Minutes of Feock Parish Council Access & Amenities Committee Meeting

held on Monday 28th September 2026 at 6pm at the Parish Council Office, Market Street, Devoran

Councillors present:	Rick Bowers	Feock ward
	Corine Dyke	Feock ward
	Keith Hambly-Staite	Feock ward
	Phil Allen	Carnon Downs ward
	Alison Avard	Carnon Downs Ward
In attendance:	Debra Roberts, Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	
	One member of the public regarding Messy Church grants application	
Chair:	Cllr Rick Bowers	

1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN

Cllr Bowers chaired the meeting as Vice Chair of the Committee.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Newman, Yates and Brickell.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ACCESS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 29TH JUNE AND 20TH JULY 2026

RESOLUTION: CLLR ALLEN PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29TH JUNE 2026 AS CIRCULATED WERE APPROVED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION: CLLR DYKE PROPOSED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20TH JULY 2026 AS CIRCULATED WERE APPROVED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN, SECONDED BY CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bowers declared an interest in Item 11 Trolver Croft surfacing and stile and would leave the room.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public present for Item 6 Small Grants Funding who spoke about the Messy Church application for £200 to help fund Messy Church. The group was volunteer run and provided the refreshments. They tried hard to keep costs to a minimum so that all families were able to attend, it was free for families who may not otherwise be able to attend and others gave a donation if they could afford this. This was a community group for all ages and for families to come and enjoy time together. The group has not had any funding from the Parish Council for some years and they currently needed support with buying craft materials and rent of the room. They also use the Scrap Store for materials and used recycled materials as much as possible.

Cllr Hambly-Staite asked how many people attended. It was confirmed that the group was regularly attended by around 45 people including families and children. Cllr Bowers asked about safeguarding and insurance and it was clarified that the Church safeguarding policies and insurance covered Messy Church.

6. SMALL GRANTS FUNDING

RESOLUTION: CLLR AVARD PROPOSED THAT DEVORAN MESSY CHURCHES APPLICATION FOR A SMALL GRANT OF £200 WAS APPROVED, SECONDED BY CLLR DYKE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Carnon Downs Community Association wished to continue to expand the area of the display this year and hoped to have 2 or 3 new lights at the top of Old Carnon Hill. The light they wished to purchase cost £250 plus extending the cable to reach the socket of the property who would be powering it and they would be funding this additional cost themselves through money raised through their regular fundraising events. The Community Association were

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also having to start paying for storage for the Christmas Lights and this impacted on their funds to spend on new lights. The lights were PAT tested annually and insured and they would display a sign with the Parish Council's logo on on the light to show appreciation for their funding if successful.

RESOLUTION: CLLR DYKE PROPOSED THAT CARNON DOWNS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS APPLICATION FOR A SMALL GRANT OF £200 WAS APPROVED, SECONDED BY CLLR AVARD AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. CLERKS REPORT & UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING FOR INFORMATION
The Clerk reported as follows.

Maintenance work instructed in the last month for Committee's information:
Devoran Park: two small gates refurbished and painted.
Retallack Playing Field: New noticeboard ordered to replace existing which needs replacement, contractor asked to collect defibrillator and cabinet from Ferris Garage and install at Retallack.

The Clerk is awaiting quotes for work highlighted in the September play equipment inspection reports.

Small grants funding – Devoran and Carnon Downs Village Hall small grants payments made.

Pill Creek steps – on agenda for discussion.

Carnon Mine handrail – on agenda for discussion.

Memorial bench in Retallack Playing Field – no response from resident who requested this to date to alternative bench.

Active Feock bench – now installed in Lobb's Garden on Market Street, Devoran. No response as yet regarding installation of bench next to Caravan Park bus stop in Carnon Downs, the Clerk would chase up.

Installation of bike racks – license to occupy highway now in place with Cornwall Council and bike racks ordered. Locations:
1. Carnon Downs bus stop (Village Hall) behind bus shelter
2. Pengelly Meadows Recreation Area (on verge by parking area)
3. Greenbank Road bus stop (replacing existing wooden stand)
4. Fourturnings bus shelter (behind bus shelter)
5. Retallack Playing Field

Fourturnings bus shelter – roof light and lighting, on agenda for discussion.

Feock Stroll 5 **–** a quote had now been received for works to make this route on Carnon Valley accessible to the public and correspondence received relating to a license to give permission from the Environment Agency who are the landowners. The Clerk would put this item on the October Parish Council agenda so that the license could be approved. CIL funding had already been allocated to pay for this works.

