



NEWSLETTER October 2026

Chairperson's Report.

This year's AGM will be held on **Sunday 11 October 2026**. Starting at 12:00 until 13:00. It will be in Hesketh Bank Community Centre. All the location details are included on the walk programme. A choice of two walks will be available after the meeting. The agenda will be issued separately. Please try to attend, nobody will be pressurised to take on roles but we do need to have a quorum to maintain the organisation and elect the committee.

Christmas The members' walk and refreshments this year will be on **Sunday 13 December** in Banks. A choice of two walks will be available starting at 10:30. Refreshments will be served at The Hub, Greaves Hall Gym Site. The venue information is included in the walk programme.

Soup, Sandwiches and a choice of deserts will be available with tea and or coffee included. The cost will be £14. The menu choices will be sent out after the AGM and booking and payment will be needed in advance.

Membership Subscription 2027. The amount of 12 months subscription will be confirmed at the AGM. The subscription year runs from 1Jan – 31 Dec.

50th Anniversary Bench Proposed location and fundraising for new bench and possible refurbishment of 20 year bench on Clieves Hill is currently underway. Plans are being discussed with West Lancashire Council for locating a bench in Fairy Glen at Parbold Hill. We hope to have a decision before the AGM. The cost is expected to be in the region of £1000 for the new bench. If anyone would like to donate please speak to David our Treasurer. We will be following the **Charity Commission guidance to comply with the law and follow the fundraising code.**

Support of Open Spaces Society. Our local representative has provide invaluable support. The expert and professional service we have had, in particular over the Bowkers Green, Mickering Lane FP 0804018 Diversion Order has been invaluable. This is an ongoing case and could take quite a while to reach a conclusion. The committee will move to maintain our membership to Open Spaces in 2027.

Green Fayre Review of 2026. We had a very busy day on the Sunday when we staffed the stand. It is difficult to assess if it results in increased membership but participating in a local popular event is good for our “general inclusive approach” to West Lancashire. National Ramblers currently pay for the stand which we share with them.

Footpath Update. Five paths have been reported in this quarter and some general enquiries have been made to PROW. They have all been acknowledged. Reports and outcomes are recorded in our Case Studies section of our website. PROW does have a Priority List of paths for maintenance.

As mentioned earlier footpath FP0804018 is still an ongoing issue.

Membership Update. Our membership has reached 86 paid members.

Treasurer Update. The deposit has been paid for the hire of the room for the AGM. David has started the process of fundraising for the anniversary bench projects.

Website and Facebook Update. The revised website has now been operational for over a year and is running smoothly, mainly thanks to the care of our web manager Chris. We have received positive reports from members and new recruits.

The site includes guidance in the form of our policies and all the walk details. The events page is updated showing the walk status and advice for attending a walk after the latest recce has been concluded by the Walk Leader.

As a result of our confidence in this new website the committee has decided to terminate the contract for the old web domain name; this will result in a cost saving to the group in the region of £26 per year.

The Facebook page continues to be very popular with 1614 followers. It is very pleasing how many attendees of the walks enjoy taking and submitting photos. They are a wonderful advert for what West Lancashire Footpath Group walks offer and a lovely reminder for those of us who were there. Please make it known to a Committee Member or the Walk Leader on the day if you prefer not to be photographed.

Walk Programme Update. The programme for 11 October – 29 December 2026 will be sent out with this newsletter and included on the website and Facebook page shortly after.

Many thanks to the Walk Leaders who do so much to keep our walk programme so successful.

Communications with members:

Our website is:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/westlancashirefootpathgroup/>

Our email address is:

westlancashirefootpathgroup@gmail.com

Our Facebook link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/267065369061420/>

Committee from 2 November 2025:

Chairperson: Gaynor Culshaw

Secretary: Mary Ellis

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: David Worrall

Walk Coordinator: Gwen Veevers

Website Manager and Facebook Administration: Chris Rimmer

Footpath Inspectors: Doreen Bird and Gwen Veevers

Member: Neil Ellis

Registered Charity Number

511764