



KLTC Summary Report No.13 – FEB 2025

03 MAR 25

**This is a summary of activities carried out by KLTC Technical Team during FEB 2025 in an effort to re-open The Brow footpath using a cost-effective approach that is low risk and safe for Public access.**

*This summary is presented to the Chair of Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council for monthly Council meeting on 05 MAR 25.*

The Technical Team report that a plan is in place to re-open The Brow footpath by Spring 2025. The plan includes installing a number of boreholes in the footpath and inserting 'inclinometers' and 'piezometers' in the ground to monitor any tiny movement deep in the slope. This 'manage & monitor' scheme will provide almost 'live' data to act as an early warning of ground movement.

Surface monitoring to date shows no significant movement along the footpath.

**Incidents / Adverse events to date:**

1. St. Mary's Church reports that an iron gate at the northern entrance to the graveyard was removed from its hinges and left on the ground. As the gate is very heavy, it has currently been re-hung on one hinge;
2. During recent vegetation clearance on the slope, Charlesworth Tree Care disposed of some 'wood chippings' on the church motte instead of the embankment.

**Stage 1a. – Tree Management and Vegetation Clearance:**

Charlesworth Tree Care Contractors were on site this month to clear the complete slope of small saplings and bushes (but not mature trees) in preparation for monitoring the slope in detail with a LiDAR drone survey. This data will be used to compare past and future data for any movement in the slope.

Concern remains in the stability of the motte retaining wall. We suggest removing the tree growth that is nearest to the wall. Malcolm Perrin (MP) met with St Mary's church representatives (Merlin Hibbs & Duncan Thornton) on 22FEB25. St Mary's have agreed to cut back sapling and remove roots from behind the stone retaining wall. MP agrees to organise a structural survey of part retaining wall adjacent to the motte when our Structural Engineer is next on site.

**Stage 1b – Survey Monitoring of The Brow:**

Malcolm Hughes Ltd continue to monitor surface levels along The Brow. Surveys are now at 3month intervals.

Surface monitoring to date shows no significant movement along the footpath.

Our Geotechnical advisor Simon Ferley (Dentonside Geotechnical Consultants) still perceives risk in two areas where there are visible surface cracks – North by the stone retaining wall and Storm Desmond landslide. He has confidence in the monitoring regime that we have established and the lack of movement recorded.

**Stage 2. – Geotechnical Investigation over the natural slope:**

We continue to work alongside Dentonside Consultants to fine tune the Specification and Bill of Quantities for best value costs.

A structural survey and possible repairs are needed for the stone retaining wall supporting the northern edge of the footpath, where cracks are visible in the tarmac. *ACTION: NH to contact local Structural engineers for costs*

**Stage 3. - Erosion at river level:**

Nothing to report this month.

**Commercial**

A presentation by KLTC Technical Team to all relevant Stakeholders is planned for 12 MAR 2025.

The Team will talk through progress to date and detail a proposed new Monitoring Scheme for installing Shape Array instrumentation deep into the ground to detect any movement of bedrock and overlying soils.

Following the presentation there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Total spend on the Project so far this year (2025) is £12 495.

Kind regards

Malcolm

**Malcolm Perrin**

**KLTC Technical Team Lead**

 **Kirkby Lonsdale** Town Council

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