

## **West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee**

**Tuesday, 10th September, 2013 at 10.00 am in The Barlow, Edgworth, Bolton**

### **Agenda**

#### **No. Item**

- 1. Election of Chair of Area Management Committee**  
Members are asked to nominate and appoint a Chair for the Management Committee to replace the previous Chair, until the July 2014 meeting only.
- 2. Apologies For Absence**
- 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - 23 July 2012** (Pages 1 - 4)  
Members are asked to agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 23 July 2012.
- 4. Matters Arising**
- 5. Terms of Reference and Membership of Area Management Committee** (Pages 5 - 8)  
Members are asked to note the attached.
- 6. WPM Revenue Budget** (Pages 9 - 10)  
Members are asked to note the financial information provided.
- 7. Partner Reports on Project Activity** (Pages 11 - 14)  
Members are asked to note the reports from:
  - Blackburn-with-Darwen Borough Council;
  - Bolton Council;
  - Lancashire County Council.
- 8. Ranger and Information Services Report** (Pages 15 - 26)  
Members are asked to note the attached report.
- 9. The Three Towers** (Pages 27 - 44)  
Members are asked to note the attached document.
- 10. Site of Special Scientific Interest Update - Natural England**  
Information to be tabled at the meeting.

**11. Any Other Business**

**12. Date, time and venue of Next meeting**

Members are asked to note that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8 July 2014. Time and venue to be arranged.

I M Fisher  
County Secretary and Solicitor

County Hall  
Preston

# Agenda Item 3

## **West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 23rd July, 2012 at 10.30 am in Cabinet Room 'C' - County Hall, Preston**

### **Present:**

#### **Chair**

County Councillor Peter Malpas, Lancashire Count Council

#### **Committee Members**

Cllr Andy MacNae, Rossendale Borough Council  
Councillor Eileen Entwistle, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Councillor Elaine Sherrington, Bolton Council  
Councillor Marie Gray, Chorley Borough Council  
County Councillor Jimmy Eaton, Lancashire County Council  
Neville Kidd, United Utilities  
Mr GH Hammersley, Conservation, Access and Recreation Advisory Committee

#### **Officers**

Ms Bronwen Earnshaw, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Fiona Cruchley, Lancashire County Council  
Tim Mitcham, Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and north Merseyside

#### **Also in attendance**

Alice Kimpton and Alex Lowe were in attendance for agenda item number 9 to give a presentation to the members.

#### **1. Election of Vice-Chair of the West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee**

Councillor Andy MacNae, Rossendale Borough Council, was proposed and seconded as Vice-Chair of the West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee until the meeting scheduled for July 2014 as per the amended Terms of Reference.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Joyce Kellett (Bolton Council), Councillor Yvonne Wright (Bury Council), Councillor Trevor Maxfield (Blackburn-with-Darwen Borough Council), Councillor Brian Essex (Rossendale Borough Council) and Tamzin Percival (Rossendale Borough Council).

#### **3. Disclosure of Interests**

Councillor Andy MacNae declared an interest as a member of a mountain biking club which uses the moors.

#### **4. Minutes of the Previous meeting held on 5 July 2011**

Apart from the addition of Councillor Joyce Kellett (Bolton Council) as an attendee these were agreed as a true record.

#### **5. West Pennine Moors Revenue Budget 2012**

Members noted the report attached to the agenda. Fiona Cruchley informed the meeting that the small budget for the West Pennine Moors had been not been committed until the outcome was known of the recent Heritage Lottery Fund bid. The aim would be to use it to lever in match funding from other sources wherever possible.

#### **6. Partner Reports on Project Activity**

##### **Blackburn-with-Darwen Borough Council**

It was reported that any expenditure had been incurred only on maintaining any public rights of way and that they were continually looking for funding to help with any projects.

Blackburn-with-Darwen Borough Council reported that any expenditure had been incurred only on maintaining any public rights of way and that they were continually looking for funding to help with any projects.

##### **Bolton Council**

No members were available to report.

##### **Lancashire County Council**

The report had been attached to the agenda. Fiona confirmed that there is no funding for major projects and that Healey Nab is the only part of the moors which is owned by the County Council and has a volunteer Ranger Service, supported by county council rangers. Issues on the Nab mainly related to access. Most other works on the moors related to rights of way issues. The Heritage Lottery Fund bid had required a significant proportion of officer time over the last year.

#### **7. Ranger and Information Services Report - United Utilities**

Neville Kidd presented his report as attached to the agenda. He confirmed that United Utilities was now split into seven sections.

They were currently working on Scamp 2 with tenant farms to restore the moors to their original state, to re-wet the moors and to protect water quality.

He also confirmed that there was a full woodland plan for five years and this would be reviewed shortly. Visitors to the moors were increasing and this was encouraging. The service had recently lost one ranger but it was also encouraging that they were able to maintain a ranger service.

The members of the committee expressed their thanks to United Utilities for the work they carry out on the moors and it was noted that over the years the look of the moors has

improved greatly, despite diminishing funds. It was evident that any money available was spent wisely.

Following questions from members, it was noted that:

- the Scamp budget was helping generally with the overall funding budget for the moors and that the farms were in very good condition.
- it was not possible to count user groups (eg walkers, cyclists etc) who access the moors but it was noted that there are spot counts for numbers and these are increasing.
- testing had taken place regarding Phytophthora tree disease by Defra and had shown a 50 hectare span of Rhododendron in a localised area. It had taken 2/3 years to clear this and a recent test had proved negative.

## **8. Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme**

It was noted that the recent Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid had not been successful.

Fiona Cruchley informed the members that there was a meeting with the HLF during the next month to find out exactly where the application failed. She also confirmed that it was unlikely to re-submit as a complete bid but it may be split into more manageable sections and she hoped that other councils and organisations would help with the administration of these where the projects were in their particular areas.

An officer group was to meet on Tuesday 24 July 2012 to discuss the way forward and individual meetings with partners will take place over coming months. It was noted that notification of the outcome of these discussions, and those with HLF, would be sent to members for information.

Neville Kidd reported that the Rivington Heritage Trust had a HLF bid being presented in August, in partnership with Groundwork Trust for the Rivington Terraced Gardens.

## **9. Site of Special Scientific Interest Presentation from Natural England**

Alice Kimpton gave a detailed presentation on the Designation of the West Pennine Moors as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Following the presentation members queried:

- whether councils and the general public would be consulted and this was confirmed as would all interested parties. The support, or objection, would be considered on an individual basis as to the impact on the moors of the concern of the group. It was noted that members could contact Natural England directly if they had knowledge of any group who should be consulted.
- the timescale of the project and it was noted that by Christmas 2013 the site should be designated.
- how members of the general public would be notified and it was confirmed that information could be placed on the West Pennine Moors website to alert people to the consultation and proposed designation. It was also noted that when the consultation was opened there would notices placed on the moors for information. Again if members knew of any suitable groups which could be contacted to get in touch with Natural England.

## **10. Any Other Business**

A copy of the Terms of Reference and the Membership was handed out to all members for information.

It was noted that there was an issue with dog fouling on the embankment on the new bridleway at Roddlesworth as the fencing is in a state of disrepair. This was causing a health hazard to the United Utilities staff when mowing the grass. Fiona Cruchley agreed to contact Nick Haigh to discuss.

It was agreed that a member of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust would be co-opted onto the West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee with immediate effect. The Secretary to arrange this.

## **11. Date, time and venue of the next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting would be scheduled for Tuesday 2 July 2013 at a venue and time to be decided.

