

Minutes of Feock Parish Council Access & Amenities Committee Meeting

held on Monday 30th March 2026 at 6pm at the Parish Council Office, Market Street, Devoran

Councillors present:

Philip Allen	Carnon Downs ward
Richard Brickell	Carnon Downs ward
Brian Yates	Carnon Downs ward
Julian Newman	Devoran ward
Rick Bowers	Feock ward
Corine Dyke	Feock ward
Keith Hambly-Staite	Feock ward
Alison Avard	Feock ward

In attendance: Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk
4 members of the public

Chair: Cllr Rick Bowers

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ACCESS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

RESOLUTION: CLLR DYKE PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 2ND MARCH 2026 WERE APPROVED AS AN ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING WITH ONE AMENDMENT TO CORRECT A TYPO (UNDER FOOTPATH ITEM TO REMOVE EXTRA 'AND') AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR YATES AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 4 members of the public present.

A resident read out a statement regarding their use of the Common Land at Carnon Mine land and how this related to the Parish Council's plans to install a handrail beside the public right of way. They explained how they access the beach and launch boats from the land. A concrete path had been installed about 30 years ago on the slope to enable better access for boat trailers and on foot. The access path is maintained with grass on each side so that trailers can straddle the concrete path. If a handrail was to be installed this would make it impossible to get a boat trailer down the slope as the handrail would be in the way, the full width of the grass area was needed for space for a trailer. Residents were upset that the Parish Council had installed a new handrail on the Common Land beside the public right of way with no notice or consultation.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ENABLE A TWO WAY DISCUSSION WITH RESIDENTS, SECONDED BY CLLR AVARD AND CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

The Chair brought forward Item 9 – Installation of handrail on PROW 305/29/2

9. INSTALLATION OF HANDRAIL ON PROW 305/29/2 AT CARNON MINE

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council's reasoning for installing the handrail was to allow access on the public right of way and Common Land as it was quite a slope and could be difficult to manage for those less able.

Cllr Brickell suggested widening the concrete path to enable access for both pedestrians and boat trailers. There were concerns about the impact on the landscape of widening the concrete path and encouraging motorised vessel use if access were improved to a larger degree.

Cllr Dyke said she didn't agree that Carnon Mine was purely for launching boats, it was Common Land and had a public footpath running through it and should be able to be accessed by everyone.

Cllr Allen said that the Parish Council always try to preserve the land around the parish for its traditional use and when considering installing a handrail at Carnon Mine they were mindful of the use of the access also for boat users with trailers as well as pedestrians and wished to ensure access for both. It had been useful to hear about the space required to be able to move trailers up and down where the public footpath was on the bank/slope.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said the idea to install the handrail had come from our Wellbeing agenda and encouraging use of the Tram Road as a flat accessible safe area to walk. Carnon Mine was Common Land and we wished to ensure people were able to access and enjoy the area, he did not wish to see a small group of users stopping other people using the land. He hoped a compromise could be reached to enable less able bodied pedestrians and boat users to be able to access the land without causing problems for one or other of the groups.

Cllr Allen proposed that a demountable handrail on the right hand side could be a solution to enable access to both boat owners and pedestrians. The impression given was that this may be acceptable to residents but would require a locking mechanism for security.

The Chairman summarised that there was long standing access for boats to Common Land via a concrete path that had been installed about 30 years ago. A compromise solution was a demountable handrail but there were concerns about widening the pathway, the impact on the landscape and inviting additional use by motor vehicles.

Cllr Hambly-Staite was concerned about delays with this project due to funding received and the concern of losing this.

After discussion and amendment to the original proposal the following resolution was passed:

RESOLUTION: CLLR BOWERS PROPOSED THAT WORK IS PAUSED, THE CURRENT POSTS ARE MOVED AND WE MOVE RAPIDLY TO INVESTIGATE A DEMOUNTABLE HANDRAIL TO AVOID EXTRA CONCRETE OR WIDENING THE PATH, FACILITATE THIS WORK AS A MATTER OF URGENCY TO SECURE DETAILS OF THE DESIGN, INSTALLATION AND PRICES AND BRING TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING FOR APPROVAL, SECONDED BY CORINE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. SMALL GRANTS FUNDING

The Clerk advised that one application had been received for small grants funding for Christmas Lights in Market Street in Devoran.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ENABLE A TWO WAY DISCUSSION WITH THE RESIDENT ABOUT THE FUNDING APPLICATION, SECONDED BY CLLR NEWMAN AND CARRIED BY THE MEETING.

