

Cumbria and the Lakes Joint Local Access Forum

Minutes of meeting on Wednesday 17th June, 10am, Murley Moss Kendal followed by a tour ofSizergh grounds looking at accessibility improvements led by National Trust

Attendees CALJLAF members: Carole Barr (Chair) Cllr Andrew Semple (Cumberland Member) Cllr Will Clark (Westmorland and Furness and LDNPA Member) Sabine Mosner (LDNPA member) Annie Wallen Ken Taylor Peter Sapsford Ron Lyon Officers in attendance: Hazel Wainwright (Westmorland and Furness Council) Chris Graham and Joseph Fawkes (Cumberland Council) Emma Moody (LDNPA, secretariat for 2026/27)	
1. Welcome, apologies, public participation	Members welcomed to the meeting. Apologies received from Judith Neave, Christine Slater, Nicola Abbatt, John Crosbie, Ben Mayfield, Ric Outhwaite and Steve Pighills
2. Declarations of interest	Ken Taylor declared an interest in the Ring Ouzel item as he is also a member of BMC.
3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Will reported that the Grasmere to Dunmail consultation now complete. Minutes agreed subject to amendment re King Charles iii path name.
4. Forum membership recruitment	Agree to recruit. Landowners needed – EM to look into potential reps. Fellrunning groups? EM to prepare an advert to go out to. Ken to send article to LDNPA volunteers. All to circulate to contacts.
5. Forum member communication and Admin	New website, use Laf@lakedistrict.gov.uk email address. Expenses form to be circulated with minutes (EM)
6. Rights of Way orders	Sabine and Will commented that committees value input of LAF on orders, even if brief supportive comments, but consider for some whether there is a need. Collective response helpful as LAF. Other body's comments are helpful, so share if you can. Important that expertise brought into responses. All responses agreed, thank you for work on these.
7. Fencing on open access land	Encouraging that schemes are considering access. Skiddaw Forest CWT plan – good scheme, useful input regarding open access which they responded to. New policy (item 8) will enable us to provide brief response attaching policy and mentioning salient points. All responses agreed by CALJLAF, thank you to all for work on these.
8. Woodland policy (Ken)	Policy approved by CALJLAF. Thanks to Ken, Peter and Nicola for their works on this.
9. Updates from appointing bodies a) Cumberland Council b) Westmorland & Furness c) LDNPA	Cumberland: Update on St Bees, made complicated as there is no rollback in place. Discussion around cyclical surveys and need to check routes on a regular basis. Discussion around volunteers doing surveys. TTRO at Millom not now being taken forward. Good to see WAF Way on course to open in September

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10. Updates from LAF members on meetings attended: a) LDNPP b) North Pennines c) others	LDNPP – Revised Plan has been adopted by partners and is going to LDNPA Authority next week with a recommendation to approve. Carole has been attending a lot of meetings on behalf of CALJLAF, but has become a bit disheartened due to the slow progress and amount of time commitment relative to the output. North Pennine National Landscape, recently adopted management plan. LAF member in that area would be useful
11. Projects/issues, update a) Bailey Lane (Hazel) b) Parkamoor (Hazel) c) Accessible gates (Ron) d) UU policy (Emma) e) Ring Ouzels with BMC (Ken) f) 5 miles with smiles (Emma) g) Urban Good map (Emma) h) Contact with Northumberland LAF i) BEAT route (Annie)	a)Bailey Lane – Public Inquiry to be held 30th June. b)Parkamoor – see Geoff Wilson’s report on recent meeting. Conflict in users motorised/non-motorised has been ongoing for many years. Considering future use and maintenance issues – considering improving track to encourage people to stay on route, similar model to Tilberthwaite. Illegal use is the issue beyond UCR. Action: LAF to be invited to future meetings of groups and Hazel to circulate report from meeting. c)Circulated different gates and DR opinions on gates. Useful discussion on different accessibility of gates and the importance of it. EM to circulate PDF version. d)Suggest meeting with UU for future session. Important we are involved in discussions about individual schemes such as Crummock, Blea Water etc. e)Positive to see people working together on this, support approach. Bird watching monitoring volunteers will be needed next year, if anyone is interested get in touch with Ken. f)All agreed to share with their networks to encourage participation. h) Ken to make contact with Northumberland LAF to share good practice. Sabine raised importance of working across boundaries with other areas. EM to share email contact. i)BEAT route, have just received funding from GDF, potentially invite to group to share plans. LAF have responded. Would be appropriate to invite to Muncaster (action EM).
12. AOB	Will raised the need for progress on Stockghyll Force, Ambleside. Not a right of way but important access on WAF land. EM to follow up with Property contact at WAF.
13. Dates and themes for future meetings	Autumn full meeting at Muncaster proposed with BEAT route, EM to arrange. Separate meeting with UU agreed, Carole to make contact. Fairfield Horseshoe, access through lower ground suggested as a future topic – to check progress with Nick Thorne, may have been sorted. It was suggested that we should discuss visitor levies at a future meeting. New Cumbria Combined Authority, agreed to put on future agenda and importance of engaging at the right time.