The Clerk would provide a list of benches from our asset register for reviewing and advice if any maintenance was required to our contractor, including the bench at the pump on the Tram Road which belonged to Restronguet Creek Society. The Clerk would send a reminder to Councillors of the dates for the site meeting at Retallack and the next Land Maintenance Meeting.

It was noted that it the play equipment currently needed quite a bit of maintenance/repair which the Clerk was seeking quotes for, it was felt this was due to the age of the equipment and heavy use. The Clerk would speak to the company that inspect the equipment to see if they had any suggestions about longer lasting equipment, for example recycled plastic or equipment with stainless steel fixings.

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Cllr Allen would advise everyone when the trees from the Woodland Trust had arrived and volunteers were needed to help plant them at the Bissoe Woodland.

8. MYFEOCK INFORMATION & WELLBEING ADVISER MONTHLY REPORT

The Clerk had circulated the report as follows:

August Repair Café was very busy, with a guest repairer from the Cornwall Bicycle Project CIO who repaired and inspected 6 bikes. Next repair café is on Tuesday 29th September at 10am.

Happy Feet – look after your feet information session arranged by MyFeock Community Hub for Saturday 10th October at The Hub Carnon Downs Community Methodist Church to coincide with flu clinic at Carnon Downs Surgery, volunteers will be attending to encourage completion of the MyFeock Community Hub Survey – to date 39 responses, at all flu clinics at both Carnon Downs and Chacewater Surgeries.

The next meeting of the Steering Group is on Tuesday 13th October at 1.30pm which will also discuss Community Emergency Plans and how these can link with the Community Hubs.

9. MURAL ON FOURTURNINGS BUS SHELTER

Cllr Dyke said there was no further update on the sponsorship but she would pop in to see the artists.
The Clerk circulated a suggestion for battery lighting for the bus shelter. It was agreed this may be too bright for the enclosed space and Cllr Allen would investigate alternative battery security lights that may be more suitable for inside the shelters that could be trialled and work with the Clerk on this to get a light ordered to trial.

10. PACIFIC OYSTERS

Cllr Allen's report had been circulated and he gave an update on this. He felt that we needed organisational arrangements to control the spread of oysters in certain areas that are well used for recreation as the oysters would eventually take over the whole Fal if left uncontrolled. The reintroduction of sea grass in the Fal and in the Bay was very positive. Sea grass is now growing in Restronguet Creek. Cllr Avard suggested that more publicity should be undertaken for volunteers for smashing the oysters as she had not seen any posts on social media to encourage more volunteers and publicise the problem the Pacific Oysters caused and suggested perhaps the Parish Council help with social media publicity. Cllr Allen would speak to the group who organised the volunteering groups to see if they wished to take up this offer of help.

11. TROLVER CROFT STILE & TROLVER CROFT ROAD SURFACING PROPOSALS UPDATE

Cllr Bowers left the meeting as he had declared an interest in this item.

Cllr Allen took over the Chair for this item. Cllr Allen was the Parish Council representative on Trolver Croft Residents Association and outlined the work being done by the Residents Association to improve the surface of the road/public right of way and comments from some residents who questioned the need for the work. The Parish Council had not been involved in the plans to resurface route as they did not have any responsibility for the surface of PROWs but were members of the Residents Association as they owned Carnon Yard.

Cllr Hambly-Staite said he felt the Parish Council needed to take a position on the issue of the road. Cllr Allen felt that as members of the Trolver Croft Residents Association the Parish Council should go with the majority view.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council pay an annual subscription of £250.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STAITE PROPOSED THE COUNCIL AGREES TO CONTINUE OUR MEMBERSHIP OF TROLVER CROFT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION WITH THE CURRENT LEVEL OF SUBSCRIPTION AND SUPPORT THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION PROPOSALS FOR MAINTENANCE AS AND WHEN REQUIRED, SECONDED BY CLLR AVARD, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Cllr Allen outlined the historic issues regarding the stile and the surface of 'splish splosh lane' (PROW bridleway 305/46/8) at Harcourt to Trolver Croft. A resident had contacted the Parish Council with concerns about how difficult it was to use the stile on this path at the point where it changed to a footpath at the top of Trolver Croft

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and how difficult the path was to use for almost 6 months of the year as it was so wet and muddy. This had been discussed previously and was a tricky issue to resolve to the satisfaction of all residents. Cllr Allen said he was just making the Committee aware as a resident had been in touch about the issues here.