It was also agreed that a 'site visit' would take place in the morning and the meeting held in the afternoon. The Secretary and Lead Officer to arrange but if any members wished to view a particular site to contact with details.

Ian Fisher  
County Secretary and Solicitor

County Hall  
Preston

# Agenda Item 5

## **Terms of Reference and Working Arrangements of the Area Management Committee**

The terms of reference and working arrangements of the Area Management Committee are as follows:

1. The Management Committee shall be known as the West Pennine Moors Members' Area Management Committee. The "Constituent Authorities" are the Lancashire County Council, Bolton Council, Bury Council and the Borough Councils of Blackburn with Darwen, Chorley, Hyndburn and Rossendale.
2. The objects of the Management Committee shall be, on behalf of the Constituent Authorities, to:
  - protect, conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the West Pennine Moors;
  - promote sustainable regeneration of the area, particularly where such activity conserves and enhances the environment;
  - encourage enjoyment of the area, where it is consistent with the first two objects.
3. The Management Committee shall be composed of councillors appointed by each of the Constituent Authorities, representatives of United Utilities ("the Company"), together with a maximum of five co-opted members.
4. Each of the constituent local authorities and the Company to be entitled to appoint two voting members.

Each member of the Management Committee shall be entitled to nominate substitute members of his/her authority to attend Management Committee meetings in the event of the appointed members being unable to attend.

5. The Management Committee may co-opt into membership of the Committee persons with special interests or expertise in relation to the sustainable management and development of the West Pennine Moors, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed five.

Co-opted members shall be non-voting members. Where a co-opted member is an organisation, that organisation may not appoint more than one representative.

Each member of the Management Committee who is a member by virtue of being appointed by an organisation shall be entitled to nominate substitutes to attend the Management Committee meetings in the event of the appointed member being unable to attend and that substitute shall have the same voting rights as the appointed member.

6. The Area Management Committee may invite other organisations or individuals to provide advice or information on issues of importance on an ad-hoc basis.
7. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee shall be elected from among the councillors appointed by the constituent authorities and shall hold office for three years. Both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected at the annual meeting. Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair

may be submitted ahead of the annual meeting, but in the event that no nominations are received, these will be submitted at the meeting.

8. The Management Committee shall hold an annual meeting in July each year to consider its annual programme. The Management Committee may hold such other meetings as may prove necessary.
9. The Management Committee shall appoint an officer from one of the constituent authorities to act as Secretary.
10. The Management Committee shall appoint an officer from one of the constituent authorities to act as Lead Officer. The Lead Officer shall provide the co-ordination and management of the partnership and develop and oversee strategic projects for the West Pennine Moors.
11. The Management Committee shall appoint an officer from one of the constituent authorities to act as financial co-ordinator for its annual programme.

The Area Management Committee, in carrying out its functions, shall be assisted and advised by an Officers' Group.



# **West Pennine Moors Area Management Committee**

## **Membership of the Area Management Committee**

All councils are known as 'Constituent Authorities' and each member of the management committee is allowed to nominate a substitute.

***Funding Councils and 'Company' (2 voting members each – TOR changed July 2011) -***  
Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Bolton Council,  
United Utilities

### **Lancashire County Council (Chair 2011/2014)**

County Councillor J Oakes  
County Councillor S Serridge

### **Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council**

Councillor S Brookfield  
Councillor Trevor Maxfield

### **Bolton Council**

Councillor Elaine Sherrington  
Councillor Joyce Kellett

### **United Utilities**

Neville Kidd  
Hazel Gregory

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### ***Remaining non-funding councils - 2 voting members each***

#### **Bury Council**

Councillor Tony Cummings  
Councillor Robert Caserta

#### **Chorley Borough Council**

Councillor Marie Gray  
Councillor Kim Snape

#### **Hyndburn Borough Council**

Councillor Harry Grayson  
Councillor Bernard Dawson

#### **Rosendale Borough Council**

Councillor B Essex (**needs a paper copy of all agenda papers**)  
Councillor Andy MacNae (Vice Chair until 2014 meeting)

**Non-Member Representation (Co-opted non-voting members - 5 allowed)**

1 representative from each of the following organisations:

**Natural England**

Rebecca Jackson-Pitt

**Conservation, Access and Recreation Advisory Committee**

Mr GH Hammersley (**needs a paper copy of everything as no email address**)

**Groundwork**

Andrew Darron

**Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside**

Tim Mitcham

# Agenda Item 6

## Finance report

Following the withdrawal of financial support from Bolton and Blackburn with Darwen Councils, the expenditure in the West Pennine Moors has been very limited.

2012/13

Communications (website)	£33.00
Access agreement	£1,350.00
Meeting expenses	£352.00
Community Consultation	£3,027.00
Volunteer training	£550.00
total	£5,312.00



# Agenda Item 7

## Bolton Council – Action in West Pennine Moors 2012/13

Following continued and on-going reduction in resources, progress of management of sites, habitats and community engagement has reduced from what has been delivered in previous years. Despite this, some positive action has been achieved.

In November 2012, Brownstones Quarry on the edge of Smithills Moor was formally designated a Local Nature Reserve under powers granted by the National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949. The site is a small disused stone quarry with local site designation Grade B Site of Biological Importance, supporting a varied range of wildlife in its Heathland, acid grassland and ponds.

This builds upon the designation of Upper Bradshaw Valley as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in June 2011. This includes the area south of the Jumbles Reservoir, south to Bradshaw Brow, a total of 34.19ha. Only a small part of this site is within the West Pennine Moors management area but the site provides a green valley gateway to the moors. It is also proposed that Ousel Nest Quarry off Chapletown Road, Bromley Cross is also designated an LNR in the near future.

An area of Smithills Estate within Bolton Council ownership has been consulted on with various organisations and the tenant farmers, with regard to its future management. Consultations are still on-going, with The Woodland Trust emerging as a potential buyer. It is too early to be able to predict any outcome of this process.

Wilderswood Plantation is a mixed conifer/broadleaf woodland within the West Pennine Moors area which Bolton Council manages under a tree planting licence. Over the last 12 months safety felling has been undertaken to clear windblown trees with re-stocking of new tree whips in these areas. Large scale felling was undertaken two years ago when disease in the Corsican Pine accelerated the need to fell some areas. These areas were re-stocked with mainly native broadleaf trees in line with the England Forestry Strategy. Replacement of failed whips within the re-planted areas has also been undertaken with a further 660 broadleaf trees planted this year. Re-grading of 230m of main track has also been completed to improve access for walkers.

Mowing of the fields north of Smithills Hall drive has been re-introduced in partnership with a local farmer. The aim is to improve the meadow habitat and herb species diversity through annual mowing and removal of hay.

Treatment of the pernicious weed Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) has been on-going with emphasis being on Local Nature Reserve sites. Sites treated last year (2012) will again be surveyed and targeted this year (2013), at:-

Brownstones Quarry LNR

Upper Bradshaw Valley LNR

Ousel Nest Quarry proposed LNR

Bridge Street, Horwich LNR



## **West Pennine Moors**

### **Lancashire County Council activity in 2012/13**

#### **Healey Nab**

##### **Site Cover**

The site is patrolled on Sundays by a dedicated team of volunteer rangers. These rangers report back to full-time ranger Nick Haigh. Volunteers deal with most issues that arise on their duty patrolling Healey Nab. If there are issues that they cannot deal with they contact the full-time Ranger for help or advice or pass it on to the full-time Ranger to resolve.

