

NORTH LANCS BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Meeting held on 11.09.2012

1. Welcome: Eve welcomed existing members and two new members, Anna Cooper of Lindale and Jacky Nutter of Morecambe. Eve announced the sudden sad death of Janet Blackburn's husband and had sent a card with all our condolences. Our thoughts go to Sheena Robertson, whose horse Jake, has sadly been put down owing to colic.

2. Apologies: Sarah Webster and Pauline McCartney

3. Minutes of Last Meeting were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Jean Smith and seconded by Tracey Howard.

4. Matters Arising: None

5. Tack Sale: 14th October, 2012 at Hest Bank Memorial Hall. Eve urged members to distribute flyers. Help is required generally in order to make this event the success it always is. There is a particular need for help in putting out the tables at 9 am on the morning and at the end in clearing away. Please contact Eve if you can help with this. If you cannot attend the sale and would like to donate sandwiches, cakes etc please drop them off at Eve's the evening before. The more snacks we can sell the more our funds grow for help with BWs.

6. BHS Lancashire AGM: This will take place on 22nd October, 2012 at Longton Sports and Social Club, Preston , PR4 5ZA. In addition there will be a talk by Lee Hackett, BHS Senior Executive - Welfare, on Laminitis and Land Management.

7. Westmorland County Show: 13th September, 2012 at Westmorland Show Ground, Crooklands.

8. Gates: i) New latches will be put on the gates on to the canal at Greenlands and at Hillam Lane

(ii) Tracey Howard reported gate trouble at Capernwray and Denise Woodcock at Yealand.

(iii) There is a tree on a path by Halton Army Camp which is growing larger every year making it difficult to get by. Eve's has asked the MOD for help in this matter.

(iv) Lune Millennium Path, where water is leaking onto the path, the restraining posts will be removed.

9. Definitive Map Modifications - User Evidence Forms: NLBS is collecting user evidence re a path at Bolton Le Sands.

10. Update on Cantsfield BW: The Lancaster Guardian recently reported planning for modifications to alter this route. Natural England has a duty by the 2009 Act to Improve Access to Coast which states: 1. Secure long distance routes and 2. Spread out inland and explore New sections of path are to be created Statutory Right to Secure Access Continuous route will eventually be created and as coastline erodes the path moves further inland.

NLBS sent suggested access routes - see Cockerham to Silverdale on map - to the North West Coastal Forum. These possibilities are not discussed in the draft proposals but BHS says existing BW and beach access will not be affected. So it seems nothing has changed!

11. AOB:

- i) BHS has supplied copies of their latest - harrowing - safety campaign 'Hit Your Brakes Not My Horse' for distribution. It was suggested that the rather large posters could be laminated in order to make them more useful. Perhaps members could modify them accordingly? Eve is taking some to the Motor Test Centre in hope of educating new drivers.
- ii) Eve circulated a form amongst members asking for their suggestions for future speakers. These suggestions are always needed and help to make NLBS the success it is.
- iii) Sue Gill's Memorial Ride raised £1,073.00
- iv) TREC at Ulverston Saturday, 22nd September, 2012

A thank you from us all to Pat Gregory whose talk was a mystery - perhaps solved - due to detective work on her part, her husband's and the owner of the horse, which they discovered was lacking in sleep as she was unable to lie down. The night film was a real insight into what the horse got up to in the small hours.

Date of next meeting
Tuesday, 13th November 2012
Hest Bank Memorial Hall
An Informal event when members can meet and chat
Bring child/adult pictures of you and your pony/ies and or horse/s

Please come along and bring a friend

Additional information:-

Access applications encouraged

The British Horse Society has encouraged equestrians to submit applications for new bridleways as part of the Paths for Communities project, a Natural England initiative to encourage local communities to help provide new bridleways. Mark Weston, Director of Access, Safety and Welfare, said: *"It is important that horse riders identify suitable routes and submit applications pursuant to this scheme so that we can increase the small percentage of the rights of way network that horse riders currently enjoy."* It may be possible in many circumstances to put forward proposals to join up existing bridleways that are not currently linked up. "Paths for Communities" projects must include some element of new Public Right of Way creation. In most cases this will be a bridleway creation. Community groups can apply for a grant to help create the route and the scheme will operate until March 2014, with a total fund of £2million. For more information on Paths for Communities and how to submit a project, please visit naturalengland.org.uk. Local riding groups with little experience in rights of way can contact the BHS for help or get in touch with their BHS Access and Bridleways Officer for advice.

Hincaster Trailway News

Following the successful completion of Phase 1 of new wheelchair track, the Hincaster Trailway Group is seeking volunteers to help continue the construction of Phase 2. We have made an excellent start on Phase 2 by securing funding for some of the materials from The Hadfield Trust and organising work parties with South Cumbria Federation of Young Farmers, Kendal Boys Brigade and Storth WI. It would be great to get the whole 1 km wheelchair track finished this autumn. All track laying activities are suitable for the active gardener.

If you, your business or your organization are interested in getting involved contact Bridget Pickthall tel 015395 61243 or e mail bridget.theorchard@firenet.uk.com
If anyone knows of good examples of interpretation/ information panels, please contact Bridget.

British Horse Society Horse Owners Certificate Level 1.

Would you like to develop your knowledge of horse care in a friendly environment with chance to hone your practical skills? Level One starts on **Tuesday October 16th, 2012** at Over Kellet Village Hall, 7pm to 9pm Levels 2 to 4 follow on. (practical sessions at local yard.) Cost £52 An optional exam at the end of each course (£23) gives you a great acknowledgement of new skills obtained and a certificate to hang on the wall!

If you want to know more contact Helen on 01524 736606 or email helenwain@talktalk.net

A level 4 course will run from the end October on a Wednesday if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Helen If you have already done some of the courses then join in at the appropriate level.

West Craven Bridleways Association meeting and talk by The Yorkshire Air Ambulance
Wednesday 17th October 2012 7.30pm Cross Keys, East Marton. Buffet supper £2.00. All welcome. Contact Elaine 01756 748313 or Kath 015242 51488

Fylde Coast Bridleways Association

Wednesday 7th November - 7.30 pm - speaker Andrew Cooper DiP WCF 5* farrier at Elswick Equestrian Centre - Bonds Lane, Elswick, PR4 3ZE

Andy will explain the workings of the equine limb, the impact on the horse and how the leg works when the horse is active. A dissection helps to illustrate and make clear what is really going on inside your horse's leg. The talk then continues with a question and answer session on lameness such as laminitis, navicular and spavins. £2 on the door

We would like to collect donations on the night – in aid of a horse charity (chosen by Andy)

Refreshments available and raffle on the night with fantastic prizes

Limited places available so reserve your place by emailing

j_broadhurst@hotmail.co.uk