

Minutes for NLBS general meeting

held on 12th November 2024, 7:30pm

1. Welcome and new members

Welcome to Kathryn Keith from Grange over Sands and Julie Craig from Galgate

2. Apologies:

Carol Dial, Kate Lennox, Lesley Owen, Sheena Roberts, Suzanne Davis, Denise Brooks

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

a. **Proposed:** Helen Wain **Seconded:** Hannah Gardner

4. Matters Arising:

- a. NLBS funds to support projects to enhance equestrian access – update from Bridget: Westmorland & Furness and Lancashire County Councils. W&F have replied to ask for funds to help clear a bridleway at Scales and we are waiting on a quote. LCC have yet to suggest something.
- b. Prompted by the speaker last meeting from Ulnes Walton sharing how they sought funds for improving safe access routes, Bridget spoke to W&F and LCC councils about NLBS activity to seek funding to support council work. The councils have replied that currently they are experiencing difficulty getting contractors to complete works they have funds and plans for and so it would not be worth it currently.

5. Bridleway News

6. Canals access

– Bridget, Hannah reported a positive meeting with national towpath advisor Dick Vincent from London office. The meeting was also attended by Rhiane Benson our area BHS Access Officer and Liz Davison with Luca 😊

7. Membership update

NLBS Membership – Report to November 2024 meeting

Welcome to Kathryn Keith from Grange over Sands and Julie Craig from Galgate who joined in October 2024.

The membership currently stands at 171 including 18 honorary members.

Membership forms and requests to pay by standing order can be downloaded from.

“How to join us” on [our website](#) and the link at [top of our FB page](#)

	No. of members	No. of Subs
Due May 2023	5	5
Due May 2024	14	12
Due May 2025	28	25
Due May 2026	3	3
Standing Orders	103	82
Honorary Members	18	0
	<u>171</u>	<u>127</u>

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

The above totals exclude the mystery member, 'R J Elliston', who pays subs by BACS each year but there's no record of their membership. Once again, if anyone knows him/her please let me know by email at membership@nlbs.org.uk

8. NLBS and members responses to consultations

- a. [Home | A New Neighbourhood in East Lancaster](#) (site has a bridleway running along one side of it that will be broken/crossed by an access road onto the new 'neighbourhood'.) A letter was sent by Bridget as chair of NLBS requesting use of suitable surface such as flexipave and consideration of the potential to link to other equestrian routes nearby e.g. Lancaster Greenway (aka Lune Estuary Path) at both Lancaster and Denny Beck access points.
- b. Bridget requested horse passport numbers from the BHS for LA1,2,3 and 4 to support letters on behalf of all equestrians in our area. The total is 3,400 horse passports for these postcodes.

9. **NLBS Tack Sale – update** This was a big success as ever 🥳. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the day in a variety of ways and especially to Julie for all the organisation 😊. **The event raised £555.20p for society funds.**

10. Any other business

- a. **Speaker ideas** - reminder to send these to vicechair@nlbs.org.uk
- b. **Greenlands farm bridleway** – this is an ongoing issue that has been often reported by different members to ROW officers but no change/progress has been made. Two barriers are placed across the bridleway that are not easy to move and impossible to do from on horseback. Despite the offer of help with the barriers from Greenlands if they are given prior warning, this is not sustainable and visitors from outside the area would not know about this anyway. Bridget will take this further on behalf of NLBS members.
- c. **Afternoon Tea in January 2025** – those members present thought this would be a good idea for a get together for the Society. We will ask Penny Farm again for possible Saturdays in January and hope we will be able to look round the stables as part of the visit. If you would like to express your interest in taking part in this social event, please email nlancsbs@hotmail.com

Speaker:

Our speaker for this meeting was Melanie Garner from [Heartfelt Horse](#) who shared her vision of what 'Natural Horsemanship' means to her, the foundation of Natural Horsemanship and insights into herd behaviour, communication and equipment.