The resident advised that a small committee had been formed with the aim of starting a display of Christmas lights in Market Street, they would like to start if permission was given by the Parish Council with some lights on the garden (Common Land) opposite the Parish Council offices. They would like the whole community to get involved and the Pre-School have already expressed an interest in being part of this.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE PROPOSED THAT £200 FROM THE SMALL GRANTS FUNDING BE AWARDED TO THE DEVORAN MARKET STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, SECONDED BY CLLR NEWMAN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chairman thanked the resident for attending.

7. CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING FOR INFORMATION

The Clerk reported as follows.

Maintenance work instructed in the last month for Committee's information:

Devoran Recreation Ground

Walkway to wooden tower in Devoran has now had anti-slip strips installed.

New entrance gates installed and treated.

Pengelly Meadows, Carnon Downs

Cleaning of table tennis table to remove remains of food.

Park an Gwarry, Carnon Downs

Swings - old fixings/hanger systems removed and refurbish top beam where rusting and repainted and chains replaced with new stainless steel safety chains (avoiding finger traps)

Other maintenance

Put up dog fouling signs on Market Street following request from resident

Phonebox retaining strap replaced at Point Green

Gutters to be cleared to remove blockage and repair tile at Old Market Hall, booked for April due to leak down outside of wall and to avoid damage to structure.

Litter sign arrived and to be installed at Ferris Garage layby

Carnon Yard benches – wood preservative has started to be applied, additional coat needed.

Clerks report on actions arising from previous meetings

Cornwall Council Enhanced LMP Funding – application successful for all 3 projects and funding received. All contractors contacted and orders placed for the work.

Pill Creek steps - query raised and inspection requested with regards to wooden structure at bottom of the steps that go down onto the foreshore in case additional work is needed to make them safe, Cormac are inspecting these steps and will come back with a report on any work needed. May need to apply for further Enhanced LMP Funding.

Carnon Mine handrail and widening of path – Contractor instructed to go ahead with works, on agenda for further discussion.

Tresithick footpath – surface quantity established, waiting on price from CC quarry. Price provided by contractor, may need to apply for further funding.

Signage working group meeting – Clerk still to arrange, to include discussion around 'information' point signage

Installation of bike racks – Clerk has provided maps showing locations of bike racks on highway to enable the licence agreement to be drawn up. Query regarding Carnon Downs bus shelter location of bike rack to be looked at by Cllr Bowers.

Litter sign for layby near to Ferris Garage – sign received and with contractor for installation.

Footpath 305/43/3 surface – Clerk has written to residents following last A&A meeting.

Meeting with Planning Officer – investigations made Community Link Officer not able to help, Planning Link Officer scheme appears no longer to be in place.

Risk Assessments – Insurers advised annual risk assessments, to be repeated if an incident/accident, something changes on the site or the assessor changes. Table record regular checks created by Clerk.

Reporting issues online – Clerk has circulated useful links to Councillors and included in Connect magazine.

8. MYFEOCK INFORMATION & WELLBEING ADVISER MONTHLY REPORT

The MyFeock Information & Wellbeing Advisers report was as follows.

MyFeock Community Hub:

The next Steering Group Meeting is Wednesday 8th April 10.30am at The Hub Carnon Community Methodist Church.

Planning the 'What's On Live' public participation event for 6th June 2026 has commenced to gather local groups and organisations who advertise in the 'What's On' guide and online listings to promote their activities. The venue will be at The Hub Carnon Community Methodist Church and Hall, providing space to offer demonstrations in the hall and quieter areas in the church.

I participated as a stallholder at the recent Perranwell Wellbeing Event on 14th March and the organisers' feedback was that more advertising would be taken onboard for the next event they do. Footfall was limited but stallholders felt it was a good networking experience.

Repair Café:

The next Repair Café on Tuesday 31st March will be attended by Cats Protection Charity to promote fundraising and adoptions; our April Repair Café will be attended by our Neighbourhood Police representatives to promote safety and community awareness, such as antisocial behaviours, such as fly tipping.

Support Lines:

We welcome James Ellis to our Volunteer Driver Team this month who has completed the DBS Enhanced Check and is ready for duty. Requests for lifts continues for our current group of residents so with the addition of James we have more cover during holiday periods to meet as many requests as we can.

