

DRAFT Barrow Parish Council - Footpath Working Group Minutes

Monday 2nd March 2026

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

footpaths@barrowpc.org

[Public Map Viewer](#)

Attendance

S Bartsch P	A Shepherd P
P Bond (minutes) P	R Simpkin A
P Carrigan P	J Walsh P
J Gidman P	D Watson A
S Kellett P	C Youngs (Chair) P
S Paton P	M Goan (CWaC Footpaths Officer) A

A: apologies

P: present

New members Janice Gidman and Alison Shepherd introduced.

Minutes of Last Meeting on 19th January 2026

The minutes were accepted.

Matters Arising

1/ Guidebooks - Since the record listed in the minutes of 19.1.26; 5 books have been sold.

Date 19.1.26	Balance from last record:	£1029.12
In: 5 books sold between Meadow Lea, Guilden Sutton PO and Bluebell Cafe	Proceeds from sales:	£20
Stock locations: Bluebell Café, Tarvin PO, Meadow Lea, Guilden Sutton PO and CY.		
	Expenditure:	£0
	Latest total:	£1049.12

2/ FP 30 (Mill Lane to Heath Lane) - No further information received since last update. Update from MG required. Previously, recommendation from the Environment Agency for work, application in, waiting to hear regarding funding, no work has been done yet.

3/ FP 4 (Barrowmore corner to B5132) - Improvements to pedestrian gate and signage not yet taken place. Update from MG required. The group considered a possible connection to Barrowmore planning permission which would require this footpath to be made wheelchair accessible, this may impact the previously agreed improvements.

4/ FP 24 (Ferma Lane) - Overgrown and drainage issue raised previously. Still too wet to tackle now, and will update MG in spring 2026.

Pixie steps - Written update received from MG previously advising a quote has been received for £780 to cast 5 new concrete steps and create a bund to stop water run-off and asked the group to confirm acceptable. The group considered and noted a preference by the group to retain sandstone and thus the character of the steps. When requesting a budget update for sandstone from MG he advised the cost would be the same as above, so the group wish to proceed with the sandstone replacement steps please.

5/ FP 12 (Hollowmore Heath to Broomhill House Farm) - ongoing issue relating to drainage. Potential for update from MG on this.

6/ FP 2 (Ferma Lane to Guilden Sutton) - This work is now complete so the action can be closed. The group wish to thank MG (and CWaC) for his work on this.

7/ FP 9 - 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. PC agreed to walk the path to see if any issues remain outstanding.

8/ FP 29 - MG requested an update in Spring when paths become overgrown, FP 29 will require cutting. Revisit this matter (and any others that require cutting) in spring 2026.

9/ 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, and we await an update. PB agreed to walk and assess any issues outstanding.

10/ Church Lane (Sunken Lane) - Broken bridge with several planks rotten and unfit. There have previously been signs placed advising this route is closed from the bottom of Church Lane, and walkers should divert over the Milton Brook bridge. These were removed and will be replaced by PB at the top of the sunken lane for visibility.

Note from previous minutes: 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. A benefactor has agreed to donate funds to the Parish Council towards the replacement of the bridge. The group have sent a letter to the landowner, outlining the next steps and the PC continue to work with RS/CY/MG in relation to the benefactor, contractor and environment agency (as an exemption is required).

11/ FP 26 (Village Hall to Church) - A benefactor had previously agreed to donate funds for resurfacing work but has since pulled out. Depending on the groups funding input to other projects, we could look to fund this. MG and CY to liaise regarding the quotes previously obtained.

12/ FP 19 (Mill Lane path to FP 30) - Previous issue regarding log store on the path may have been resolved due to new landowners. Path not easily walkable in winter, revisit in the spring and see if blockage has been removed. If not MG to take up with new property owners. SB has offered to walk when this area becomes drier.

13/ FP 29 - DUPLICATE; see point 8. (This path is overgrown and impassable. Relates to cutting issue, raise with MG in the spring.)

14/ FP16 - SP walked this route, confirmed a stile is broken but there is a gap to walk around it. No action currently required.

15/ FP3 - JW had previously raised concerns regarding the positioning of electric fencing (obstructing the diagonal path and the kissing gate too). Had planned to raise with the Parish Council to request they speak with the Landowner to sort; however, the farmer has sadly passed away. The fencing is still in place (but low enough to step over) so will wait and see if this is removed before the next meeting.

Other Matters

16) FP8 - MG provided a written update to advise a rotten sleeper bridge (near Morley Lane) is being replaced. PC offered to walk and check.

17) FP15 - SP walked this route previously and had photos relating to damage at stile 4. What3words quirky.tabs.vineyard. JW referred to previous email correspondence from landowner reporting two broken stiles, CWAC would provide materials but not repair. Landowner had concerns regarding liability. Refer to MG to review and discuss with landowner.

Any Other Business

JW has previously discussed a leaflet seen in Shropshire which details who to speak to (Landowner, PC, Council etc.) in different circumstances and who the responsibility lies with. Plan to share this with MG to see whether CWaC have something similar as the group felt this is a useful resource.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th April 2026, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

At this meeting we will endeavour to allocate paths due to recent changes in the membership of the group.

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