



Horseytalk.net BRIDLEWAYS WATCH

[Horseytalk.net Forum](#)

If you are concerned about Cattle, Dogs, Cattlegrids, Bridlegates - and even Llamas you must read what Bob Milton has to say.

It's vital for everyone concerned with access to the countryside

[Read his article in full here.](#)

Then send your views and opinions to peter@horseytalk.net

If you have been involved in any accidents involving cattle, dogs, cattlegrids, bridlegates or even llamas, [please send us details.](#)

The more information we have, the more we can campaign for riders rights.

Illegal motorbikes on bridleways

Bob replies to a question from Kay

Dear Kay,

Thank you for your query. The issue of enforcement against illegal motors on bridleways and restricted byways is one where your first port of call is the police as it is illegal under s34 Road Traffic Act 1988 ie a criminal offence.

It is possible if the police so wished to use s59 Police Reform Act 2004 to confiscate and crush the bikes if they continue to commit the criminal offence. Unfortunately the police do not usually have this in their operational procedures. You will have to fight them all the way to the top to have it included as I have found out to my cost.

If you are a BHS member it would be best if you contacted your county or regional access officer as they may already be aware of the problem.

I have to say that I have not come across the issue of insurance in such a scenario but you do have a valid point. If there is an accident and you or the horse gets severely injured then what use is a claim on the perpetrator as any road insurance would be invalid or, as usually is the case, they do not have any. This is a serious reason for having your own horse insured.



Have you discussed this problem with your county rights of way department? It is the RoW department as part of the Highway Authority that has the duty to act to protect and maintain the bridleways. It may also be useful to bring this to the attention of the County Access Forum [LAF] which is the statutory adviser on recreation to the County Council [CROW 2000].