

DRAFT Barrow Parish Council - Footpath Working Group Minutes

Monday 20th April 2026

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

footpaths@barrowpc.org

[Public Map Viewer](#)

Attendance

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

A: apologies

P: present

Minutes of Last Meeting on 2nd March 2026

The minutes were accepted.

Matters Arising

1/ Guidebooks - Since the record listed in the minutes of 2.3.26; **4** books have been sold.

Date 20.4.26	Balance from last record:	£1049.12
	In: 4 books sold at Bluebell Café	
	Proceeds from sales:	£16
Stock locations: Bluebell Café, Tarvin PO, Meadow Lea, Guilden Sutton PO and CY.		
	Expenditure:	£0
	Latest total:	£1065.12

*Email update received from MG on 21st April. Notes included alongside minutes (in blue) for ease.

2/ FP 30 (Mill Lane to Heath Lane) - No further information received, update from MG required please. 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. The group had previously 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.

MG email update: I have noted previous comments re disabled access for kissing gates on FP4, I will go out and reassess to see if we can put in wider gates. I have secured funding for the gates, so I hope to progress this shortly.

4/ FP 24 (Ferma Lane) - Overgrown and drainage issues raised previously. MG, please could this be on the list for cutting this year? With an update to the Group as to when this will take place, if possible.

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.

MG email update: I have been informed that we have some sandstone blocks in our depot and I can use them to repair the steps.

5/ FP 12 (Hollowmore Heath to Broomhill House Farm) - ongoing issue relating to drainage. Potential for update from MG on this. SB, PB and DW have walked this path previously, look to feedback on the drainage issue at the next meeting.

MG email update: I will reinspect path to work out best solution, will probably be sleeper bridge and remove stile and replace with kissing gate. I will need landowner consent for this.

6/ FP 9 (Broomhill to Long Green) - 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 Landowners regarding the electric fencing. PC aiming to walk the path to see if any issues remain outstanding.

MG email update: Electric fence too near footpath, I spoke to owner several months ago, if this is still an issue I will reinspect speak to owner again.

7/ FP 29 (Restricted Byway) - MG requested an update in Spring when paths become overgrown, FP 29 will require cutting.

MG email update: I shall arrange for this to be cut back.

8/ 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. SB has walked and reported issues with two stiles. There is a wobbly handrail at point 2, and no route for dogs. The next stile has a wobbly step as the joining post is rotten, this needs work.

MG email update: I apologise I forgot about this one I shall check my emails to see what the issue is and resolve it.

9/ Church Lane (Sunken Lane) - Broken bridge at the bottom of the lane 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 have again been removed and will be replaced by PB at the top of the sunken lane for visibility. Awaiting update on work from the Parish Council. They are currently pursuing the Flood Risk Activity Permit exemption.

10/ 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.

MG email update: I may be able to get this resurfaced I think I got a quote for this I shall check.

11/ 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.

MG email update: Advise me if path is still blocked and then I will inspect and speak to owners.

12/ FP16 (Hollowmore Heath to Swinford Mill) - SP walked this route, confirmed a stile is broken but there is a gap to walk around it. No action currently required. Will walk when dry to monitor.

13/ FP3 (The Hollies to Plemstall) - JW had previously raised concerns regarding the positioning of electric fencing (obstructing the diagonal path and the kissing gate too). RS has confirmed this has now been removed. Action closed.

Other Matters

14) FP8 (Rose Farm, Long Green to Nortons Lane and Dunham Hill) - MG provided a written update to advise a rotten sleeper bridge (near Morley Lane) is being replaced. PC offered to walk and check.

15) FP15 (Heath Lane to beginning of FP16) - 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.

MG email update: Inspected last year, apologises I haven't taken action I will reinspect and resolve.

16) FP21 (Hollowmore Heath to Park Hall) - Monitor stile near Park Hall Farm, wobbly but manageable currently.

Any Other Business

We had planned to allocate footpaths, however due to low numbers, this was deferred to the next meeting.

SK has previously shared information regarding Frodsham Festival of Walks 2026:

<https://frodshamfestivalofwalks.uk/> which is continuing until Monday 4th May.

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. Please see links below and query with MG as to whether CWaC have something similar? The group feel this could be a useful resource to share with landowners and farmers.

[Landowner & User Advice and Countryside & Highway Codes - Shropshire's Great Outdoors](#)

[Public Rights of Way - a guide for landowners and farmers - Shropshire's Great Outdoors](#)

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 22nd June 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