##### **Volunteer activities**

Volunteers carry out site checks and help interpret the site to visitors.

Typical activities include:

Litter picking, checking for fires, reporting windblown trees and tree damage, checking the mountain bike trail, resolving access issues (eg walkers using the mountain bike paths and mountain bikers using footpaths).

##### **Public Rights of Way**

Maintenance of the public rights of way network is ongoing as part of the statutory responsibilities of the County Council. This is often in partnership with United Utilities ranger team. Any issues about rights of way should be reported to the public rights of way team on [PROWreports@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:PROWreports@lancashire.gov.uk)

Public footpaths 15 & 16 in Chorley that link From St to Bagunley Lane have had the mud scraped off the surface to restore them to the proper width and have been resurfaced with lime stone to provide a user friendly surface. The broken kissing gate has been replaced with a metal one that has a RADA lock allowing it to fully open to give access to wheelchair users. FP47 that connects these paths to Healey Nab has had the vegetation cut to widen access. A set of steps have been cleaned and a handrail provided and a narrow substandard stile has been replaced. This work was carried out after consultation with the friends of Healy Nab and it is hoped that this was the first phase of improvements that will encourage local people to make better use of the facilities in the area. It is hoped that future works will include the provision of pond dipping platforms the provision of information boards and viewing benches at suitable points.

## **Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership**

Lancashire County Council officers have supported the development of the funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme, particularly through provision of detailed information.



## Summary of content

1. Ranger/staffing on the WPM's
2. SCaMP2
3. Ranger Reports
4. Biodiversity Report from UU Wildlife Warden
5. Safeguard Zones
6. Drought Plan update
7. Revenue & Capital

## Ranger / Staffing update

From the 17th May Hazel Gregory goes on maternity leave. Hazel's role will be covered through existing staff, Guy Barker will alter his working days and concentrate on Rivington more. Two of the weekend Rangers will work an additional day a week each to oversee the works that Hazel has raised with contractors and to cover the general rangering in the area.

Matthew Taylor, Woodland Officer (part time) has left the company to concentrate on his own business.

Tanya Gato – assistant woodland officer has also recently left to take up a role at Windsor Great Park

Matt's role will be covered by Trevor Greenhalgh who used to work throughout this estate but for the past 24 years has concentrated his Woodland skills in the Macclesfield area for the United Utilities East Team.

## SCaMP 2 – Glynn Haworth (SCaMP2 Project Officer)

All 29 West area SCaMP plans have been approved and projects within the WPM's for Higher Roddlesworth, Leys End, Buffs, Lower Roddlesworth, Ryals Fold, Land at Musbury, Watsons, Higher Pasture House, Home Farm, , Land at Far Pike Lowe, Land at Higher Hill and Land at Clowbridge have been completed along with schemes outside the WPM's



(Photo. Glynn Haworth) Grip blocking on Musbury Heights

Although the scope of the original Home Farm, Rivington SCaMP plan has been completed a knock-on project has recently been identified in relation to dairy herd wastes from the muck midden which resulted in overland flows near to Rivington Lower reservoir. The scope of work to address this need is being reviewed and will be brought to SCaMP Programme Board for consideration.

All of the work at Bradleys Farm has now been completed except for hay meadow restoration that will take place over future years.

Apart from hay treatment planned for the late summer of 2013 all of the work at Cadshaw Farm has now been completed including all grip blocking, fencing, woodland planting and building work.



New lambing and sheep handling internal fixtures at Cadshaw farm,

Planning permission has finally been received for the new stock building for New Barn farm and conditions relating to bats and owls discharged. Work is expected to start soon on establishing a site compound and demolishing and existing asbestos building.

£107k of work including fencing and drainage has been completed at Moses Cocker Farm and a further £70k of orders have been raised. As a result of lack of capital finance from Natural England this financial year UU have agreed to progress the fencing work without the grant support of £19k from Natural England in order to prevent livestock trespass from the former tenants livestock. UU have applied for £30k match funding from Scout Moor Wind Farm instead and wait to hear the outcome.

Problems are be still being encountered with the new fence being cut allowing sheep trespass from the adjoining farm that is farmed by our former tenant.

Following receipt of planning permission for the new barn at Higher Knoll construction work is well underway and the final internal fit out underway. Most of the fencing has now been ordered and work has started on hedgerows, scrapes and ditches. Moorland restoration is now being planned to start at the end of July.

The Barons Fold project is well underway with work undertaken on the fencing, walling, grip blocking, fire break mowing and farm equipment. At the request of the tenant, who is concerned about access, and in agreement with Natural England we have only completed 2/3 of the grip blocking proposed. Once the tenant can see how successful the access for a quad bike is going to be it is expected the remainder of the grip blocking will be completed.



Active grip on Wheelton Moor.

The project for Wilcocks Farm was approved in January and the construction of the new building is now almost complete.



New Lambing building at Wilcocks Farm

Because of the lack of woodland officer at Rivington currently Tillhill have been contacted to develop and submit the proposed EWGS scheme which would be delivered over the winter of 2013/14.

- The project for Manor House has been agreed and approved for implementation. An order has been raised to begin construction of the new lambing shed and cattle handling facilities. Prices have been obtained for undertaking moorland restoration.

The water troughs at Land at Broadhill have been completed and orders for the fencing will shortly be raised

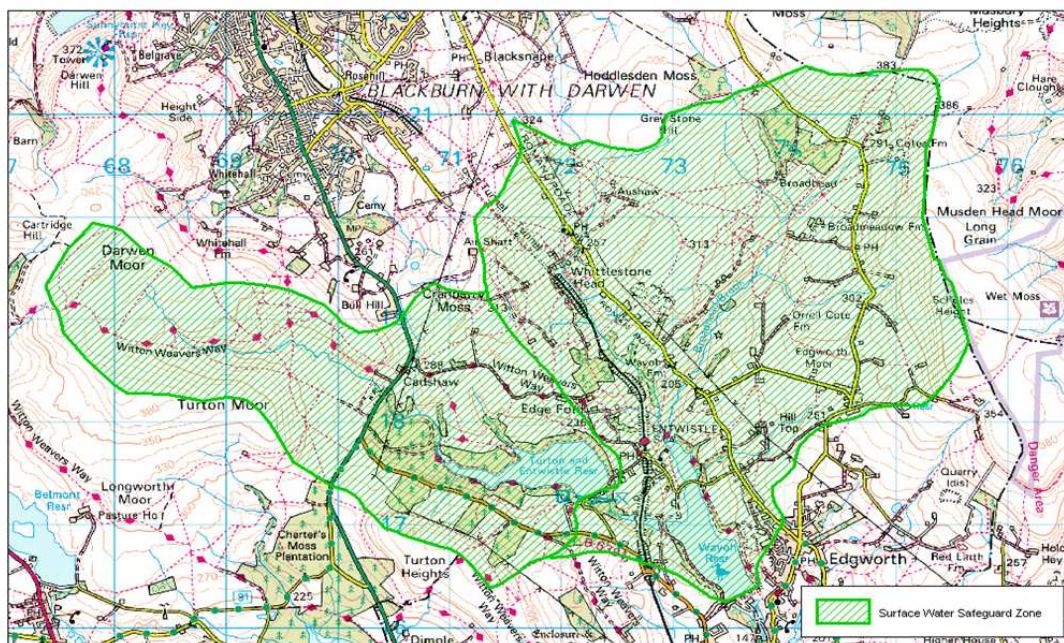
The SCaMP pages on the external website have now been significantly updated. The PAA water quality report for 2011 has now been added though a further updates is needed to include a section for carbon and improved colour from restored bare peat.

