

PENDLE LOCAL NATURE RESERVE STEERING GROUP

DATE: | Tuesday 17 September 2019 **TIME:** 10 am – 12 noon **LOCATION:** Members Room, Nelson Town Hall
Present

Carol Riley	Alkincoates	CR	Paul Clough	Greenfield	PC	Alison Plackett	Gibhill	AP
John Lamb	Wildlife Trust	JL	Lee Johnson	Borough of Pendle	LJ	John Plackett	Gibhill	JP
Louise Cooper	BOP	LC						

Apologies

Dave McQuillan	Alkincoates	DM	David Penney	Greenfield	DP	Malcolm Linford	Lomeshay	ML
John Belbin	Ball Grove	JB	Les Cromey	Ball Grove	LC			

MIN NO		ACTION
2.	<u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u> DATE: Tuesday 3 December 2019 TIME: 10 am – 12 noon LOCATION: Yates Room, Nelson Town Hall	
3.	<u>Alkincoates</u> Carol Riley reported the following on behalf of Alkincoates: a. Bob Black, one of Alkincoates long standing members, has sadly passed away. b. An oak tree will be planted in memory of Christine Shearer. c. The walks through the reserve for the walking festival were very successful. Two ladies from Marl, Germany attended and were very impressed with the area and the greenery. d. The wildflower meadow had a beautiful display of flowers eventually this year. e. The new pond has been dug out and thanks needs to go to the builders from John Connelley. f. There has been a problem with sheep falling into the pond and drowning. Louise will get Matt to price for stock fencing around the pond. Alison suggested planted a native hedge alongside the fence for wildlife. Lee would prefer to re-instate the drystone walling. g. The group will be applying for LEF funding for a multiuser footpath and they need 20% match funding. h. Paul suggested approaching Tesco for funding. i. Carol has heard there will be a lantern walk in the woodland. Lee does not know anything about it, but will look into it. Carol is concerned it will disturb the wildlife. j. A barn owl has been spotted in the 1 st phase of the new area.	
4.	<u>Ball Grove</u> a. Alison is almost certain she spotted a grey partridge in the pasture.	
5.	<u>Gibhill</u> Alison Plackett reported the following on behalf of Gibhill: a. There has been no further invasion from sheep or cows. There are good numbers of butterflies.	
6.	<u>Greenfield</u> Paul Clough reported the following on behalf of Greenfield: a. All the steps have been replaced with the help of the Goodlife Project. b. The large vetran Ash tree that hangs over the road and is near power lines has ash die back. It has been reduced. There were some complaints, but once the situation was explained some people were understanding. c. Lee reported the guidelines at the minute for ash die back are as follows: If the tree is near a road, path or its dangerous then it should be removed. If it is in the middle of a woodland then it should be left. d. The group would like to make a wildflower area in the meadow near the cottages. At the moment it is full of bindweed and blackthorn. John L stated this area used to be a wildflower meadow. Lee will meet with Paul to have a look at the area. Alison stated it would need a management plan. e. The pond does not have many species and is full of grass, there is a possibility they will loose the pond. The dragonfly numbers have been reduced this year.	

7. **Lomeshaye**

- a. Lee reported the ESIF bid is going through. This means £25k of work can be carried out on new projects within the reserve. The list of work so far includes: Notice boards, wheelchair friendly paths, seating areas, new roof on Johnathans hide.
- b. Lee is applying for an HLF grant for the sort out the Pygmy weed problem. Alison stated it is really important this is sorted out quickly. Lee is looking at a £1 million grant and this will also sort out the boardwalks.
- c. John stated that Lomeshaye is a BHS site due to the dragon flies.

Malcolm provided the following report via email:

"Firstly massive thank you to Lee for his role and part played in gaining the re-instatement of the ESIF grant.

As regards the New Zealand Pygmy Weed again thanks to Lee for his hard work investigated actions and out-comes.

We gained a grant in 2009 from 'The Guardian' newspaper and it was presented by Lucy Siegle. She subsequently came back to visit Lomeshaye and the school three times. I notified her of the present predicament at Lomeshaye and she wishes to become involved and assist. We are sorting out a visit by her [and camera crew?] so watch out for future appearances by Lee on the 'One Show' ?!

Much work has been carried out by the Lancashire Constabulary police cadets. They have created a much nicer meandering path from the top of the reserve over the new section to the bridge at Churchill Way. They hacked an entrance through dense undergrowth and shrubbery and it is a massive improvement. This point might be argued by the one path user, I suspect a worker commuting through, who keeps damaging/removing the new path waymarkers and barriers. They have also at long last cut down the Willows which bounded the path leading to the wheelchair accessible dipping platform. The other areas where we cut down self-seeded Willow has regenerated remarkably quickly. This work did meet some displeasure from the bird watching community but I think the annoyance will have now been muted by the outcomes which are pleasing. They are also in the process of applying for grants to purchase 75 native tree saplings to plant in the up-stream area, which is rather desolate, and benches and a picnic table for the same area."

8. **Quarry Hill**

- a. No matters arising.

9. **Lancashire Wildlife Trust**

John Lamb reported the following on behalf of Lancashire Wildlife Trust:

- a. John reported on the success of the Grassland project, which has now come to an end. He will forward the report to be distributed with the minutes.

JL

10. **Wildlife in Pendle**

- a. Alison thinks she has spotted a Montagu Harrier near Laith Farm. Paul also thinks he has seen it near Wycoller. There is a possibility it is a Leucistic Buzzard, if it is a buzzard it will stay over winter.

11. **PEN Funding**

- a. Carol was very disappointed with the remaining amounts of PEN funding. After looking into it Louise realised that some spends from 2008/2009 had been included in the spreadsheet. Louise will look into it again, contact accounts and email everyone their remaining figures.

LC

12. **Any Other Business**

- a. The Green Infrastructure and Local Plan were discussed. Again it was pointed out that there should be more biodiversity included in the infrastructure
- b. PBC have declared a climate emergency and are setting up a task group to decide the measures to achieve their target of zero carbon emissions by 2030. Ideally they would like someone from the LNR steering group to attend the meetings.