

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

SECRETARY

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SECRETARY'S REPORT, 2009

HAWESWATER

Many meetings and letters attended and sent, continuing from 2007, to gain access at Gait Barrows Nature Reserve. Although access was not possible we did develop a working relationship with Natural England's access officer which could be useful in the future.

EQUESTRIAN BUSINESS

We wrote a letter in support of an equestrian business in the area.

BMW

We were asked by BHS Access Dept. to write to all local BMW garages and head office, regarding the diversion of a BW in Oxford that is a 2000year old Right of Way. The ROW was downgraded to a cycle track, thus barring horse riders.

MARY TOWNELEY LOOP

A letter was sent to Rochdale CC regarding the re-opening of a long closed quarry which would mean quarry lorries using Rooley Moor Road. This is another ancient highway built for pack horses, not quarry lorries.

YORKSHIRE DALES

A letter to YDNP as an advert for Settle Loop said it takes a day to ride!! Their reply to my letter was to say that the day included travelling to Settle, saddling up, riding round and driving home!

RURAL FUTURES

A letter to congratulate them on opening a new bridleway from Paythorne to Gisburn.

LIVERY YARD A6

Letters written and meetings attended re proposed Livery Yard, A6 near Crag Bank.

BARKING GATE

Meeting with farmer from Barking Gate Farm, Wray, plus letter to Tarja Wilson, LCC, in support of proposed bridleways from Barking Gate to Low Gill which are now rideable!! To develop a circular route from Dunsop Bridge to Wray.

LUNDSFIELD

Meetings and letters attended and sent regarding bridleway proposal from Nether Kellet to Bolton le Sands. The Ramblers Association has objected to the route which has stymied any progress at the moment.

HORSES ON CYCLE PATHS IN LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE

A report was sent to Alasdair Simpson, Snr Cycling Officer, LCC. Attended two Lancashire Local meetings where the above was discussed and voted upon. On both occasions the Councillors voted unanimously in our favour. A trial programme of access is in place to implement this.

COASTAL ACCESS

Letters sent to Defra and MPs re horse access onto the proposed coastal routes.

BORROWDALE, LAKE DISTRICT

Letter sent to LDNP re upgrading of footpath to bridleway status to join two bridleways. This would make a continuous route from Honister Pass to Swineside, Catbells. There is only a short section that is not bridleway and is track as the rest.

CANTSFIELD

Letters and meetings sent and attended regarding bridleway route across a river where the ford was washed away years ago. Diversion agreed upon and all set to go when Otters were found in the vicinity. This is still ongoing.

BORROWDALE, EDEN DISTRICT

Letter sent to Eden DC regarding proposed development of holiday lodges in Borrowdale, near Tebay. Planning has been refused, but Eden DC fear that the developers will try again with different format.

HORSE OWNERSHIP SURVEY

A horse count was completed, then a survey conducted into the cost of horse ownership and a report written of the results obtained. This gave an indication of the economic input from horse owners into our local economy. This report has been posted on our website and distributed to a number of people, Lancaster District Officers and Councillors, Lancashire County Council Officers and Councillors, organisations, educational establishments and equine societies.