### **Safeguard Zones on the West Pennine Moors area**

Safeguard Zones (SgZs) are areas within a drinking water catchment (either surface water or groundwater) with deteriorating raw water quality. SgZs include all areas where any surface activities can affect the raw water quality at the abstraction point. They can be used to inform targeting of mitigation measures, advice and incentive schemes as well as regulatory inspections and enforcement with the aim of reducing pollution, protecting water sources and reducing the need for increased water treatment costs. The Wayoh Water Treatment Works (WTW) SgZ comprises of the Wayoh Reservoir catchment and the Entwistle Reservoir catchment which total 22.4 km<sup>2</sup>.

These catchments have been designated as a Safeguard Zone for pesticides.

Map of Wayoh and Entwistle Catchments which form Wayoh WTW Safeguard Zone for Pesticides



As the major land use within the catchment is agriculture, this is seen as the most likely source for any increases in pesticides in the raw water. Improved grassland and sheep farming is the predominant form of agriculture in the catchment and the pesticides identified are predominantly used on grassland weeds. However, other potential sources including highways and domestic use will also be investigated.

To reduce the pesticides seen in the raw water we need to engage with farmers to offer guidance, so that they are aware of the best practice with regards to the application of pesticides. This may include training through workshops, group meetings and one to one visits. Effective use of pesticides can also reduce pesticide costs to farmers.

### Water Resources Management Plan - Drought Plan

Droughts are natural events caused by a serious lack of rain over several months. Around once every twenty years there will be a drought serious enough to need a hosepipe ban in the North West. Our Drought Plan sets out the actions we will take to protect water supplies should a severe drought occur. United Utilities has recently updated its drought plan, incorporating the 2010 drought experiences and new powers for water use restrictions created by legislative changes in 2010. Drought plans are fully reviewed, and publicly consulted on, every 3 and a half years.

Our Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) sets out the investment needed to ensure that we have sufficient water to continue supplying our customers for the years ahead.

In the future, we may experience ever more severe droughts due to changing rainfall patterns and we may need to take less water to help improve the flow in some of our rivers for the benefit of fish and other species that live there.

Our current plan, published in September 2009, covers our approach to manage these issues for the years 2010-2035. This can be found, along with its associated supporting documents, at the reports and communications pages of [www.unitedutilities.com](http://www.unitedutilities.com). We have been developing a new draft Water Resources Management Plan, which will cover the years 2015-2040. This draft plan is available for public consultation until 6 August 2013.

## United Utilities Ranger Report – Hazel Gregory Rivington and Brinscall LAG June 2013

### General Update

Easter weekend was busy despite the snow which had fallen in the previous week. The weather on the day was nice and still attracted the crowds for the day. The day passed without any major problems, there was joint working between UU Rangers, Police and Mountain Rescue.



Capital projects for this financial year include the installation of drainage in the Pinetum. This area is constantly saturated making it unsightly and difficult to access for the public but also difficult to mow. There will also be a small section of additional drainage works to the rear of Rivington Hall and a section in the arboretum. The order for these works has been raised.

Following a number of antisocial behaviour concerns from the police, UU have agreed to put a barrier on Lower House Car Park. This will be an automated system which will be programmed to open and shut at certain times. The times can be altered to reflect daylight hours etc. This has been ordered but we do not have an installation date as yet.

The Rivington Newsletter is being produced for the summer. It will be printed and distributed once the decision has been made regarding the Heritage Lottery Fund application for the Terraced Gardens submitted by Rivington Heritage Trust.

Items that have come up for renewal this year on the asset register system include the woodland path at Anglezarke, a couple of stiles near Cunliffe Farm and various bollards in car parks (these will be replaced with rocks).

Approximately a dozen of the wooden bollards that were installed near to Rivington Hall Barn last year with a gate to prevent people driving on to the field have been stolen, these will be replaced.

UU are reviewing their permissions for events process. This is to protect and enhance the significant investment which SCaMP II has injected into the entire West Catchment and many of the tenant farmers have entered into agreement schemes with Natural England which limit actions that could be damaging has resulted in this review. The Rivington / Anglezarke area does seem to be used excessively in comparison to other areas for events and we are constantly getting new requests for large scale activities. As such we are looking at how to ensure the area is used responsibly and damage is not caused.

Woodland plans for the Rivington area are available to view, and comments can be submitted up to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013. They can be found online at [www.forestplans.co.uk](http://www.forestplans.co.uk)

and look for Rivington, signs have been put up around Rivington advising visitors of this.



### **Haslingden Grane Report – Andrew Ryding, Countryside Ranger**

The Crypto Monitoring and Farm Visits have so far not produced any major issues. 3 dead sheep have been located, reported back to the tenant farmers, and subsequently removed. I discovered a dead sheep in Ogden Reservoir, which again was removed by the tenant farmer.

Several minor land slippages have occurred in Musbury Valley, which I will continue to monitor for further movement.

The Pick Up Bank catchment areas are currently subject to improvements through SCaMP2, and works have recently commenced to replace existing fences, install new fence-lines (particularly on the feeder streams), and make improvement to the higher pastures (rush cutting) to encourage grazing away from the immediate catchment.

Part of the concessionary Low Mobility Route, east of Clough Head, had a section of overhanging trees, which I have now cut back to allow easier access for visitors.

A large footbridge on the Rossendale Way (north of Bentley's) has been replaced by Lancashire County Council, after it became unstable and unsafe.

A temporary repair has taken place on the concessionary footpath between Grane Road and Calf Hey car park (due to water wash out), with a larger project planned to make significant improvements to this, as well as repairs to the concessionary footpath running north from Clough Head Car Park. I am also looking to have the benches on Clough Head Car Park replaced with new re-cycled plastic ones, hopefully for this summer.

A flooding problem occurred on Calf Hey access road due to a blocked/collapsed pipe, rendering the residents at Calf Hey 'stranded'. I rectified the immediate problem by unblocking the roadside drains, but I have since had the offending pipe replaced with a new larger pipe, which seems to have solved the problem, and has made inspection and maintenance a simple process.

Other general repairs have been carried out the locality, mainly involving fence and wall damage due to vehicle crashes (winter weather conditions), and a further wall repair is scheduled to take place on Grain Road.

The new water supply works have commenced, with contractors using Clough Head Car Park as a temporary compound (which has caused some disruption to visitors) but this is scheduled to be moved to Heap Clough shortly.

At a similar time (late summer) I received a complaint from a low mobility user at Calf Hey, that the access gate was difficult to negotiate with an electric mobility scooter. I met the visitors on site and identified the problem. Whilst the car park surfaces were being repaired, I had improvements made to the access gate for the benefit of low mobility visitors.

Visitors with dogs have been highlighted as a potential issue, particularly around the Calf Hey Trail. As ever, it seems to be a small minority of visitors causing problems. A 'dog fouling' issue seems to persistently remain around the trail and reservoir embankment, which is a potentially a water quality issue, and is an unpleasant experience for other visitors.

Engineering works are continuing on the reservoirs at Holden Wood and Ogden, resulting in some temporary closures of footpaths in these areas. This has had a detrimental effect on access to particular routes, resulting in visitors 'wandering' across restricted farmland causing issues with our tenant farmers, in particular dogs owners allowing their pets to interfere with live stock.





## West Pennine Moors Biodiversity Report 2012-13

Continuing the actions started the previous financial year United utilities has invested in the moorland infrastructure in an effort to reduce the potential for uncontrolled moorland fires.

