

Rimington Moor – Rules regarding the Stirk Gates agreed 5th January, 1836

Rules and Regulations to be observed by Tenancy of George Lane Fox Esq.
Who are occupiers of Stirk Gates upon Rimington Moor situated within the Manor and
Township of Rimington.

Agreed to this Fifth day of January One thousand eight hundred and thirty six.

- 1st The first day of June shall be the time for turning the cattle to grass and the tenth day of October shall be the time for taking the cattle from grass.
- 2nd There shall be no cattle admitted at any gate but that at the top of Gills Farm situated on the north east side of the Moor it being the regular Cart Road to the said Moor or Common a[nd?] Pasture and there shall be two stirk gates allowed to the Gills Farm for hanging and keeping the Moor gate in repair.
- 3rd There shall be [a] bye Lawman annually chosen out of the Tenantry and he shall be remunerated according to contract by the said Tenantry and he shall look after the Herd and all other matters pertaining to the said Moor And if any matter shall arise such as impounding cattle &c., he shall call a general meeting of the occupiers or Tenants and then proceed according to the directions given at such general meetings. The bye Lawman shall be invested with a discretionary power of liberating cattle that are impounded without calling a general meeting.
- 4th There shall be a Herd engaged by the Tenantry and he shall regularly look and take care of the cattle on the said moor, and he shall be under the directions of the bye Lawman and the bye Lawman shall collect the Herd's wage by two instalments in proportion to the Stirk gates occupied by the Tenantry the first instalment to be collected in the first month after the Herd commences his duty and the second instalment one month before his term ends. The Herd shall commence his duty on the 28th day of April and continue in office until the 10th October following.
- 5th The gates of cattle shall be regulated by the following Table of Gates
a one year old Beast being called a Stirk
Two Sheep are called one Stirk Gate
One Scot or Twinter is called two Stirk Gates
and One Horse is called four Stirk Gates
Bulls and Stallions excepted
- 6th If any cattle shall get wrong or trespass upon any occupier or occupiers land adjoining Rimington Moor and the said occupier or occupiers shall use any unlawful means of driving of said cattle or shall any way injure or maim them The Tenantry or occupier shall defend the injured person or persons against the said occupier or occupiers or any person or persons whatever.
- 7th In the first week of April each year there shall be a meeting held at Newby School for appointing a bye Lawman out of the principle occupiers of Stirk gates on Rimington Moor and the bye Lawman shall be appointed by the occupiers who attend such

meetings. And if any of the Tenantry or occupiers wish to let their Stirk gates on the said Moor they shall make an offer of them to the Tenantry of G.L.Fox Esq. and if none of the Tenantry of G.L.Fox Esq. will give two shillings and sixpence per Stirk gate Then the said person or persons shall be at liberty to let his or their Stirk gates to any other person or persons after the meeting before mentioned has been held.

8th No person shall be allowed to stow or carry away any rushes or grass of the said Moor.

9th Resolved that Geo. Lane Fox Esq. be solicited to become a party for the better enforcing of these restrictions.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands the fifth day of January One Thousand eight hundred and thirty six.

John Falshaw - Joseph Watkinson - William Throup - Thos. Dean -
Richard Carr - Watson Tennant - Robert Nightingale - Thomas Croasdale -
John Wilson - Mary Briggs - William Banks - Bennet Towers -
Richard Marsden - William Wilkinson - Joseph Lowcock