off road track between Overton and Middleton as this is a very busy stretch of road. There is a footpath on land by the dyke in Downey Field on the other side of the road to Overton. Julie Learoyd is making enquiries into this.
11. **Canal towpath regeneration – Towpath Trail Survey** BHS are supporting a plea for equestrian access on canal towpaths. Eve, along with 10 members of NLBS attended a recent road show where there was no mention of horses – just walkers and cyclists. Please help raise the profile of equestrians and support this project by completing the survey online at: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TowpathTrailSurvey
12. **Think Horse Signs** – A further 10 signs have been ordered.
13. **NLBS 20th Anniversary May 2017** – Ideas to date include Ceilidh, ride out, Mark Weston from BHS to speak, Jacobs join, BBQ, meal out, trip to a horse show. Sheila has offered to make enquiries into a trip to Royal Windsor Horse Show 10-14 May 2017 and/or Great Yorkshire Show 11-13 July 2017. If you would be interested please let her know – email: treasurer@nlbs.org.uk
14. **Any other business**
 - (i) Footpath along edge of Low Road by Halton Training Camp – there is a large tree encroaching on the path making it virtually impassable. Halton Parish Council and the operators of Halton Training Camp are to carry out the necessary work.
 - (ii) Christmas meal – it was proposed to hold this at The Smithy, Holme unless anyone came forward with an alternative venue. Date to be confirmed but probably 3rd week in January 2017. Sheila will collect payment at the January meeting.
 - (iii) Bransby Horses Rescue and Welfare Charity – once again we are collecting used postage stamps for this charity. Please bring them along to the January meeting.
 - (iv) 2017 meeting dates: Tuesday 14th March, 9th May (AGM), 11th July, 12th September and 14th November.

Vyv Wood-Gee gave an excellent account of her Coast to Coast ride

Next meeting: -Tuesday, 10 January 2017

Hest Bank Memorial Hall, LA2 6JB

Speaker: Helen Wain – Map reading

Please come along and bring a friend