1800m of moorland track has been renewed at Well Lane and Withnell Villa on Withnell Moor and a further 1000m at Slater lane on Anglezarke Moor. This will facilitate easier access for equipment and in conjunction with the annual fire break mowing and the successful grip blocking work undertaken in 2011/12 will improve the fire break measures at key locations.

In partnership with the Lancashire Fire Operations Group UU has updated its' Fire Plans, and contributed to the cost of "stub" pouches which can be given to smokers at moorland access points at times of high fire risk along with free advice on fire risk.



Slater Lane photos Ian Harper



Well Lane before and after renewal photos Ian Harper

On a less positive note the problem of fence cutting has continued to blight measures to control stock trespass. Some fence renewals this year have been cut several times allowing trespass sheep to graze in excluded areas or worse still allowed stock out onto the road. The problem was highlighted by the Company's tenant Mr. J Drinkall of manor House Farm, Anglezarke who found several sheep caught up in short sections of barbed wire which had been cut out of fences and discarded on the floor. This is an animal welfare issue and a health and safety issue for staff handling the sheep and especially dangerous at shearing time when pieces of wire can be hidden in the fleece. Despite a press release about the issues and regular monitoring of the target sites the problem still persists in the Anglezarke, Rivington and North Turton / Darwen areas.

The black headed gull colony on the island at Belmont Reservoir remained stable with approximately 7000 breeding pairs. Included in the colony were 14 breeding pairs of Mediterranean Gulls and a single pair of Lesser Black backed Gulls. Thanks to those who have assisted with the counts, monitoring and habitat works which make this such a valuable breeding site.

Although the brown hare monitoring 1km squares have not provide much in the way of sightings ad hoc records are demonstrating the value of the Scapm2 works taking place across the catchments especially the woodland planting schemes in the cloughs and valleys which are providing a more diverse habitat.

At Higher Pasture House Farm, Belmont approximately 300m of hedgerow was laid. These hedges were planted about 15 years ago as part of WPM's / Countryside Stewardship Scheme initiative. A further 300m will be laid in a couple of years time. Bolton Conservation Volunteers again had a winter task at Entwistle Reservoir laying and underplanting the hedgerow on the eastern side.

After entering the Tennis Court field at Dean Wood, Rivington into the Forever Meadows project the first hay cut was made in early August. Despite the wet weather conditions a short window was found for a contractor to get onto the field to make the cut. However the weather then turned wetter and the arisings had to be removed by hand. A team of volunteers from Lancashire Wildlife Trust did a good job of clearing the site.



*Photos Ian Harper*

Roadside dry stone walls suffered quite a considerable amount of damage due to accidents in the snow and ice. Theft of stone still poses a problem across the West Pennine Moors with the A666 being a particular target area. In other areas the Bolton Conservation Volunteers have been repairing some of the internal walls on the field system at Sheephouse Lane, Rivington.

Work to remove non native invasive species has continued. UU assisted the Lancashire Wildlife Trust with the survey of the River Douglas corridor and also The Conservation Volunteers with work on the River Yarrow corridor. Contractors were once again active at Roddlesworth and Charters Moss removing balsam.

Ian Harper Biodiversity Officer June 2013

<b>Revenue &amp; Capital Works</b>	<b>Location</b>
Toilet Cleaning	West Estate
Barrier Closure	West Estate
Toilet repair & maintenance	West Estate
Empty Dog Waste bins	Rivington
Empty Dog Waste bins	Cowm
Litter Picking	West Estate
Fly Tipping	West Estate
Grass Cutting East & West Pennine sites	West Estate
Car Park Cash Collection	West Estate
Maintenance & visual checks of parking machines	West Estate
Car park machine vandalism	West Estate
Portaloos Hire & litterpicking (Easter)	Rivington
Skip emptying (Easter)	Rivington
Handwash repair & maintenance	Jumbles & Riv
Road sweeping Calf Hey Reservoir access road	Calf Hey
Calf Hey Trail drainage	Calf Hey
JET Trail drainage	JWE
Footpath safety	West Estate
Car park security to include cutting back trees, etc	West Estate
Reactive / routine maintenance	West Estate
Pothole repairs	West Estate
RTG leaf litter clearance	West Estate
Road marking	West Estate
Vis Counting equipment maintenance & batteries	West Estate
Rivington Estate visitor issues	Rivington
Move barriers at Knowle House & Entwistle	Rivington
Signage	West Estate
Trail maintenance	Rivington
Dunnockshaw Orienteering Course renewal	Clowbridge
Great House VIC stock purchase	Rivington
Gritting salt for public areas	West Estate
Stannah stairlift maintenance	Rivington
Great House general maintenance	Rivington
Materials	West Estate
Health and safety	West Estate
Biodiversity	West Estate
Forestry	West Estate
Establishment	West Estate
Boundary repair	West Estate
Machinery repairs and maintenance	West Estate
Invasive Species Control	West Estate
Bolton Conservation Volunteers	WPM & Rumworth
Hedge Trimming	West Estate
Signage	West Estate
Fire Break Mowing	West Estate
Pedator Control & SCaMP Wader Projects	West Estate
Water Body Management	West Estate
Nestbox Schemes	West Estate
WPM Hedge Laying	West Estate
Habitat Restoration	Rivington
Sanitary disposal bins / Duty of Care	Clowbridge
Sanitary disposal bins / Duty of Care	Great House IC
Health and Safety Inspections / Fire Extinguisher Checks	Rivington
Great House IC Repairs	Rivington
Office sites general maintenance	West Estate
Europa (non contract sundry charges)	West Estate
Rivington Newsletter	Rivington

Meeting expenses	Rivington
Lead Mines Grass Cut	Lead Mines Clough
Retention of historical parkland / scrub clearance	West Estate
Round Loaf erosion repair	Anglezarke Moor
Rivington Heritage Features	Rivington
Materials	West Estate
Replacement Tickets for Car Park Machines	West Estate
Padlocks	West Estate
Empty fuel interceptors	West Estate
Klargester / CHIC septic tank emptying	Jumbles & CHIC
Klargester maintenance	Jumbles
Boundary repairs - RTA's etc. (not Asset Register)	West Estate
Repairs to Tracks & Roads	Rivington
Clear grates & ditches Rivington Estate	Rivington
Clear grates & ditches Roddlesworth Estate	Roddlesworth
Drainage works	Wayoh & Entwistle
Hedge boundaries on car parks & access land	Jumbles/Wayoh/Ent
West Estate Asset Register	West Estate
West Estate Drainage	West Estate
Hollinshead Well House Roof	Hollinshead Hall
Lower House Car Park	Rivington
West Estate Tracks	West Estate
West Farm Asset Register	West Estate
Commercial & Residential West	West Estate
Concrete Farmyards	West Estate
Asbestos Roof Replacements	West Estate
Septic Tank Renewals	West Estate



## The 3 Towers Scheme for the West Pennine Moors

### About the bid

The 3 Towers: Beacons to the West Pennine Moors is a funding bid in development to be submitted in May 2013 to the Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnerships Scheme.

We intend to take forward delivery based on the landscape's significant heritage, and tackling its issues and pressures. There is also a clear intention to strengthen community involvement and governance of the area based on its strong partnership and Local Advisory Groups. To inform the development of project work we wanted to try and consult those who live, work, and use the West Pennine Moors to base ideas on specific needs and concerns.

