

# NORTH LANCs BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

## Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2013

1. **Welcome:** Eve welcomed all members especially new members Liz Holden, Sam Hayward, Louise Randles, Heather Jordan, Anne Pettifor, Elaine Bosy, Rachel Bosy, Amanda Geldard, Dawn Field and Laura Hirst. Kate reported that NLBS had 246 members at 12.03.2013 with 57 - 71 including family members overdue from May 2012.
2. **Apologies:** Sheena Robertson, Steve and Linda Hobson and Pauline McCartney
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were confirmed as a true and accurate record.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Update on Bridleways:**
  - (i) *Hawkrigg Farm, Kirkby Lonsdale:* Markers have been obtained to divert people round farmyard
  - (ii) *Route in Kirkby Lonsdale area:* Gates on this route have been inspected with a view to repair or replacement
  - (iii) *Farleton Fell:* Gates have been mended on an unfenced road at the back of the Fell
  - (iv) *Winmarleigh:* A handle has been obtained for a gate on the track
  - (v) *Greenlands Farm:* Eve reported that riders should beware as they go round the corner on the BW as there are two "frightening" Emus!
  - (vi) *Ford over River Greta at Cantsfield:* Eve reported that the ford crossing of the River Greta at Cantsfield is now complete. Several members of NLBS, in particular Barbara Hartley, all campaigned and worked tirelessly to renew this crossing, which has enabled the BW to be used again. Jayne Elliot - Rights of Way Officer and Kevin Almond - Public Rights of Way Officer have spent a great deal of time on this project. In 2000 a bridge was proposed which was to be called the "Millennium Bridge" however, this proved to be too expensive and plans were withdrawn. A shallow crossing was then located, but otters appeared, holding up the plans yet again. At last this route has been reopened which can be used by everyone again. NLBS would like to take this opportunity to thank all the land owners involved for their co-operation in the re-siting of the ford and parts of the BW.  
**The official opening is on Tuesday 16th April at 11am.**  
Eve suggested that photos should be taken to mark the occasion and the press invited. Our President, Lady Reay, has been invited.
6. **Whittington Races** Easter Saturday, 30th March, 2013. The rush begins around noon. Help is required collecting entrance fees at the gate. NLBS receives a donation for our efforts and volunteers may enter the races free for the rest of the day. Contact Eve if you have not already signed the list and are able to help. Please wear High Viz.
7. **Fund-raising Ride:** NLBS Ride at Kirkby Lonsdale, Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> 2013 Volunteers to meet at Kirkby Lonsdale Rugby Club in good time. Help is required in the car park, on gates, holding horses etc. Refreshments are available at the club. NLBS is known for its well organised rides so please all help to make this the success it always is. Please help to advertise this event by putting up posters. Call Eve if you can help on 07773488156/01524 824205
8. **Morecambe Bay Partnership:** Eve reported that there is a grant available for a new 200 km Cycle Route around the Bay. Sustrans is involved. Suzannah Bleakley, who is in charge, reported that the route is planned on quiet roads linking existing paths. She was pleased to hear from NLBS and said that any future development of off-road routes would be run past us. She also wanted to know who to contact at Cumbria Bridleways Society.
9. **Any Other Business:**
  - (i) Sheena Robertson requests articles and photos for the Newsletter.
  - (ii) Cumbria Bridleways Society Spring Tack Sale, Endmoor Village Hall Sunday, 21st April, 2013 at 11am - 1pm. Tables cost £10. Contact Jane Armstrong on 0791 9661057 Admission £1 on the door. Light refreshments available.
  - (iii) Route at Hyning Hall, Yealand: Denise reported that this route was retracted in December, 2012 after the ten years had expired. However, the owners are happy for local people to continue to use it.

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**Ride led by Liz Davidson on Wednesday, 3rd April, 2013 planned for the Caton Area estimated time 2.5 to 3 hours in duration. Six riders are suggested. Contact Liz on 01524 811029.**

Zoe Casson, Fundraiser for the North West Air Ambulance, gave us the bare facts of running such a valued and underfunded organisation and which relies solely on much valued charitable donations. The facts and figures are truly astounding, as is the dedication of all the staff involved in their many rescues. It is good to know that they have now set up a charity shop in Kirkby Lonsdale. They most certainly deserve our respect and gratitude for all the work they do. Our members gave generously to the raffle held in aid of this charity.

**Next meeting Tuesday, 14th May, 2013  
AGM and Talk on the Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre  
by Kath Pinnington -Yard Manager and  
Nicky McDonald - Operations Manager  
at Hest Bank Memorial Hall  
Please come along and bring a friend**