

DRAFT Barrow Parish Council – Footpaths Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 17th November 2025

[Foot Paths - Great Barrow Community website](#)

footpaths@barrowpc.org

[Public Map Viewer](#)

Attendance

S Bartsch A	R Simpkin P
P Bond (Minutes) P	J Walsh P
D Cunningham (Barrow PC) Resigned	D Watson A
S Kellett P	C Youngs (Chair) P
S Paton P	M Goan (CWaC Footpaths Officer) A

A: apologies

P: present

Minutes of Last Meeting on 6th October 2025

The minutes were accepted.

Matters Arising

1/ Guidebooks - Since the record listed in the minutes of 6.10.25; 8 books have been sold.

Date 16.24	Balance from last record:	£972.12
In: 8 books sold between Guilden Sutton PO, Tarvin PO and Bluebell Cafe	Proceeds from sales:	£33
Stock locations: Bluebell Café, Tarvin PO, Meadow Lea, Guilden Sutton PO and CY.		
	Expenditure:	£0
	Latest total:	£1005.12

2/ FP 30 (Mill Lane to Heath Lane) - Recommendation from the Environment Agency for work (application in, just waiting to hear regarding funding though some mention of funds on National news), no work has been done just yet. Awaiting update from MG.

3/ FP 4 (Barrowmore corner to B5132) - MG has suggested using a pedestrian gate which will act as a kissing gate with the posts that are already in place, which the Committee are happy to accept this

suggestion. It would be helpful to replace the signs which were previously in place, warning walkers to 'beware traffic'. CY and PB to chase.

4/ FP 24 (Ferma Lane) - MG has noted big drainage issues past Ferma Wood which will require work with the Landowner. MG keen to fix. CY suggested speaking to S Pym re the drainage pool. Awaiting update from MG.

Path is now very overgrown, requested that MG liaise with CWaC contractors to cut this and advise when the work may take place, but no response. Too wet to tackle now so will wait for spring 2026.

Two big oak branches had come down, RS cleared one and another has been cleared by someone else. Passable now.

Pixie steps - Awaiting update from MG. He had previously met with Paul Johnson about the sandstone blocks but was keen to speak to a contractor as any gravel would simply wash away. This is problematic as the drainage ditch has gone. No further deterioration but this is a serious health and safety concern as we move into winter. Action required as these steps are unsafe, and JW has volunteered to report this online.

5/ FP 12 (Hollowmore Heath to Broomhill House Farm) - CY has confirmed the Landowner with MG.

Awaiting update as will become wet again when we have rain.

6/ FP 2 (Ferma Lane to Guilden Sutton) - New stone has now been washed away (What3Words: [arranges.winners.reliving](#)). MG had met with a contractor to discuss putting a longer bridge in and moving it slightly, MG was hoping to allocate CWaC funds as financial year ended. OR does the landowner have responsibility here? It would be good to have some guidance from MG or Margaret Parker, CY and PB to send a list of key actions again, and to include this point.

7/ FP 23 (Barrowmore to Broomhill) - Electric fencing has been removed from the hedge line one side of the kissing gate, so there is no longer any obstruction. Action closed.

8/ FP9 - Near Long Green Farm, MG had previously organised two bridges over the stream and brook which will help despite ongoing flooding problems. MG was still keen to speak with Landowner regarding the electric fencing; await update.

9/ - MG requested an update in Spring when paths become overgrown, please see item 4 above re cutting. FP 29 will also require cutting. Oct update: CWaC haven't done any cutting this summer, and it is now too wet. Will revisit this matter (including item 4) in spring 2026.

Other Matters

1/ FP 20 (Barrow Mill to Tarvin) - The upright to the bridge at Point 2 had not been replaced and there had been two complaints. CY previously sent images to the Council, but it was too overgrown to assess. MG planned to walk last year, awaiting update. SB reported this was still wobbly back in October.

2/ Church Lane (Sunken Lane) - Concerns initially raised via a note on 'Care for Barrow' re broken bridge. Several planks on the bridge have rotten and broken, and there were signs placed advising this route is closed and walkers should divert over the Milton Brook bridge. CY has previously reached out to MG to see if he could recommend someone to complete repairs, but no response received on this. It was decided in October that it may be preferable to advise walkers to use the existing concrete bridge and to divert the path to avoid spending money on repairs until there is more certainty as to the future of the permissive path.

Landowner attended PC meeting in October and opted to close and remove the bridge, they also expressed a desire to close the lane from the top near the Church, but this is not supported by the FP Committee. PB to place signs noting the FP closure from the bottom of Church Lane.

There was then discussion around potentially diverting the path and allocating this a memorial path, JW will draft text to discuss at our next meeting in Jan.

3/ FP 26 (Village Hall to Church) - CY yet to liaise with resident and MG on this.

4/ FP 19 (Mill Lane path to FP 30) - Awaiting update from MG re log store on the path. This house has been sold so there is scope to pick this up with the new owners.

5/ FP 29 - This path is overgrown and impassable. Awaiting update from MG re cutting and CWaC maintaining this (likely raise again in spring 2026).

6/FP16 - CY raised a concern regarding stiles, SP volunteered to walk and take photos with What3Words locations.

7/FP3 - JW raised concerns regarding the positioning of electric fencing (obstructing the diagonal path and the kissing gate too). Will raise with the PC to request they speak with the Landowner to sort.

JW also referred to a leaflet seen in Shropshire which details who to speak to (Landowner, PC, Council etc.) in different circumstances. This may be something we could adapt for use to will aim to find again and bring to next meeting.

Any Other Business

Discussion continued regarding the change to title to 'Working Group'. As DC has now resigned from both the Parish Council and the Footpaths Group, he was not in attendance and therefore unable to bring clarity on this. JW kindly volunteered to draft text for the PC Clerk to raise at their next PC meeting and we will continue discussions at the next FP meeting in Jan.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 19th January 2026, 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