

## Minutes of East Lancashire LDWA Meeting

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7pm      Venue: Doffcocker Inn, 780 Chorley Road, Bolton, BL1 5QD

### 1      **Present:**

Pauline Melia	Chair
Hilary Scott	IT Secretary
Viv Lee	Social Secretary
Nick Halford	Walks Secretary
Caroline Tennant	Events Secretary
Alma Walsh	Treasurer
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Roger Jackson	Ordinary Committee Member
Stephen Clark	Ordinary Committee Member
Gordon Stone	Ordinary Committee Member
Phil Chapman	EL LDWA Member
Sue Boardman	EL LDWA Member
Ann Finnigan	EL LDWA Member
Paul Raine	EL LDWA Member
Peter Balshaw	EL LDWA Member
Sue Boardman	EL LDWA Member

### **Apologies:**

Jeanette Banks	Secretary
Paul Banks	Ordinary Committee Member
Alma Walsh	Treasurer
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member

### 2      **Minutes of last meeting:**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last EL LDWA meeting by Caz Tennant and Viv Lee.

### 3      **Matters arising:**

a. The cost of the four gates for the Two Crosses Challenge Event was less than estimated. There is the sum of £915 left after payment of the bill. This money is to be spent on further improvements to the Event route in line with the legacy funding. CT to progress.  
Caroline Tennant advised that plaques for the gates with Martyn's name on have received and are ready to be installed.

b. An obituary for John Pickton has been sent to Strider.

**4 Chair and Secretary's update:**

There have been a good number of people on recent walks.  
The Ambleside weekend was a great success.  
The Marshals walk was challenging but useful preparation for the event.

**5 Treasurer's update:** Alma provided the report, as follows:

'Current Account Balance £541.66

Savings Account Balance £8321.05

All the EBB 100 monies have now been distributed. £136 is ring fenced for Ghyll Head 2024 and £450 ring fenced for the Scottish 100 2024.

£1985 has been paid to Bury MBC for the installation of four new gates and a further £100 for the four gate plaques funded from the Martin Greaves Grant of £3000 leaving a balance of £915 in this fund.

S.I. Entry payments received to date in respect of the Two Crosses 2024 amount to £3039.75.

Expenditure payments made in respect of the Two Crosses to date amount to £544.21. When taking all of the above into account, our net figure over the two accounts is £7361.71'.

**6 Events Secretary's update:** Report received from Caroline Tennant:

'Two Crosses event was full on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024. There is a waiting list facility being used for the first time this year. Approximately 50 people currently on the list. As entrants inform us of cancellations (that they do not want to transfer) and places are being offered to people on the wait list.

Marshals walk took place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. 14 completed the short route and 10 continued to complete the long route. No major issues were found on the route, apart from a rotten sign post which CT will replace before the event.

Final info has been updated on the website by Hilary, including the updated route description.

A final email has gone out to entrants highlighting where to find information, general reminders and asking to let us know if they cannot come so we can offer up their place.

Car parking - Viv has managed to contact the cricket club. They are unable to help as they have had an extension built, so now have very limited parking.

Staffing - Roger has made a few final tweaks to the roster, as availability of marshals has changed, but we are covered in all areas.'

7 **Walk Secretary's update:** Nick reported:

'I am pleased to report an upturn of interest in our social walks. The suggested dates of the Spring Programme have been filled, and numbers on recent walks have been very good.

It has been noted that one recent plodder had 24 walkers, so although we have very few plodders nowadays it is clear that there is a strong demand, and I would like to see more in our programme. I know Roger is planning one, but a couple more would help re-establish plodders as an East Lancs thing, so if anyone has any 10 mile or so walks in mind, and is happy to go a bit slower if necessary, please pick any Wednesday or Sunday that's not already taken and come forward. Long term the best people to lead plodders would be the people on the plodders, but I think we need to get them going again to see that'.

8 **Social Secretary's Update:** Viv Lee reported the following:

Ambleside Jan 27-29 2025.

Staying at the Old Vicarage, 2 led walks, 3 meals out. Swimming pool, sauna, hot tub. Please book your room in September 2024 and let Viv know.

Peel Tower. Sunday June 16th. Volunteer helpers and cake makers are required for this East Lancs charity event. Funds raised are split between MS Trust and MNDA. There is a club walk calling at the Tower but we do need help there as well, so please consider this if you are not walking.

The Christmas Cracker meal will be at Curley's Fishery, George's Lane, Horwich on Sunday 15th December. Make a note of the date in your diary. Further details later in the year. Jeanette will send out updated events information to EL members.

9 **IT Secretary's update:** Hilary submitted the following report:

The website is up to date apart from a walk report from the Edenfield Round and the Marshal's walk. We did have an attempted scam on Facebook with fake people trying to sell Two Crosses places. The posts were taken down quickly when it was realised and as far as we know no one was scammed.

10 **Website:** Roger Jackson has been working as part of the team looking at a newer website for the LDWA. As part of this exercise Roger recommended that EL start putting walk reports and pictures in the walks database part of the existing site. After discussion it was decided to leave the reports as they are presented now although it was accepted that this will probably change in the future.

11 **100 breakfast stop coordinator from 2026:** East Lancs has manned the 100 breakfast stop for many years. Viv Lee will step down from the coordinator role after the 100 in 2025. So far no one has offered to take over this role. After discussion it was decided to put forward the following 4 points for people to comment on/respond to. This discussion to be continued when members have had chance

to have their say.

1. Should EL continue to man the breakfast stop?
2. Is there anyone willing to coordinate this role?
3. If there is not the appetite to man the breakfast stop, should EL offer to man another checkpoint on the route? This would be a less onerous role needing less people.
4. Is there anyone willing to coordinate this role?

Hilary Scott pointed out that it is not a requirement of the coordinator to arrange accommodation for helpers - just to lead a team for the time required. Volunteers to make their own arrangements to travel/stay. A big factor will be the location of the 100; there is likely to be more response for a 100 that is easily reachable.

Please would any members wishing to comment/ volunteer contact Jeanette the secretary before the next meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, on [eastlancashire@ldwa.org.uk](mailto:eastlancashire@ldwa.org.uk)

- 12 **Constitution Amendments:** It was decided to defer the 2 amendments until the next meeting. Pauline Melia to email her findings so they can be studied before the meeting. Alma Walsh has already proposed an amendment to the finance section.

13 **Any other business:**

Pauline Melia has communicated with Karen Pickersgill and explained that EL will not be taking further the role of hosting the Local Groups weekend in November. The original proposal was declined due to venue unsuitability and there are no other suitable options locally. Karen thanked the group for the work already done.

11 **Date, time and venue of next meeting:**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm at Doffcocker Inn, 780 Chorley Road Bolton.