

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of general meeting held on 10 September 2019

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed everyone to the meeting. There have been no new members since the July meeting. The membership total at September 2019 is 171 however there are 11 subscriptions overdue from May 2018 and 15 subs overdue from May 2019. Reminders have been sent.
2. **Apologies:** Sue Armitage, Gillian McClements.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting:** the minutes were approved following an amendment to include apologies from Kate Lennox.
4. **Matters Arising:** there were no matters arising.
5. **BHS Horse Safety leaflets** a batch of leaflets have been delivered to Heysham Driving Test Centre for distribution to learner drivers taking their test.
6. **New concessionary BW, Coldwell Horseshoe Route, near Silverdale** – earlier this year the Group made a donation towards user friendly gates ie for horse rider, tramper scooters and walkers. A local horse rider contacted us with a query about the two gates installed to date. We arranged a site visit and were pleased to find the gates installed were of a type accessible to horse riders with one well set back from the road so riders were in a safer place while using the gate and both gates open both ways. However we found one gate did swing back quite quickly once pushed and did not give the rider enough time to get through. A second smaller gate did not swing back with as much force but still closed quite quickly. A letter has been sent to ask if modifications could be made to these gates and any others planned for the route. We thought other users such as tramper scooters may experience similar difficulties too.
7. **NLBS tack sale – Sunday 20 October** – volunteers are required on the day and to donate sandwiches and cakes to be sold for refreshments. Posters were available at the meeting, they can also be downloaded from the website. Tables £15, to book please email vicechair@nlbs.org.uk
8. **Bridleway Research – possible routes for investigation** – a list of 21 routes thought to be worth researching before 2026 have been circulated via email. Please have a look at the list and if you are able to help with the process of research, please email: research@nlbs.org.uk.
9. **Any other business:**
 - (i) *Bridleway clearance near Farleton Fell* – it was proposed to engage a contractor to clear a very overgrown BW in this area. A reasonable quote had been received and was put to the meeting where a show of hands indicated the majority in favour and no objections. We will go ahead and instruct the contractor to proceed.
 - (ii) *Cumbria Bridleways Dalemain ride – Sunday 22th September 2019*
Further details and entry form to download:
www.bhs.org.uk/enjoyriding/eventsandcompetitions
 - (iii) *Holker Hall Pleasure Ride Sunday 29th September 2019*. Further details at www.furnessrda.org.uk or email info@furnessrda.co.uk
 - (iv) *Cumbria Bridleways Society 40th Anniversary* meeting 2nd November 2019 at Shap. CBS are appealing for anything of interest pertaining to CBS or their events over the last 4 decades. Please contact: Hilary Fell or Bridget Pickthall email: bridgetpickthall1@gmail.com
 - (v) BHS affiliation for events – NLBS is affiliated to BHS who provide insurance cover for our events. We have always undertaken a risk assessment prior to our events but it is noted that this is now compulsory.

Speaker: Chris Peat, BHS Regional Access & Bridleways Officer
“How to claim our bridleways before 2026”.

Chris outlined the process of researching possible routes, collecting evidence and making a claim

Next meeting: Tuesday, 12th November 2019
Hest Bank Memorial Hall, Hest Bank LA2 6JB
Please come along and bring a friend