

Barrow Parish Council – Footpaths Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 7th August 2023

Attendance

S Bartsch A	R Simpkin P
P Bond (Minutes) P	R Tomlinson P
D Cunningham (Barrow PC) P	J Walsh (Barrow PC) P
G Higginbotham A	D Watson P
B Partington	C Youngs (Chair) P
A Porter (Barrow PC) P	

A: apologies

P: present

Minutes of Last Meeting on 7th June 2023

The previous minutes were accepted.

Matters Arising

1/ Guide Books – Since the record listed in the minutes of 7/6/23: £20.00 - 5 books have been sold at the Bluebell Café.

Date 7/8/2023	Balance from last record	£ 966.57
Income	5 books sold at Bluebell Cafe Proceeds from sales	£20.00
Stock locations: Bluebell Café, Guilden Sutton PO, Tarvin PO, Meadow Lea, CY.		
Expenditure		
	Latest total	£986.57

CY suggested transfer by BACS to PC may be more efficient. JW agrees in principle, but will run this past the Parish Council at the next meeting on 11th September 2023.

2/ FP 9 (Broomhill to Long Green) – The works required to the handrail, and to the steps and stile, are out to contract. Now Pete and Richard have left CWaC these requests have to go through Customer Services. CY will chase but this may be a slower process.

3/ FP 2 (Ferma Lane to Guilden Sutton) – The surrounds to the bridge had now been cleared by the landowner. Action closed.

4/ FP 30 (Mill Lane to Heath Lane) – The resurfacing work has not yet been done but AP expected to get Chumpers support for this work fairly soon. The landowner has now replaced the snapped finger post.

Update: AP to speak to Urban Landscapes regarding a membrane for the gravel.

5/ FP 21 &22 (Park Hall and Park Hall to Tarvin Sands) – There was no progress on this to report.

Update: still hoping to follow this up when the new CWaC representative is appointed. If not will need reporting to Customer Services – CY to compile a list (see below).

6/ FP 4 (Barrowmore to B5132) – CY felt the Committee should keep a watching brief on the issue of the squeeze gap onto the B5132, since there remained some disquiet as to safety.

Update: safety concerns to be reported to Customer Services.

7/ FP 16 (Hollowmoor Heath to Swinford Mill) – PB confirmed that she had installed one sign. Action closed.

8/ FP 23 (Barrowmore to Broomhill) – The electric fence is back up and close to the stile. This needs to be adequately protected and not obstructing the path. JW suggested CY approach the landowner or sheep owner to discuss this further.

Other Matters

1/ CY reported that both Richard Ankers and Pete Atkinson had sought and obtained transfers to East Cheshire Council, possibly because of the lack of financial and practical support for their work for CWaC. There was no clarity as to whether they would be replaced. The Committee agreed that they should receive a letter, expressing appreciation for their help and support over the years. CY has sent letters to both. Action closed.

2/ FP 20 (Barrow Mill to Tarvin) – The upright to the bridge at Point 2 had not been replaced and there have been two complaints. CY has sent images to the Council.

3/ Sunken Road – CY reported that RA had delivered some pieces of wood as a ‘parting gift’. GH would measure what was required for repair of the bridge and AP confirmed that he would ask the Chumpers to assist with the repair, if GH would provide advice. AP to request assistance from the Chumpers to clear overgrowth on this path and also upper Ferma Lane (from The Hollies). The Jubilee Path has now been cleared, and the PC have a plan to regularly maintain this as it was a condition of the land handover.

4/ FP29, Ferma Lane, Upper Lane and FP 12 - CY noted that CWaC is obliged to cut growth from track surfaces annually, will compile list of where this is relevant and KW + AP will follow this up through the Parish Council. The Landowner is responsible for hedge cutting.

5/ FP 3 (B5132 to Plemstall) – There was discussion as to whether the landowner might accept responsibility for repair of the collapsed section of the sleeper bridge. CY would raise this with him. The materials supplied by RA were unlikely to be suitable. DC to follow up on this as a runner reported this has been fixed.

6/ Secretary – Thanks expressed again to AF for his contribution to the Committee. CY has had a picture printed from his favourite walk, please be in touch with CY to contribute to this.

7/ New walking book printing – CY has approached the original printer and she has made the corrections free of charge. Quote £560 for 400 new books = £1.40 per book. We charge £4 for a book, but cost justified due to the amount of work that goes into this. Is this print run suitable? Current colour is Green, look to change this so reader can spot the updated version. Considered laminating the book, brings cost per book up to £1.75.

Will need to gather another quote due to cost exceeding £500, for consideration by the Parish Council. JW suggested CY send information to Tracy who can then get quotes.

RT suggested if that is the case we could see whether the current printers approached would do a print run of 350 and honour the £1.40 a book. Would bring below the £500 threshold. CY to explore print costs and options. Eight years since last update and these books are valued by local walkers, so it is imperative we continue this.

8/ Footpaths email address – CY has access and will answer emails. Address to be noted on the PC website and in the Barrow News.

Any Other Business

AP provided a website update. Not yet open to the public, but live and functional. There was discussion around the map used and who may have the original file. CY has hard copies, linked from CWaC's license with OS. AP to follow up with CWaC and Ward Councillors to see about access to this.

Lisa's latest version is available but this doesn't have all paths.

CY to send footpaths booklet corrections to AP so these can be reflected on the website.

CY to Report to Customer Services:

2/ FP9

4/ FP30

5/ FP21 and 22

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Appendix of Outstanding Footpaths Work

Path	Pos	Date	Work Required	Actions
Path 6	4	24/05/10	Gowy crossing steps very steep. Extra step needed.	No funds available.
Path 19	2	07/09/15	New gate needed at Mill	No action at present
Path 29		12/11/18	Barnhouse Lane to FP 13 impassable	CWaC responsibility