We have used an online survey, consultative events, and various meetings to inform our work which has been developing since 2010 and the West Pennine Moors Management Plan. We have been using feedback from the HLF to help focus weak areas of our bid that was submitted in 2012, and we hope this document helps communicate the focus and narrative we hope to take forward through our project work.

Ultimately saving the West Pennine Moors and putting its significance on the map.



## The West Pennine Moors

The West Pennine Moors is a distinct landscape mass that nestles above the surrounding lowland urban hubs of Lancashire and Greater Manchester in North West England.

Geographically separate, it is also an outlier of the main Pennine ridge and forms part of the South Pennines National Character Area (number 36). It is an area of 230km<sup>2</sup> that has been managed by the West Pennine Moors Partnership since the 1970s. The project area is defined, not just by that historical management partnership, but by landscape character. This offers gentler and lower moorlands than elsewhere in the Southern Pennines, as detailed in the SCOSPA Landscape Guidelines. The surrounding valleys are comparatively wider, with a distinct reservoir character, mosaics of important upland habitats along with prehistoric archaeology, and the proximity to urban areas offering extensive, dramatic views and a fluctuating, intermittent sense of isolation and remoteness.

For millennia, though, and especially in recent times, this has been a landscape for people. The West Pennine Moors are demonstrably important to both local and recreational communities. One of the best demonstrations is seen in the Easter community walks to the 3 Towers, a tradition established over generations.

Though both an iconic landscape for local and visitor communities, and a wildlife hot-spot, the area to date has little in the way of designation. As early as 1945 and 1947, the Dower and Hobhouse reports considered the South Pennines as a National Park, and as a result the Standing Conference of South Pennine Authorities has been active since 1973. The more specific and dedicated need for the West Pennine Moors saw the Area Management Committee formed in 1981, due to the recognised regional heritage value. This gives the area a recognised body and a reputation for delivering work while recognising the heritage need of the area.

## Detailing our Vision

In developing our Landscape Partnership Scheme bid, we have based it on [HLF guidance](#) and their nine outcomes for Heritage, People and Communities. The needs and focus that have come from our development lead to a specific focus and narrative unique to the West Pennine Moors and the landscape need it presents. For this reason we set out the 3 Towers vision in terms of its aspirations (vision statement) and the main objectives presented from the 6 key themes for project work.

## Other Documents

While developing the 3 Towers bid, there have been a number of documents produced that may be of further interest. These are available online: [www.westpenninemoores.com](http://www.westpenninemoores.com)

March Consultation Event Report ; March Consultation Event Summary  
An Artists Response; Online Survey Report; Online Survey Summary; 3 Towers Vision  
West Pennine Moors Management Plan; West Pennine Moors Heritage Scoping Study



## Our Vision

The 90 square miles of the West Pennine Moors are a wilderness on the doorstep, providing a priceless refuge and heritage resource for the encircling urban centres of Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

Many thousands annually seek out this wild space, abundant with wildlife, layered with history, marked out by three iconic towers. They tread in the footsteps of their ancestors.

But this vital resource is fragile. Ill defined, undervalued, poorly understood and often misused, the Moors risk slipping into steepening decline.

A committed alliance of voluntary, public and private partners is ready to act. An integrated programme of targeted actions has been defined by consultation. Prioritising six themes, the Three Towers programme can achieve transformational change over three years, and enduring benefits for the future.

Better understood, more highly valued, effectively managed, the WPM will be secured as a precious breathing space at the heart of the dynamic North-West.

### 3 Towers Vision Statement

The Three Towers: *Beacons to the West Pennine Moors* vision is to build on the West Pennine Moors Partnership's work since the 1970s to manage and enhance accessibility - putting the reservoir valleys and rolling moorland hills back at the heart of its communities so that heritage is better valued and understood.

The Three Towers Scheme will build an *Accessible Wilderness* where recreation, wildlife, industrial and prehistoric heritage are valued, better managed and restored to maintain and gain inspiration from its landscapes. It will *Remove Remoteness* building upon community links and making sure heritage and its significance is not lost. What was hidden will be found, celebrated readily accessible to visit and explored on the ground or online. Finally it will *Empower and Protect* through community involvement in governance of the landscape, volunteer opportunities to train and take action for heritage. This is the most potent agent of protection and delivery to sustain value into the future.

### 3 Towers Objectives

1. PEOPLE AND PROXIMITY: Since the mass trespasses of 1896, these have been the people's landscapes. We will manage and maintain their recreational value while reducing anti-social impacts. We will do so through a targeted Recreation Strategy for the West Pennine Moors, clear signage, work with recreational groups, the Volunteer Ranger Service, supporting the work of the Fire Operations Group and building awareness through poaching and wildlife crime initiatives.
2. PRIDE OF PLACE: Build awareness and Pride of Place, for both residents and our doorstep urban users, and by using creative arts as inspirational tools of engagement and interpretation. Help build community involvement in governance through Local Advisory Groups, deepen notions of value and broaden sense of place.



# 1826 Powerloom riots are an important aspect of social and industrial heritage best highlighted by the phrase “read ‘em the riot act”

3. SIGNPOSTING SIGNIFICANCE: Communicate the significance of the West Pennine Moors – signposting a destination, information and interpretation, telling of the hidden past, agricultural and industrial, and the benefits that society derives from the West Pennine Moors. A Virtual Visitor Centre will establish a global window onto the Moors, a central port of call and an archive of both heritage and our programme.

4. VOLUNTEER HUB: Create a Volunteer Hub as a central resource, to promote volunteering, maximize numbers, and manage their vital role in achieving the aims of the Three Towers. The Hub will offer training for heritage skills, training for community groups, and the renewal of a Volunteer Ranger Service.

5. LEARNING LANDSCAPES: Foster and promote understanding of the benefits derived from the Moors through development of Learning Landscapes (outdoor classrooms) exploring water issues, peat and climate change, environmental and landscape change. This will build on local exemplars such as Cronkshaw Fold Farm and The Wellbeing Farm. The Nursery INNIT project will provide dedicated horticultural training for NEETs and production of plant species for habitat restoration.

6. HIDDEN HERITAGE: Reveal the hidden, promote the forgotten, presenting landscapes of cultural and ecological significance, Interpretation of abandoned farmsteads, forgotten industrial heritage and model villages, community archaeology on the Roman Road and Two Lads Moor, peat and prehistoric site survey, and the maintenance and restoration of 20% of Lancashire’s grassland.



### People and Proximity

We will take forward celebration of the heritage and history linked to local rights to access the moors, and use it as a positive focus linked to work to alleviate impacts and concerns that centre from the influence of how close urban areas are to the West Pennine Moors. This creates a clear link to Pride of Place and the social history work that permeates the whole bid. We will take forward a landscape approach to recreation with key routes and uses planned, building up on previous strategies, and linking with [Signposting Significance](#) to help spread visits and increase interpretation and awareness of the significance of the West Pennine Moors.

### Recreational Network

Work will improve access for all at targeted sites, and manage the impacts of access across the landscape through a Recreation Network and improved signage. Provide interpretation and information at key access points (car parks and visitor centres), with supporting capital work for public facilities. Local issues will be picked up and dealt with through Local Advisory Groups so that people are included and engaged within [Pride of Place](#) work.



Volunteers building dry stone walls. Photo © Lancashire Wildlife Trust



Anglezarke Moor Fire. Photo © Glynn Howarth and United Utilities

### Volunteer Ranger Service

The 3 Towers bid will reintroduce the Volunteer Rangers, to compliment United Utilities and Local Authority duties, helping to tackle key concerns highlighted by our consultation work. Concerns about interpretation, route quality, and anti-social behaviour will have greater resource to be tackled, and provide avenues with clear communications about reporting incidents, working with local groups on litter, and publicity. Work will be closely linked to the [Volunteer Hub](#) with focused training, and initially the service will focus on Ambassador roles; using fewer experienced volunteer rangers to initiate work.

