



West of Lancashire CRP

Activity Plan Update

15th October 2024

Richard Watts Partnership Secretary &

Chair Community Rail Lancashire



Key updates

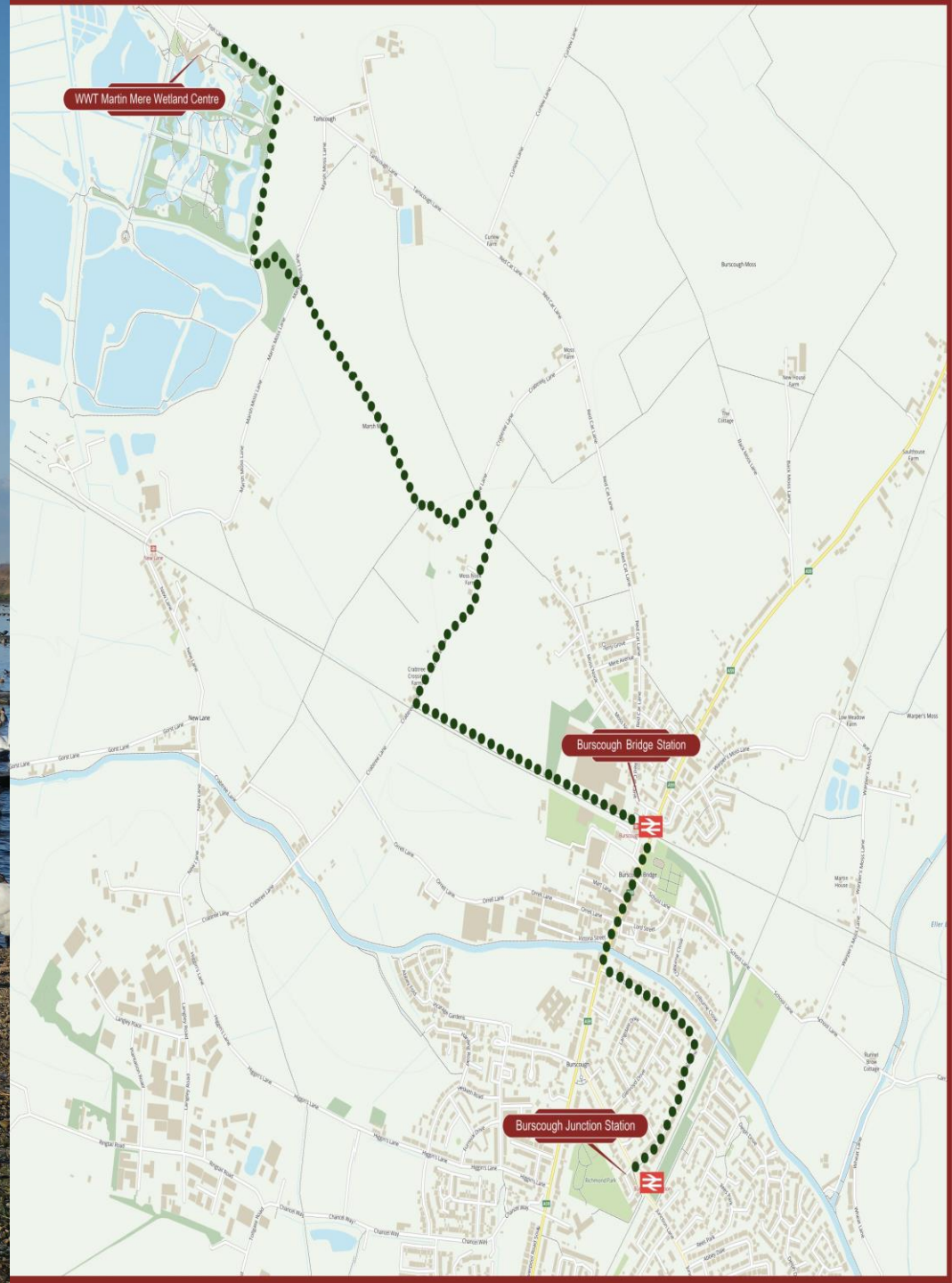
- **Accreditation** – the (re)accreditation meeting took place yesterday with thanks to Stephen and Caroline for their help in preparing and attending the meeting.
- **Activity Plan 2025 and Rail 200** – work is starting to develop the 2025 Activity Plan to cover the work of the 4 Lancashire CRPs and CRL. It is important that any new projects are captured in the Activity Plan. The Plan will also look at what we can do to contribute to Rail 200 and to Community Rail Week in May.
- **The Value of Community Rail** – this is a new report that has just been published by the Community Rail Network and can be viewed here:
<https://communityrail.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/VoCR-report-24-FINAL-FOR-WEB.pdf>
- **Mini timetables** – new mini timetables will be produced for the timetable change starting on Sunday 15th December.

Developments at Burscough Junction



BURSCOUGH BRIDGE TO MARTIN MERE:

- Developing links with Martin Mere
- Promoting the Explore Lancashire by Rail film - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM4rGZHZ-LU>
- Arrange school trip for Burscough Bridge Methodist Primary School to Preston for station tour and visit to Lancashire Archives.





RUFFORD TO MERE SANDS WOOD

- Brown signs now erected
- Continue to promote the walking route from the station to Mere Sands Wood

All resources can be found at

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/make-a-beeline-for-the-west-lancashire-line/>





Rufford Village Society – Adopters of Rufford Station

Plan to recycle old tyres
into planters for use in the
station car park.



The end of an era – farewell tour by 507 001

Photo: Merseyrail





Railway 200

4 key themes:

- **Innovation, technology and environment**
- **Education and skills**
- **Celebrating railway people**
- **Culture, heritage and tourism**

Full details on the railway 200 website:

<https://railway200.co.uk/>

Or watch this short video

<https://youtu.be/W6IHVcGuaLI>



Rail 200 – Events throughout 2025

- Rail 200 launched in Darlington on 19th September
- Jake Kelly, Managing Director of Network Rail Eastern, encouraged organisations and communities to embrace **Railway 200**, a once-in-a-generation opportunity to celebrate the railway's far-reaching impact on how we live our lives and how it's shaping a more sustainable future.
- Year long series of events planned key highlights include:
 - ✓ The Community Rail Network is planning a Railway 200 themed **Community Rail Week** in May – *we need to plan events for this across the 4 Lancashire CRPs.*
 - ✓ **Touring train** – a special 4 coach train will be touring the country and inviting schools, community groups and individuals to get involved. This will celebrate the past, present and future of rail and will include a careers carriage.
 - The train will tour the UK for a year probably from June 2025.
 - It will visit major stations and heritage railways – programme to be announced shortly.
 - We need to plan to take groups to visit this.
 - ✓ **What can your group do to contribute to celebrating Railway 200?** Share your ideas with Richard Watts and Caroline Holden.



Southport

- Following the horrific events in Southport in July CRL has offered to help the schools affected with rail confidence sessions.
- Thanks to Marian Atkinson we have been in contact with Sefton CVS
- Meeting planned for November
- Sessions likely to take place in early 2025



EDUCATION UPDATE