Walk & Talks:

Jacqueline Davey has provided a list of walks for the coming weeks for April 7th, 14th, 21st and May 5th to kick start the spring season. The 14th April will be a Feock Stroll short walk additional session to our fortnightly schedule. Details will be included in 'What's On' and MyFeock Wellbeing website Events Calendar.

10. POTENTIAL S106 CONTRIBUTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO PROW 305/23/8 AT POINT ROAD, CARNON DOWNS

The Planning Officer had contacted the Parish Council with regards to a S106 relating to a new development to make improvements to access.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BRICKELL PROPOSED THAT A FIGURE OF £10K IS REQUESTED VIA A S106 AGREEMENT FROM THE DEVELOPERS TO ENABLE THE CREATION OF A SAFE, GOOD QUALITY LINK FOR PEDESTRIANS TO THE VILLAGE. THE MONEY WOULD BE USED TO MAKE AN ACCEPTABLE, GOOD ACCESS TO THE VILLAGE CENTRE FOR THE INTENDED OCCUPIERS OF THE NEW HOUSES BY SURFACING AND IMPROVING PROW 305/23/8. SECONDED BY CLLR ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was noted that permission was needed from the landowner to make improvements to the public right of way and the Clerk would contact the PROW team to ask if they would be able to facilitate this permission and discussion.

11. ACCESS & AMENITIES DELEGATED BUDGET

The Clerk outlined the following proposed spending from the delegated budget and asked the Committee to consider authorising these.

Repair Café advertising flag to put outside on the day of the Repair Café: cost £160 including base, pole and double sided flag, the design had been circulated.

Repair Café plastic sign to fix to the advertising bike: cost: £24, the design had been circulated.

New Sedum plants for planters on Forth Coth, Carnon Downs: £30

Labour for planting donated daffodil bulbs in Dysons Field: £100

Funding for Prunus Pandora (flowering cherry trees) @ £62.50+VAT each for planting on the verges at Carnon Crescent.

RESOLUTION: CLLR DYKE PROPOSED THAT THE ABOVE SPENDING BE APPROVED FROM THE ACCESS & AMENITIES DELEGATED BUDGET WITH THE CONDITION THAT THE TREE SPECIES WOULD BE DECIDED, SECONDED BY CLLR AVARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. COMMUNITY GARDENING PROJECT

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

13. MURAL ON FOURTURNINGS BUS SHELTER

Cllr Dyke had spoken with the mural artists who confirmed they could provide a commercial based mural. Cllr Newman had a draft email to review to send out to potential sponsors.

14. LAND & ASSET SITE VISIT UPDATE

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. The Clerk would update the report following the visits and circulate this to all.

15. GWR RAILWAY 200 PROJECT ACTIONS

Cllr Hambly-Staite said that there were 4 large A1 boards that tell the story of Devoran and suggested these were loaned to be displayed in Devoran Village hall.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE PROPOSED THAT DEVORAN VILLAGE HALL BE OFFERED THE LOAN OF THE BOARDS TO DISPLAY, SECONDED BY CLLR AVARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. TREE WARDEN SCHEME & ADDITIONAL TREE PLANTING IN THE PARISH

The Clerk had circulated the details of the Tree Warden Scheme and Cllr Allen outlined the work we already did that fell under the Tree Warden Scheme he proposed that we join this scheme.

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL JOIN THE TREE WARDEN SCHEME AND HIMSELF AS THE REPRESENTATIVE, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITTE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

17. CHANGES TO BUS SERVICE TIMETABLE

The Clerk had circulated correspondence from residents regarding the loss of the half hourly bus service to Truro. The Numerous comments.
Ask for information about why these changes have been made.
Access to the hospital.

RESOLUTION: CLLR AVARD PROPOSED THE CLERK CONTACT CORNWALL COUNCIL TO ASK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHY CHANGES TO THE BUS TIMETABLE HAD BEEN MADE, SECONDED BY CLLR DYKE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. USE OF BYWAYS BY VEHICLES

Cllr Brickell commented that vehicles using the byway of Staggy Lane caused nuisance to residents and damage to the byway surface but it was difficult to know how to discourage use of this as a cut through between Forth Coth and Bissoe Road.

19. TO NOTE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT COMMITTEE AGENDA

The following items were noted for the next Access and Amenities Committee agenda.

Community Garden Project and Site Visits report.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm

The next meeting would be held on Monday 27th April 2026 at 6pm.

DRAFT