### Fire Operations Group

Concerns about fires and their impact are clearly demonstrated by the 2011 Anglezarke Moor fire, costing around £750,000 and impacting habitat, water quality and the loss of the only recently confirmed Twite nesting site. With people so close, management of the vegetation and rewetting areas is paramount, but the work of the Fire Operations Group can be supported and promoted so that people and groups can be better educated and aware of the impact of fires - and importantly how and where to report them!



Moorland Plateaux. Photo © Graham Cooper

### Pride of Place

We will engage local communities, explore sense of place and distinctiveness, and build incrementally towards a stronger area-wide sense of identity and community cohesion. It will link with broader heritage work in other themes and provide a clear voice and link to landscape management through Local Advisory Groups.

### Creative Sense of Place

This work will focus community engagement work around the themes of 'sense of place', exploring identify with local communities and empowering them to initiate projects developing that sense of place. Two large-scale projects each year, inspired by concepts of shared identity and engaging at least 100 participants will use art and artists to instil a creative approach to involving the widest possible audience. This will include making links between urban and rural groups to help promote work to wider audiences and share ideas and change perceptions. Community events will encourage more people to discover and explore the West Pennine Moors and raise awareness of local heritage and significance. Work will complement [Learning Landscapes](#) and also compile a Sense of Place Toolkit to inform destination work in [Signposting Significance](#). Local people will also be supported to access training in the [Volunteer Hub](#) so that they gain a variety of skills to ensure project are effective into the future.

# Whisky spinning in the Grane and Easter Walks reveal long cultural links and stories

## Social History

There is a strong sense of local history, and though it was linked to considerable pride in consultation, it is not that widely understood or appreciated. One of the most significant aspects was the Mass Trespass on Smithills Moor in 1896 and much of the fight for rights of access which helping to direct the narrative of the bid. Linked to recreation is also the Tea Rooms and industry across the moors that popped up to help support walkers and those escaping the urban drudgery. Less well known again and linked to our local industrial heritage is the Loom Breakers Riots 1826 with its links to 'reading the riot act' and local atrocities against protestors. As a major seam running through local identity and heritage a focused project will explore social history and facts, informing Creative Sense of Place work and [Signposting Significance](#), providing exhibitions and events to celebrate little known history and heritage.

## Local Advisory Groups

As a unique feature of the West Pennine Moors Partnership, the LAGs offer a link to the local community. We are already developing them so that they link to the Area Management Committee directly, but further work is needed so that they can fulfil their maximum potential to allow local voices to be heard and increase involvement and delivery for the West Pennine Moors and its heritage.



Mass trespass monument Coal Pit Lane, below Smithills Moor. Photo © Tim Graham

# Ancient cross at Affetside marks the Roman Road and half way between Edinburgh and London

## Signposting Significance

We will help to rectify the lack of coherent information or messages on the significance of the West Pennine Moors, reinforce destination and branding, and reveal the benefits and value of the landscape.

### 3 Towers and Destination

Key restorative works will focus on the 3 Towers - Jubilee Tower, Peel Tower and Rivington Pike Tower - as iconic landmarks, visible and unique signs for arrival at the West Pennine Moors, and clear cultural links to local communities.

We have identified a clear need for coordinated branding and communication for the destination that the West Pennine Moors has to give. This is substantial for heritage and recreation, with visitor facilities and important attractions, but lacks an overall picture relevant to visitors and locals. In particular it can lose focus due to the administrative boundaries that dissect the landscape. Using the website (below) as a central hub we will be building communications and branding, increasing awareness and supporting the destination for which there is already considerable potential. This will link with the Sense of Place Toolkit, and support business across the landscape through Talking Shop providing a proactive communication and engagement forum covering leisure, hospitality and creative industries in the area.

### Virtual Visitor Centre

Destination work will present a website or virtual visitor centre as a central hub for information on the area, its heritage, and the great places to see or activities to experience. It will link to the [Volunteer Hub](#) providing clear communication of opportunities and how to get involved and register interest. As an important legacy, the website will be developed to both provide some function to inform volunteers and public around events and opportunities into the future, and provide an archive of project work to continue to label and inform around the significance of heritage in the West Pennine Moors.



A Family at Peel Tower who have walked up at Easter for generations.  
Photo © Bury Times

## Anglezarke Quarry helped popularise climbing in the 1970s



Recreation has been one of the benefits local urban communities have gained from the West Pennine Moors for centuries. Photo © Tim Graham

### Natural Benefits

Develop communication tools to label the value and benefits communities derive from the West Pennine Moors, with water and recreation being exemplars to champion. We will assess the values that communities gain from heritage and landscape, producing communications for the Natural Benefits people get from the West Pennine Moors, to inform [Learning Landscapes](#) and [Pride of Place](#) and [Signposting Significance](#). It will also provide input to monitoring so that it can include elements of ecosystem services.



Source of the River Douglas on Rvington Moor highlighting the importance of water and role of the West Pennine Moors. Photo © Richard Burkmar

# The Victorian owner of Cheetham Close broke the stone circle due to fear of tourists

## Volunteer Hub

The Volunteer Hub will provide central infrastructure for volunteering opportunities and training across the landscape and the partnership. It will be the focus for all opportunities to get involved and the events programme.

### Central Hub

A focused 'brokerage service' acting as the first point of call for volunteers, matching volunteers to volunteering opportunities in the area. It will work with volunteering projects across the region to ensure high standards of volunteer management and health and safety, to develop consistent good practice for the support and retention of volunteers (including an e-newsletter, celebration events, and ways to recognise volunteer contributions), develop and implement good practice to support the engagement of volunteers from hard to reach groups.

There will be active promotion of volunteering and the production of a West Pennine Moors Volunteering Strategy. Perhaps the most important element will be the volunteer training programme which will directly link into the wider Skills and Training programme. There will be important links to the [Virtual Visitor Centre](#) and website for the West Pennine Moors so that locations, opportunities and training can easily be found, promoted and people can easily find contacts and register to get involved.



Volunteer Recruitment.  
Photo © Lancashire Wildlife Trust





*Cairns on Two Lads Moor that will enable training through Community Archaeology  
Photo © Richard Burkmar*

## Skills and Training

There will be a broad cross section of training and events to cover relevant skills for local groups and the heritage of the West Pennine Moors. A volunteer training programme will offer a wide range of accredited and non-accredited training opportunities to support the personal development and retention of volunteers. This will cover practical aspects to support the local community and groups such as Health and Safety, fundraising, social enterprise, volunteer management, constituting a group.

Important elements of heritage will have bespoke training, where possible linking with other projects in the 3 Towers bid. Built heritage training will be supported through the North West Heritage Skills Coordinator, and community archaeology will help support excavation, investigation and Historic Environment Record training. Natural heritage will not just cover species and habitat identification, but also condition assessment and monitoring that will enable local groups and individuals to assess their local environment and populations of iconic species into the future.

taster days to appeal to new volunteers.

# 1st IQ Test from Haslingden, using a question about pie crusts

## Learning Landscapes

We will embed the value of the landscape through outdoor classroom and laboratory education work making the most of the West Pennine Moors greatest asset - its landscape.

