

## NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

### Minutes of the general meeting held on 10 March 2015

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed 3 new members: Natalie and Diane Sharples, Susan Armitage. Peter Boustead was made an Honorary member. Membership stands at 219.
2. **Apologies:** Lorraine Chambers.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were confirmed as a true and accurate record.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Vale of Lune Point to Point races, Whittington – Easter Sat 4 April 2015:** Thank you to those who have already signed up to help. More helpers welcome, contact Eve tel: 01524 824205.
6. **NLBS Annual Fundraising Pleasure Ride Sunday 26 April** – Entry form can be downloaded from [www.nlbs.org.uk](http://www.nlbs.org.uk). Closing date 13 April 2015. Volunteers needed to help on the day. Contact Eve.
7. **Help needed checking bridleways:** Julie Sico has taken on the role as our new BHS Access Officer and would like members to check their local bridleways for any blockages or problems and report back to her. Mobile: 07951 670 625 or email: [horsejulie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:horsejulie@yahoo.co.uk)
8. **Bridleways Research update:** Thank you to everyone who has been in touch and completed user evidence forms for the route through Thwaite Brow Woods and Mount Pleasant. If you have regularly ridden this route and would like to complete a user evidence form please contact Ailsa tel: 01524 824325 or email: [ailsa.gibson@gmail.com](mailto:ailsa.gibson@gmail.com). We have now accessed a selection of maps of the area, from 1786 onwards. Some clearly show the routes as roads at the time. Ailsa will draft an application using the maps and info gathered so far and identify any gaps to fill.  
  
Local councilor Keith Budden, co-author of a book on the history of Bolton Le Sands has been contacted to see if he is able to help with some more relevant maps and info  
  
Denise Woodcock has been helpfully keeping in touch with the local Ramblers group who are also looking at other routes, and we are waiting to hear if they will allow one or two people from NLBS to attend a Ramblers workshop in Lancaster in June about restoring rights of way.
9. **Bridleway clearing morning, Bolton le Sands:** 4 NLBS members joined the *Thwaite Brow Woods Conservation Project group* to help clear the track through Thwaite Brow Woods. Eve expressed her disappointment at the low turnout from local riders as this track is well used by riders as a circular route.  
  
*Thwaite Brow Woods Conservation Project is run by volunteers who meet at Thwaite Brow Bridge on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, September to April at 10am, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month May to July at 7pm. The work is supervised and tools provided, volunteers can do as little or as much as they are able – they need only do the jobs they enjoy. Volunteers are always welcome. For further info contact the secretary Louise Belcher tel: 01524 824191 email: [wizbelcher@gmail.com](mailto:wizbelcher@gmail.com).*
10. **Update on fixed projector screen:** The Memorial Hall Committee approved this idea as a useful addition to the facilities for all users of the hall. They will look into having the work done and thanked the NLBS for the offer of a contribution to the cost but indicated the Hall Committee would be willing to finance this improvement.
11. **Any other business:**
  - (i) *Planning application for an activity centre at Fowlers Hill Wood, Cabus:* Frances Clisham raised the matter of a planning application for an activity centre, which would include paintballing, in Fowlers Hill Wood, Cabus close to a bridleway. This bridleway, although short, links Fowler Hill Lane and Snapewood Lane and enables riders to avoid riding along a section of the A6. In conjunction with Eve, Frances has written a letter of objection to Wyre Council. We await further information.
  - (ii) *Used Postage Stamps* – A letter of thanks has been received from Bransby. Please continue to save your stamps, leave about ½” border all around the edge and bring them along to any meeting. Eve will send them on to Bransby. They also accept old stamp collections and albums.

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- (iii) *Defibrillator* – A letter of thanks has been received from the Memorial Hall Committee for our donation of £30 towards the purchase of a defibrillator.
- (iv) *Foster home needed for a pony*: Wolfwood, a charity involved primarily in rescuing and rehoming dogs, have written to us asking if any member would be able to give a pony a foster home. For more info contact them directly on mobile: 07931 220 094 email:wildlife@wolfwood.co.uk or visit their website [www.wolfwood.co.uk](http://www.wolfwood.co.uk)
- (v) *Info circulated via email* – from time to time we circulate information we think will be of interest to our members. Eve asked those present if they would like us to continue doing so, a show of hands indicated the majority of members attending would like to continue receiving information in this way.

Eve welcomed John Cunningham, Field Officer for World Horse Welfare (WHW) who gave an informative talk on the work of the WHW. For more information go to [www.worldhorsewelfare.org](http://www.worldhorsewelfare.org). If you have concerns for the welfare of a horse ring the Welfare Hotline 01953 498 682 or email: [info@worldhorsewelfare.org](mailto:info@worldhorsewelfare.org)

**Next meeting: Tuesday, 12 May 2015 - AGM**  
**Hest Bank Memorial Hall, LA2 6JB**  
**Please come along and bring a friend**