

East Lancashire LDWA Committee Meeting

Tuesday 20th February 2025 at 7.30pm

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

Present:

Pauline Melia	EL LDWA Chair
Jeanette Banks	EL LDWA Secretary
Alma Walsh	EL LDWA Treasurer
Nick Halford	EL LDWA Walks Secretary
Hilary Scott	EL LDWA IT Secretary
Viv Lee	EL LDWA Social Secretary
Caz Tennant	EL LDWA Events Secretary
Dave Walsh	EL LDWA Ordinary Committee Member
Paul Banks	EL LDWA Ordinary Committee Member
Roger Jackson	EL LDWA Ordinary Committee Member
Steve Clarke	EL LDWA Ordinary Committee Member
Sue Boardman	EL LDWA Ordinary Member

Apologies:

Gordon Stone	EL LDWA Ordinary Committee Member
--------------	-----------------------------------

Minutes of last meeting:

Pauline and Hilary have read the minutes and confirm that they are a correct record of the meeting.

Matters arising from last meeting:

ICE tags – Hilary received 32 requests for ICE tags. Most of them were distributed to members during the Two Crosses challenge walk event.

Pauline has forwarded a business case put together by Viv and Caz to the NEC. This is to request funds from the Martyn Greaves legacy being held by the NEC to repair badly damaged paths and steps on the EL Two Crosses Challenge Event route. The repairs would be Phase 3 and Phase 4 of Redisher Wood paths' repairs and for repairs to the Batridge Barn steps at Entwistle Reservoir. She is awaiting a response from the business case.

Pauline queried the dates of two holidays listed in the minutes of the last East Lancs LDWA meeting. It was confirmed that the 100 holiday commences on Friday 23rd May 2025 and the January 2026 Ambleside trip to the Old Vicarage is from 16th January 2026.

Chair and Secretary update:

Pauline thanked Hilary for arranging the very successful recent walking break to walk the Cleveland Way. 12 people attended the event.

Pauline explained that East Lancashire LDWA had missed the NEC local groups Zoom meeting this evening as it clashes with the East Lancashire committee meeting. Jeanette send apologies and this has been acknowledged.

An email has been received today from the NEC regarding the tender for the new LDWA website. Individuals are invited to request a copy of the draft tender documentation. Hilary has requested it and is still awaiting its arrival. Roger will also request a copy.

The NEC have communicated that there are to be only four LDWA email addresses assigned to each local group once the website is moved over to Office 365 (currently there is one for each Committee member). The suggested members are Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Walk's Secretary. Further LDWA addresses would incur a cost to the local group of £58 each. Pauline will respond to Chris Burrell to ask when the email changes will come in to effect.

Jeanette has been sent a number of documents recently (including Viv's communication to Bury Council regarding hazardous use of a footpath by bikes at Moor Bottom Road; food safety qualification certificates; marshal's feedback from Two Crosses CP7 etc) and is concerned that they are not being stored anywhere. It was agreed that Jeanette will place these and future communications onto the East Lancs LDWA back office. She will also add the up-dated EL Constitution.

Treasurer's report:

Alma provided and read her report as follows:

Current Account Balance £505.00 Savings Account Balance £9832.62

Two Crosses Accounts have been completed & have been submitted to the Events Secretary for her records. Breakdown of Income & Expenditure as follows.

Income: SI Entries £3848.94 + Badges £6.00 = £3854.94

Expenditure:

- Food & Sundries £1336.47 (Sundries under £25.00)*
- Van Hire & Fuel £221.92*
- Greenmount Hall £190.00*
- Soup £102.26*
- Parking £70.00*
- Gas Refills £69.30*
- Boot Covers £48.85*
- Printing £44.39*
- Sub Total £2083.19*

One-off investment purchases:

- Shelter & Gas Canister £228.00*
- Five Tables £162.99*
- Sub Total £390.99*

Grand Total £2474.18

Profit: £3854.94 - £2474.18 = £1380.76

Payments received for the 2025 100 accommodation to date amount to £3800.00.

When taking the above into account, our net figure over the two accounts is £6537.62.

Walk's Secretary Report:

Nick reported the following::

The Spring walks programme has been going well and I shall shortly be advertising dates for the Summer programme.

IT Secretary Report:

Hilary gave the following IT report:

Thank you to all those who have sent walk reports and pictures. The website and Facebook have been updated as far as possible but I do have a PC problem at the moment and will catch up when it is repaired.

