



NEWSLETTER December 2022

Merry Christmas

Chairperson Report

I am pleased to be able to report that our Footpath Group has been acknowledged by Lancashire County Council as providing a voluntary service within West Lancashire. This success has resulted in two benefits:

- We have received funding to help us publish our activities and try to recruit new members.
- We have been approached by West Lancashire CVS for inclusion in their Directory of Voluntary Organisations. The directory is used widely by organisations and individuals.

Thanks to David Worrall as both these results are due to the effort he has made to publish us and increase our membership.

In November Gwen Veevers and I attended a Webinar organised by Ramblers “Rights of Way Law for Beginners”. It was reassuring and interesting. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been sent to the Committee members and if any individual members would like a copy please contact the membership secretaries.

Committee issues

Since the last Newsletter in September there have been 2 changes to the committee; Tommy Wadkin has resigned as footpath inspector after a number of years’ service. During that time he identified and lead on a number of walks new to the group and we all became accustomed to seeing him with his secateurs, hammer and footpath way markers. Thanks Tommy from all the members.

Gwen Veevers has volunteered to join the committee and take up the role of footpath inspector. Gwen is a regular walker with our group and others and has already dealt with a number of footpath issues which have been notified to WLFPG.

Some more information about that later in the Newsletter. Thank you Gwen.

The committee still has a vacancy for a Secretary. Anyone who may consider taking up this role would be very welcome. Just mention it to one of the committee, a walk leader or send me a message via the contact us email. Committee members can be contacted directly through the West Lancashire Footpath Group website, www.westlancsfootpathgroup.org.uk using the Contact Us tab.

Subscriptions

The membership year runs from January to December; so it is time again to request your membership subscription. As mentioned in the September Newsletter we have been able to keep the fee at £5 for individual membership and £10 for a family membership. I think most people will agree that this is good value. This year we are on target to reach 24 guided walks.

If at all possible please pay by bank transfer to:

West Lancashire Footpath Group

TSB

Sort code: 77-57-01

Account No. 305 695 560.

The walks programme

Once again this quarter's walk programme has been very successful. Glorious autumn colours and mild weather quite late into the season.

Once again the leaders have sought out and done reconnaissance to update and vary the walks on offer. Fortunately this effort has been rewarded by good turnout with happy walkers.

The role of walk leader is essential to the continuance of the group. Any member who would consider leading a walk can volunteer to our Rambles Secretary, Ann Robinson, or speak to any committee member.

The next 3 monthly walks programme is on the website and some paper copies are being issued to attendees of walks.

The next walk programme dates and locations are included below with postcodes, "what 3 words" and grid references.

08 January 2023.

12 February 2023

12 March 2023

25 January 2023.

22 February 2023

29 March 2023

Walks January to March 23

January

Sunday 8th, The Sparrowhawk, Southport Old Road, Formby, L370AB

SD311099, w3w//baking.prefer.never// Gwen

Roadside parking please

Wednesday 25th The Eagle and Child, Maltkin Lane, Bispham Green, L403SG

SD536277, w3w//vacancies.fittingly.recorder// Ann

Permission given to use the car park. Drinks afterwards???

February

Sunday 12th, Marl Cop, Bretherton, PR269BD

SD481206, w3w//filled.necklaces.riverbed// Geoff

Wednesday 22nd, Banks Hoole Lane CP, Banks, PR98BD

SD390207, w3w//newly.spite.tags// Avril

March

Sunday 12th, Holdi. Ormskirk Road, St. Helens. WA117TA

SD 467026, w3w//idea.slurs.actors// Geoff and Joan

Park off Bushey Lane at side of restaurant

Wednesday 29th Rufford Church, Church Road, L401TA

SD464156, w3w//locate.decimals.skinning// Joan and Steve

This will be a different walk from the one on the November program

All walks are approximately 5 miles and are easy/ moderate rating. All starting at 1PM.

Communications with members.

The Newsletter and walk programme is sent out by email to FPG members. There are also versions on the webpage.

www.westlancsfootpathgroup.org.uk

The web page has a very easy to use “contact us” tab which sends an email to the appropriate committee member for action.

The tab “Reported Problems” is currently being updated by Gwen to show the footpath issues that have been notified to us and the action we have been able to take, with pictures and footpath numbers where possible. In West Lancashire problems are referred to Lancashire County Council, Public Rights of Way (PROW) for action.

There is also a Facebook page ‘West Lancashire Footpath Group’. Ann regularly posts pictures from the walks on this page.

Committee from 10th November 2022

Chair: Gaynor Culshaw 07779 089 507

Secretary: Post Vacant

Treasurer: Karen Jennings 07383 105920

Membership Secretaries: Marcia & David Worrall 07809 704999

Rambles Secretary: Ann Robinson 07443 533354

Website Manager: Eric Crichton

Footpath Inspectors: Doreen Bird 07746 014671 and Gwen Veevers 07719 889210

Registered Charity Number 511764