

**Support for the addition of Public BRIDLEWAY, The Sluice Path, Banks Road To Station Road,
North Meols ref ROW/3282977**

I am writing on behalf of The British Horse society to support the proposed modification described above. The British Horse Society is a large equestrian charity with over 141,000 members and representing 3.5 million riders. One of the society's main objectives is to promote and secure the provision, protection and preservation of rights of way and of safe access for ridden and driven horses over public roads, highways, footpaths, bridleways, carriageways, public paths and other land.

In the British Isles, equestrians have legal rights to use just 22% of the rights of way network, increasingly disjointed by roads which were once quiet and are now heavily used by traffic resulting from development. Providing safe off-road routes will help to prevent the numbers of equestrians killed or injured on our roads from increasing in the future and we support any works that assist us in this endeavour.

We are aware of user evidence from many riders and other users of the route known locally as The Sluice Path, collated and held by a local equestrian resident. The overwhelming attendance by local horse riders at the original Inquiry further demonstrates the importance of this route locally for equestrian access.

We therefore fully support the decision to modify the addition order upgrading the status of the route to Bridleway from footpath and request that the decision made as a result of the inquiry is upheld.



Reanne Benson
BHS Access Field Officer North & Northwest