### Outdoor Classroom

Education work will focus on using the landscape as inspiration for teaching and awareness raising, building upon innovative work at Cronkshaw Fold Farm (Rossendale) and The Wellbeing Farm (Edgworth). Targeted work will develop a cluster of primary and secondary schools in the West Pennine Moors catchment area, to share inspiration and ideas and build mutual long term support. We will assist schools in identifying how they can make the best use of the West Pennine Moors landscape as an outdoor classroom and developing / delivering a range of activities to help them do this. Through our activities young people achieving a wide range of Awards e.g. Arts, John Muir, AQA. A range of walks and talks will allow learning to be available to the widest spectrum of people, all ages and groups learning about the heritage, beauty and wildlife value of the landscape. Learning will also link to [Pride of Place](#) and [Signposting Significance](#) work so that delivery and significance is complimentary and learning permeates the whole scheme.

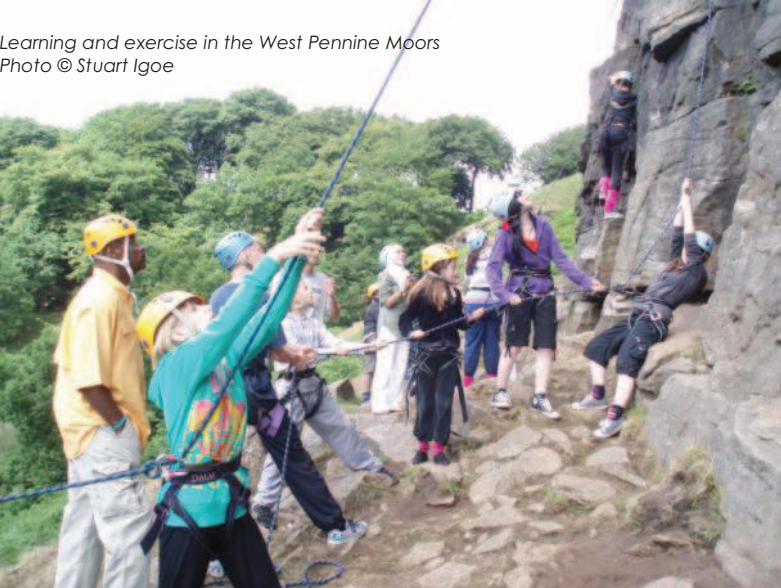
### Nursery INNIT

This innovative project will build on Offshoots expertise in Burnley, to direct dedicated horticultural training for the young and unemployed. It will directly link propagation and specialist training to restoration work ongoing in the West Pennine Moors to improve habitats and help restore rare plant populations. It will also link to Outdoor Classroom as part of our work to inspire and engage a wider audience to participate and learn, specifically focusing on harder to reach groups that can have been shown to benefit from alternative forms of education and confidence building using outdoor activities and learning.



Learning science in the environment  
Photo © Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Learning and exercise in the West Pennine Moors  
Photo © Stuart Igoe



Engaging outside the classroom at Cronshaw Fold Farm  
Photo © Joy McCarthey



Horticultural training and propagation  
Photo © United Utilities and Groundwork Pennine Lancashire



Restoration with plug plant produced through training  
Photo © United Utilities and Groundwork Pennine Lancashire



Engaging children in the natural environment (left and right)  
Photo © Mid Pennine Arts



# A HUGE Zeppelin airship struck fear into Rossendalians in a night-time bombing raid that went wrong, September 1916

## Hidden Heritage

We will shine a spotlight on cultural and natural heritage that risks becoming lost landscapes, enabling it to be explored and celebrated, and ensuring that more is brought into appropriate management.

### Heritage Interpretation

Provide or improve interpretation, physical and electronic (virtual visitor centre) for key, hidden and under-appreciated heritage including the abandoned farmsteads, halls such as Heather Lea and prehistoric sites like Round Loaf and Two Lads Cairns. Linking to the [Recreation Network](#) and [Signposting Significance](#) four focused areas will have Heritage Routes developed to cover a spectrum of access abilities and to present transects through relevant heritage.

### Community Archaeology

Promote Community Archaeology projects covering a distinct focus each year and also link to the Volunteer Hub to provide Skills and Training for excavation, investigation and reporting, Historic Environment Record, conservation of heritage, landscape survey, amongst others.

- Roman Road excavation to explore the influence of track/road access on the landscape and exploring a feature that bisects the whole landscape
- Investigation of prehistoric cairns and early industrial tile kilns on Two Lads Moor.
- Exploration of industrial archaeology linked to the textile industry and its influence on landscape and settlements including the Model Villages of Abbey Village, Belmont and Barrow Bridge.

### Glorious Grasslands

Restoration of grasslands and meadows as a relic Priority Habitat, often isolated, fragmented and at significant risk from inappropriate management. This is both 18% of Lancashire's resource and a key habitat linked to the recovery of Twite in the Southern Pennines. This will involve survey and instigation of appropriate management, introduction of green hay or targeted species (links to [Nursery INNIT](#)). They are also important part of pollinator networks, providing considerable benefits to invertebrate populations and the wider ecological network.

### Hare Today Gone Tomorrow

We will use Brown Hare as a flagship species to include volunteers and communities in monitoring biodiversity, and provide advice for habitat management linked to the significant population previously identified in the West Pennine Moors. Flagship species will also be used linked to wider environmental monitoring, awareness, conservation, and dedicated training of volunteers – Bilberry Bumblebee and other bees, Meadow Brown Butterfly, Adder, and birds (e.g. Pied Flycatcher, Snipe, Merlin, Stone Chat, Dunlin, Curlew, Lapwing, Short-eared Owl, Golden Plover).



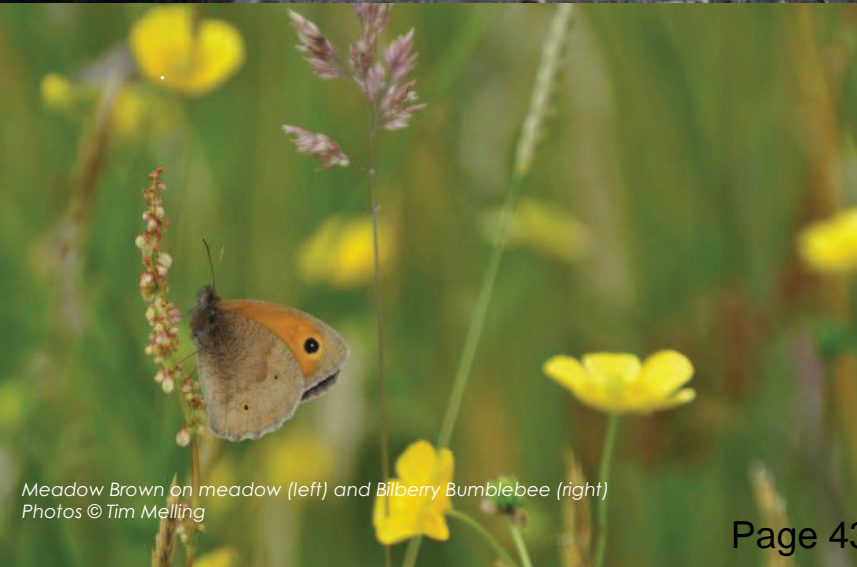
Brown Hare. Photo © David Pollard



Pike Stones. Neolithic chambered burial tomb, of the Seven Cotswold valley, the only example outside that area. Photo © John Lamb



Abandoned farmsteads and hidden heritage. Photo © Steve Messam.



Meadow Brown on meadow (left) and Bilberry Bumblebee (right)  
Photos © Tim Melling