Social Secretary Update:

Norfolk-Suffolk 100 Friday 28th May – Friday 30th May. 1 week self-catering at Alde Bay Farm, Aldeburgh, IP17 1PE. Sorry, fully booked. Meal booked for the Lighthouse Restaurant (lighthouserestaurant.co.uk) for Saturday 24th for marshals. Please select your meal choices and advise Viv of your food choices after the 1st May 2025, when the menu will have changed to the summer menu so they can be pre-ordered. Marshals will set up the Breakfast Stop venue for the 100 event following the meal.

Father's Day, Sunday 15th June 2025 – walk and Peel Tower opening for refreshments and cake, for donations to the Motor Neurone and Multiple Sclerosis Charities. Viv reported that she is still having some difficulty in booking Peel Tower for this EL LDWA annual event. The walk and event will still take place. Please contact Viv with offers of help on the day and for cake making.

Roger's Jolly Jaunt Bridlington trip Tuesday 1st July 2025 for 3 nights. Book your own accommodation and let Viv Lee know. There will be 2 days walking, 1 day boat trip and 3 evening meals at local hostels (details to follow for a pre-order from Viv). 14 have booked to date. If anyone else wishes to book, please contact Viv who can advise on accommodation being used by the trip members.

Real Ale Ramble. Neuadd Arms Hotel, Llanwrtyd Wells. Friday 21st Nov 2025 for 3 nights. Please book directly with the hotel (01591 610236) and let Viv Lee know for evening meals which will be taken in the hotel. 11 people booked to date.

Ghyll Head Outdoor Activity Centre, Bowness. 8th to 12th December 2025. Self catering. Sorry, fully booked. Viv is taking a reserve list in case of any cancellations. Please contact her if interested.

New Year away. Monday 29th December 2025 to 2nd January 2026. Neuadd Arms Hotel, Llanwrtyd Wells. Led walks each day. New Year's Eve meal, torch lit procession and live entertainment on the 31st December. Please book directly with the hotel (01591 610236) and let Viv Lee know for evening meals which will be taken in the hotel. 15 people booked to date.

The Old Vicarage, Ambleside. Friday 16th January 2026 for 3 nights. Please book directly with the B&B (01539 433364) and let Viv Lee know for evening meal bookings. 2 days led walks. Swimming Pool, Sauna and Hot Tub on site and included in cost of the accommodation.

Hazelwood House Keswick Friday 20th March 2026. One week self-catering in a shared house. 18 members are booked into the accommodation, which means it is fully booked. However Viv is taking a reserve list if anyone else is interested.

Events Secretary:

Caz read out her East Lancs LDWA Two Crosses Challenge Event Report. A copy of this is placed in the East Lancashire back office in the Two Crosses file. A copy of the report will be sent out with the minutes of this meeting to all members.

Caz gave thanks to everyone that volunteered in the preparations, the actual event and the aftermath of this year's Two Crosses event. She repeated that the event would not happen without our volunteers.

247 individuals completed the event. There were 9 non-finishers – 5 retired, 2 did not register finishing and 2 timed-out by marshals.

Total event profit - £1380.76

Agenda Items: Two Crosses Event Fees: Alma Walsh

Alma raised the concern that the East Lancashire LDWA Two Crosses event has remained the same price for 3 years at £11 for members and £16 for non-LDWA members. Since the last Two Crosses in 2024, there has been a significant increase in costs to the club to put on this event due to increased cost of living.

There was a 12.5% increase in food and sundries spend from 2024 to 2025. Soup production costs were up 37% in the same period. The profit made by EL is down 36.5% on the previous year.

The majority of Committee members agreed to a proposed increase to entry fees. In 2026, LDWA members will pay £15 and non-members will be charged an entry fee of £20.

Any Other Business:

Dave and Alma Walsh have kindly offered to host the 2025 Two Crosses/ 100 Party in their home. The date of the party will be Saturday 28th June 2025. Further details to be agreed.

Jeanette informed the meeting that Karen Wardle had been in touch regarding the April 2026 Alfa Travel holiday to Bognor Regis. Karen wishes to flag that there are only 4 places remaining on the holiday, during which the intention is to walk the South Downs Way. There is a double room with a sea view - £425 plus £35 per person for sea view, so £460 pp. There is also a twin room at £425 per person. Jeanette will advertise this with the next social update communication.

Meeting Closed at 9.05pm

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 10th June at 7.30pm at the Sea View Inn, Whittle-le-Woods