

**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
SUSAN ROBINSON**

1. My name is Susan Robinson and I live at 75 Banks Road, Banks with my husband. 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. I first started using the Sluice Path in 1972 when my husband and I lived on Gravel Lane, which is off the bypass (Southport New Road) to the south of Station Road. In 1973 we moved to our current address on Banks Road and continued to use the Sluice Path for recreational purposes. My children were born in 1971 and 1975 and whilst they were young we used to walk along the Sluice Path together. We didn't own a car in those days so we walked a lot. I also used the Sluice Path for walking the various dogs we had over the years. As the children grew up I used the Sluice Path less often but did still use it for dog walking.
4. I had stopped using the Sluice Path a long time before I saw it had been blocked up at the Banks Road end by a fence around 2000-2002.
5. I used to see other people using the Sluice Path on foot. I can't remember seeing horse riders on the Path.

6. I never saw a stile at the start of the Path on Banks Road but I think there may have been a gate at the other end of the Path, at Station Road. The dust bin men used to park their dust bin wagons just a little way along the Path off Station Road.
7. I was never challenged by anybody when using the Sluice Path.
8. I never asked for permission to walk along the Sluice Path as it was always an open route so I didn't think permission was necessary.
9. There were no signs indicating that the land was private and should not be used by the public. Private signs only appeared on Banks Road after the fence was erected.
10. In summary, I used the full length of the Sluice Path on foot from 1972 until around the early 2000s.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

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

Signed: S. E. Robinson

Date: 11TH June 2020