

West Pennine Moors Lancashire County Council activity 2011/12

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).

John Dimsdale (Friends of Healey Nab) has produced a range of leaflets interpreting the flora, fauna and history of the area. It is hoped that these can be distributed to visitors by Rangers on site.

Oswaldtwistle/Haslingden Moor Fence.

A new fence erected by contractors constructing the windfarm on Oswaldtwistle Moor has obstructed the open access. The company have agreed to install additional kissing gates to improve matters and the Ranger is due to meet with the site manager to agree suitable locations.

Pennine Bridleway Link Route

Everything bar the funding is in place to complete the last section in Lancashire at Town Bent. The legal matters and design are agreed. Natural England will fund the work to the tune of 70% and we are seeking to fund the shortfall through the Lancashire Environment Fund.

Rake Brook Reservoir, Abbey Village

United Utilities are very concerned about the volume of dog dirt on the embankment that is causing a health and safety hazard for staff carrying out the grass cutting. Cutting has to be carried out to facilitate inspection of the embankment.

The path across the embankment is a concessionary route, a substantial length of it part of the link route. Whilst it is clear that the issue has not arisen solely as a result of the agreement for the bridleway if UU were to close the route there would be a severe impact on local users and walkers as well as users of the bridleway. We are trying to find a way forward with UU.

Central Quarry Withnell

This area of Access Land is used by a timber company for storage and access to climbers has been denied. The Enforcement Officer from the Rights of Way team is dealing with this in partnership with the police.