

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

**THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL UPGRADING OF WRIGHTINGTON
FOOTPATH 21 TO BRIDLEWAY BETWEEN MOSS LANE AND MOSSY LEA
ROAD, WRIGHTINGTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH**

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2016

WITNESS STATEMENT OF PAULINE THOMAS

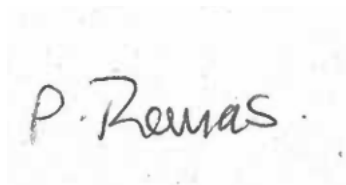
1. My name is Pauline Thomas and I live at 1 Naylor Farm Avenue, Shevington Wigan WN6 8EQ. I was born in 1956 and have lived locally. I am a retired clerical worker.
2. I completed a user evidence form in 2013 confirming my usage of the route that runs from Moss Lane via footpath 21 to Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. I signed a witness statement with a statement of truth on 25/9/2024.
3. I began riding at Roocroft Riding Stables as a school girl age 9 or 10 in the mid 1960s. I was riding every Saturday, Sunday and school holidays. I would use that particular route when we went out in a big group of children with Judith from the stables. We also used to go to fetes in Wigan and used the route as it was the safest way. I was using it regularly for pleasure on horseback about 15 times a year.
4. I got my own horse in the mid to late 90s, stabled in Standish and was riding the route regularly. In around 2005 my husband started horse riding too and I would sometimes accompany him on the route on a bicycle. Around 2014 my horse was stabled at Judith's Roocroft stables and I used the route regularly as it was a nice route. I didn't use it during Covid. I've used it once since Covid in 2023 approximately. I've currently got my horse stabled in Shevington and am not using the route. Apart from riding school days and when with husband, I'd usually ride alone.
5. I've never seen any permanent or temporary blockage of the route. I have never known any stiles, gates or fences across the route.

6. I can only recall one occasion when I was challenged using the route on horseback. I can't pinpoint a year but it was pre-Covid. She came out of a house and wanted to hand me an envelope. She then followed me in her car.
7. I don't recall seeing any signs or notices.
8. I have never been told by an owner or tenant of the land crossed by the route or by anyone in their employment that horses should not be on it.
9. In summary I used the route on horseback regularly from mid 1960s until 2023.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

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

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Remas', is written over a light blue rectangular stamp. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Dated 21/8/26