

**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**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF  
MICHAEL ROBINSON**

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1. My name is Dr Michael Robinson and I live at 7 Primrose Grove, Newcastle under Lyme in Staffordshire. I am a teacher and 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. I know of the Sluice Path (marked from point A to point I on the Order Plan) because I grew up in Banks, living very close to the start of the Path – at 75 Banks Road - from the age of two (1973).
3. I used the Sluice Path as a child on family walks, during my aimless wanders and explorations, and for walking our dog. I also used it when I went course fishing along the sluice. When I fished I bought a day permit from a man at the back of a shop in Crossens.
4. I used the Sluice Path on foot and bicycle and I used the Path throughout the year but most often during the summer months. During the summer, I used the Sluice Path on a weekly basis on average.
5. My use of the Sluice Path became very infrequent from the age of 18 when I went away to university in 1990. I stayed there studying and carrying out research until 1998. After university I moved to Stoke-on-Trent to take up a teaching post and have lived in Staffordshire ever since although did


frequently visit my parents in Banks. I can't remember the last time I walked along the Sluice Path.

6. I recall that there was a little stile at the start of the Sluice Path on Banks Road (point A). This led on to a narrow track which then joined a wider track next to the sluice.
7. I saw other dog walkers using the Sluice Path, people fishing and I saw horse riders along the track next to the sluice.
8. I never asked permission, nor was ever given permission, to use the Sluice Path. I was never challenged when I was using the Path and I never saw any signs indicating that the land was private.
9. In summary, I was a regular user of the Sluice Path throughout my childhood years from the mid-1970s to 1990.

**STATEMENT OF TRUTH**

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

Signed: .....



Date: .....

15/5/20