

Cumbria and Lakes Joint Local Access Forum

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 10:00am on Microsoft Teams

Present Carole Barr (Chair), Ron Lyon, Judith Neaves, Peter Sapsford, Steve Pighills, Cllr Will Clark, Cllr Denise Rollo Officers: Hazel Wainwright (W&FC), Louise Hart (W&FC), David Gibson (CC), Chris Graham (CC), Emma Moody (LDNPA), Will Hinchliffe (LDNPA) Others: Ian Brodie (Open Spaces Society and Ramblers)	
1. Welcome, apologies, public participation Apologies: Ben Mayfield, John Crosbie, Sabine Mosner, Annie Wallen, Christine Slater, Ken Taylor, Nicola Abbatt Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. One request for public participation was received from Ian Brodie.	
2. Declarations of interest - None	
3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising Item 3 – CB checked minutes and found they were fine Item 4 – EM confirmed all signed were in place, path now reopened HW approached Highways about attending this meeting, but no one was available. They have offered to attend a future meeting. Item 5 – EM circulated reports Item 6 – CB circulated the draft. Consultation received 1600 responses. NA circulated the links Item 7 – RL explained that the trials did not take place CB sent a letter Item 8 – subgroup report was circulated Item 9 – KT circulated handbook	
4. Ian Brodie Raised concerns that alternative routes were not being provided when PROW were closed using a TTRO. He asked that both councils be more flexible and consider advertising alternatives that use minor roads. Authority response was that they can't promote a road route without a risk assessment, or without knowing if they're safe. Time taken to assess isn't workable. In cases where safety measures exist, road alternatives are being provided. Could be an opportunity to look at wording on notices e.g. "there is no alternative off-road route", "Use road network at your own risk".	
5. Rights of Way orders – accepted.	
6. Updates from appointing bodies (see written reports for full detail) Cumberland Council – accepted. CB thanked DG for all his work over the years and wished him luck in his retirement. Westmorland & Furness Council – accepted. LDNPA – accepted.	

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7. Updates from LAF members on meetings attended: a) Lake District National Park Partnership Plan b) North Pennines National Landscapes Management Plan c) Others Lake District National Park Partnership Plan – mentioned above. North Pennines National Landscape Management Plan – consultation ended 10/2/26. Active Travel – Grasmere to Dunmail Raise – consultation open until 2/3/26. WC urged members to comment.	ACTION – CB to collate LAF comments
8. Ongoing projects/issues, update a) Bailey Lane b) Elterwater Quarry c) W&FC PSPO orders d) Farming in Protected Landscapes e) King Charles III England Coast Path e) Others Bailey Lane – A public inquiry has been scheduled for 30th June – 3rd July in Grange. Elterwater Quarry – the judicial review upheld LDNPA decision to allow development. W&FC PSPO orders – consultation on fly-camping in additional areas finished on 9/2/26. The dog on leads portion was removed due to the number of objections. Farming in Protected Landscapes – a new round of funding has been announced and confirmed for 3 years. King Charles III England Coast Path – the collapse of a section of St Bees Head will need realignment. Discussion around the Irt, Esk, and Duddon river crossings are positive so far.	
9. Cumbria Geoconservation Special interest group of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. They state that local geological sites could do with some publicity. www.cbdc.org.uk/cumbria_geoconservation	
10. Woodland Planting on Access Land (see report) Send any comments to KT.	
11. AOB – None	
12. Dates and themes for future meetings – Next meeting suggested for Wednesday 17th June at Muncaster. Fairfield path issue suggested future visit/discussion. The meeting adjourned at 11:32.	