Cllr Bowers returned to the meeting and took over the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

12. VERGE CUTTING TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS REPORT
The Clerk had circulated Cllr Allen's report to all. It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

13. PROJECT TO PLANT A TREE FOR EVERY RESIDENT
It was agreed to combine items 13 and 16 (Forest for Cornwall Tree application) and agreed to defer this item to the next meeting due to time constraints.

14. REQUEST FROM RESIDENT FOR DOG WASTE BIN/LITTER BIN FOR VICINITY OF ASH TREE CLOSE/QUENCHWELL ROAD AND ADDITIONAL LITTER BIN IN PENGELLY MEADOWS
The Clerk explained that two residents had been in touch to request additional dog waste bins in Carnon Downs, one in the Quenchwell Road/Valley Lane area and one outside of Pengelly Meadows Recreation Area to allow the existing combined bin to be moved inside the field and be purely a litter bin. The Clerk had circulated costs for these and confirmed that emptying costs were around £100 each per year. There were also issues in Pengelly Meadows with littering of the field.

RESOLUTION: CLLR HAMBLY-STATE PROPOSED THAT A NEW DOG WASTE BIN WAS PURCHASED AND INSTALLED OUTSIDE OF PENGELLY MEADOWS RECREATION AREA AND THE EXISTING LITTER BIN MOVED INSIDE THE FIELD, SECONDED BY CLLR BOWERS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was agreed in principle to fund a new dog waste/litter bin in the Quenchwell Road/Valley Lane area but that an existing post needed to be identified and to ensure this was not close to anyones garden. Cllr Avard undertook to report back to the next meeting on the location.

15. REPAIRS TO WALL AT CARNON MINE & UPDATE ON INSTALLATION OF HANDRAIL ON PROW
It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting due to time constraints.

16. FOREST FOR CORNWALL TREE APPLICATION
It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting due to time constraints.

17. PILL CREEK HANDRAIL
The Clerk advised that the new handrail that had been installed on the concrete steps on the PROW at Pill Creek was stopping those with outhauls hopping onto the steps at high tide and a solution had been suggested to replace the horizontal bars with chains and clips that could be unclipped to allow access but reclipped to guard the drop and the horizontal pole be relocated to the wall on the other side of the steps to provide a handrail.

RESOLUTION: CLLR DYKE PROPOSED THAT THIS SOLUTION BE APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE AND THE CLERK WOULD SEEK A PRICE AND REPORT BACK, SECONDED BY CLLR ALLEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. RISK ASSESSMENTS
The Chair advised that the Clerk was seeking clarification from the Common Land team at Cornwall Council on if the Common Land was 'vested' with the Parish Council when this had been registered in 1970. Once the answer to this was know the Clerk would seek clarification from our insurers as to if the land was covered by our Public Liability insurance or additional insurance needed to be taken out. The Chair felt if we did not own land or it was not 'vested' with us then we should not be carrying out risk assessments as we would not be responsible for it.

Cllr Allen disagreed and felt that as this was common public land we should be risk assessing it and had historically carried out maintenance on our common land and the status quo should remain until the Clerk had clarification.

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The Clerk would circulate to all the list to all of who has responsibility for risk assessing/checking all our land together with the latest risk assessment form.

RESOLUTION: CLLR BOWERS PROPOSED THAT COUNCILLORS UPDATE ALL RISK ASSESSMENTS URGENTLY, THE CLERK WOULD CIRCULATE TO ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY LIST AND RISK ASSESSMENT FORM, SECONDED BY CLLR DYKE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

19. WEED CONTROL – CORNWALL COUNCIL PROPOSAL

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting due to time constraints and insufficient information.

20. TO NOTE ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMITTEE AGENDA

- Working more closely with Village Halls and promotion of these to seek new volunteers (from July meeting)
- Updated Risk Assessments
- Items deferred from todays meeting: Carnon Mine handrail, Forest for Cornwall Tree application, Verge cutting for pedestrian access, Carnon Mine wall repairs.
- The Dyson's Field recommendations report would be put on a Parish Council agenda for further discussion.

Next Access & Amenities Committee Meeting: Monday 26th October 2026, 6pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.18pm

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