

**THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT OF
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM BANKS ROAD TO STATION ROAD, NORTH MEOLS,
WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH (DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION) ORDER
2014**

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF
MICHAEL GREEN**

1. My name is Michael Green. I live at 38 Skipton Avenue, Southport and I am a retired college lecturer. I have never been employed by any of the owners of the land crossed by the path that runs from Banks Road to Station Road (which I refer to as the "Sluice Path").
2. In 2012 I completed a user evidence form confirming my usage on foot of the Sluice Path. This statement provides further detail about that usage.
3. My overriding memory of using the Sluice Path is from visiting our friends who lived off Station Road. This was from approximately 1971 (the year after we moved to the area) until they moved away in 1974. We walked to their house along the Sluice Path (from point A to point I on the Order Map) as it meant that we could avoid walking on the main road. We walked back home the same way, using the full length of the Sluice Path from point I to point A. We did this about 2-4 times per year.
4. I have also walked along the Sluice Path with our dog.
5. I saw other people walking along the Sluice Path but never horse riders.
6. It has been a long time since I have walked along the Sluice Path as it has been fenced off for a number of years. I can't remember when that happened.

7. During the years I used the Sluice Path, it was always accessible to pedestrians so entry never had to be forced. I think there was originally a stile at the entrance point on Banks Road which could be climbed over. I also recall there being a public footpath signpost at point A pointing along the Path towards Station Road. When I was using the Path there were never any signs indicating the land was private.
8. I was never challenged when using the Sluice Path and I never asked for permission, nor was ever given permission, to use the Path.
9. In summary, I used the full length of the Sluice Path on foot until access was blocked but most memorably between 1971 and 1974.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: 

Date: 21/5/2020