

East Lancashire LDWA Group Meeting

Tuesday 1 September, 2026 at 7.30pm

Venue: Sea View Inn, 2 Preston Road, Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, PR6 7HH

Present

Steve Clark	Secretary
Alma Walsh	Treasurer
Nick Halford	Walks Secretary (Chair for this meeting)
Viv Lee	Social Secretary
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Paul Banks	Ordinary Committee Member
Stephen Hindley	Ordinary Committee Member
Gordon Stone	Ordinary Committee Member
Sue Boardman	EL member

Apologies

Pauline Melia	Chair
Caz Tennant	Events Secretary
Hilary Scott	IT Secretary
Jeanette Banks	Ordinary Committee Member

Minutes of last meeting

Dave and Alma have read the minutes and confirm that they are a correct record of the meeting.

Matters arising from last meeting

ACTION Pauline to write to the NEC to seek leave to enact this change to the club's constitution by means of a vote at the next group meeting.

Pauline

I have discussed your request with Helen Strong, LDWA secretary. This is our response.

Thank you for letting us know about East Lancashire's proposal to increase the maximum Committee size from 12 to 15, by adding three further Ordinary Member posts.

We've checked the proposed amendment against your Group Constitution and the LDWA Bylaws, and there's no issue: Clause 5.3 is entirely a matter for the Group's own discretion, and the change doesn't conflict with Bylaw 3 or the model Local Group Constitution. The National Executive Committee is happy to give prior approval to this amendment, as required under Clause 10.1 before it can be put to a vote.

To complete the process:

- The amendment should go to your November AGM as special business, requiring a 75% majority of those present and voting (Clause 6.6).
- Please ensure at least 4 weeks' notice is given ahead of the AGM, per Clause 10.2.
- Once passed, please send us the revised Constitution reflecting the updated Clause 5.3 for our records.

One thing worth flagging to your Committee, though not a condition of our approval: the quorum for Committee and General Meetings (Clauses 5.9 and 6.2) is a fixed number (6, with 3 being officers/primary members) rather than a proportion of the total Committee. With a larger Committee, you may want to revisit this figure now or at some point, though that's entirely your Group's call.

Good luck with the AGM.

Best wishes,
Graham

This was **discussed** by the meeting and we will continue with this at the AGM in November. The rules on quorum are to remain as is.

ACTION Steve C to give at least 4 weeks notice ahead of the AGM.

Discharged Actions from previous meetings

Caz:

- a) Email sent to West Lancs. They then sent out an email to their members about the issue.
- b) Strider article submitted and accepted for the December issue.
- c) Refund process implemented, as decided in the meeting.

Brought forward actions

ACTION Caz suggested that she would investigate other possible sites to improve for the benefit of long distance walking.

UPDATE

We await the invoice for the work of improving Gorse Gully from United Utilities. I have chased them up.

ACTION Caz undertook to provide an article and photos for Strider.

UPDATE Strider article still to do, when I get around to going and taking some photos.

Chair and Secretary update

Nick opened the meeting.

Steve C reported that admin rights have been obtained for Stephen Hindley on the EL website and that Stephen has been registered as the primary contact for the digital platform development for EL.

Treasurer's report – Alma

Current Account Balance £230.52

Savings Account Balance £13802.05

Payments received for the Ghyll Head 2026 accommodation to date amount to £2392.00

£4500.00 is still ring fenced in respect of the Martyn Greaves grant – we still await the invoice from UU after the completion of remedial work at Gorse Gully.

When taking the above into account, our net figure over the two accounts is £7140.57

Alma

Events Secretary – Caz

Two Crosses event.

The event has been set up and published on SI, but is not open for booking yet. All changes discussed in the July meeting have been implemented.

Caz

Walk's Secretary Report – Nick

Nothing specific to report.

Nick

IT Secretary Report – Hilary

The website is up to date and FaceBook is updated regularly. Thanks to Stephen Hindley for volunteering to take the new website forward. I look forward to working with him and handing the IT position on.

Hilary

Social Secretary Update – Viv

Viv wanted to draw attention to the following social event:

22 – 25 January 2027 Old Vicarage Ambleside B & B.

Book direct (tel 015394 33364) with the B & B, then let Viv know for evening meals. Led walks on two days. Evening meal out x 3. Contact Viv re evening meals. This B & B has a swimming pool, hot tubs and sauna, so swimwear required. At least 7 people booked to date.

It was **DECIDED** that the subsidy for the meal on the Christmas Cracker be increased from £10 to £15 (helpers on the Two Crosses/100).

Appleby is being considered for the social event for July 2027. Other suggestions still welcome at this time.

Viv

Agenda Items

a) **Caz Tennant. Two Crosses 2027.** United Utilities are carrying out major works in the Entwistle/Wayoh area, starting Sept 2026, running to summer 2027.

The event has been set up and published on SI, but is not open for booking yet. All changes discussed in the July meeting have been implemented. Bookings were due to open on 7th September, but I am pushing this back as there are some issues I would like to resolve before we start taking entrants money.

United Utilities are carrying out major works in the Entwistle/Wayoh area, starting Sept 2026, running to summer 2027. Car parking and footpaths will be affected. We will need to reroute (possibly quite significantly) and the locating of Checkpoint 4 may be a major issue. Also, potentially allow extra time for entrants to complete the event, depending on the length of any diversions.

Please see the link below for more details of the work.

<https://www.norththornton-pc.gov.uk/news/post/58/improvement-works-at-wayoh-and-entwistle-reservoirs/>

I have contacted UU to get clarification and to see whether they will still allow us to use the car park for the checkpoint. Once I have any information, I will consult the group and we can decide upon the actions necessary. I will not open entries until we know that we can proceed. I am possibly being over cautious, but it is far easier to clarify first, than to deal with cancelling entries etc if it comes to worst case scenarios.

Thank you to Hilary, who made me aware of the works situation, which she found out about from her Rivington connections. I would have been completely clueless otherwise and possibly in a pickle.

This was **discussed** by the meeting. It was **DECIDED** to accept, Caz's wait and see approach with regard to opening the event on SI and to seek more information on the work being done by UU.

Any Other Business

None

Date and time of next meeting: The next EL meeting will be the AGM on Tuesday 3 November 2026, 7:30pm at the Sea View Inn, Whittle-le-Woods. Provisional running order for the AGM

- 1 6:30pm Hot pot supper
- 2 7:30pm AGM
- 3 8:30pm Talk and slide show

ACTION Steve C to approach John Cowburn for the above talk and slide show.