Meeting Minutes

Date:	28 January 2025
Time:	12:30 – 15:00
Location:	NCH Grenville Room / Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Victoria Burton-Davy
Vice Chair:	Carol Wilson
Attendance:	Victoria Burton-Davy, John Fitter, Jim Hancock, Nick Jeans, Shelley Barratt, Paul Rabbeth, David Cooper, Donald Martin, Jane Tomlinson, Jon Rowell, Emma Walker, Steve Church, Douglas Boden, Tanya Bicknell
Apologies:	Carol Wilson, Cllr Matt Luke, Kay Driver, Cllr Jenny Cruse, Martin Howlett, Mike Beckett, Phil Allen, Bill Makin, Jeremy Elvins

1. Welcome (Chair) VB-D gave a tribute to Steve Wilson who passed away before Christmas, highlighting his advocacy for accessibility and his influence across Cornwall and acknowledged the gap he leaves in their membership.

2. Minutes of meeting (22nd October 2024)
    a. To approve minutes - No comments or corrections from the participants. The minutes were adopted and seconded by Jim Hancock and all in favour.
    b. Matters arising (if not to be otherwise dealt with in this Agenda) –
    ACTION: VB-D To recirculate the draught annual report for feedback and ensure it is finalized by the next meeting in April.

3. Presentation – Douglas Boden – Mid Cornwall Metro
    DB provided an update on the Mid Cornwall Metro, covering rail side delivery, active travel measures, and improvements within Newquay and Falmouth, alongside GWR ticketing and the bridge at Par.

Roche, Bugle, and Penryn. He detailed the consultation processes, new paths, station refurbishments, and accessibility improvements for cyclists and walkers.

- Active travel measures in Newquay include new paths along Cliff Road and Barrowfields, with better access to the railway station and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists. Consultations have been held for the new paths in Newquay, and a report is being written.
- Refurbishments at Newquay station include the addition of a second platform, one for local trains and the other for InterCity trains. There will also be improvements to access and the car park.
- Cliff Road, Newquay: There are going to be more pedestrian crossings and accessibility improvements include widened pavements, shared paths for cyclists and walkers, and better provisions for people with mobility restrictions.
- Roche and Bugle: Active travel measures are going out to consultation at the end of February. The construction of the Roche bypass will alleviate the traffic currently going through Roche and they will improve the cycling and walking facilities there. In Bugle they are going to widen pavements along the main road, making it easier for people to access the school, church and shops, and beyond to the railway station and housing estate. Possibly include a traffic restriction to encourage traffic to use the new link road at the back of Roche, quietening the traffic through Bugle.
- The Newquay Strategic Route (NSR) is opening this spring. It will provide a new road link, north south up to Nansleddan and from the Hendra roundabout. There will also be shared use paths for cycling and walking along the new road.
  On either side of the NSR they aim to close both the existing road level crossings. The crossing at Chapel will be closed to vehicles but will remain open using a miniature stoplight system for pedestrians, cyclists and horses. The same will happen to the crossing at Trencreek
- Penryn: The Mid Cornwall Metro is going to put measures through the main street of Penryn up to the railway station, improving crossing points for residents and curbs will be dropped for wheelchairs users etc.
- Commercial Road, Penryn: Aim to put some cycling and better walking facilities along there as currently there is only a footpath on one side of the road. On the northwestern side there are ghost cycle lanes demarked by white lines; these will also be improved. That will go to consultation early February.
- Goss Moor Passing Loop: DB confirmed its approval and construction timeline alongside signalling improvements. The passing loop will enable an increase in the number of trains per day, almost doubling the current frequency, and allowing for an hourly service. Because of the new signals Intercity trains will be able to go to Newquay.
- Footbridge at Par is currently under development.

- Currently waiting for Network Rail to confirm how much is being spent on the project. £33.6 million has been passed from CC to Network Rail and for that expecting improvements at the railway station, miniature stoplights crossings at Trencreek and Chapel and new signalling throughout, new points to be put in at either end, and a passing loop. When complete the new service will run from Newquay through to Falmouth and stations in-between.
- Quintrell Downs Railway Halt: The subject of plans to enhance the Quintrell Downs railway halt was discussed. DB explained that whilst there are no current plans within the Mid Cornwall Metro project, associated projects are being considered, and GWR is open to proposals with a business case. The Council have been in discussions along with Network Rail regarding a park and ride from St Columb into Newquay. A Halt at Nansledan was considered but the railway line is not conducive, in terms of the curvature. Quintrell Downs however, is a straight line. DB was unable to comment any further.
- DB unable to comment regarding, whether an analysis has been made on the back up of traffic on the road coming in from the south up to Quintrell Downs level crossing? The NSR has a project to include strategic signage for Newquay, to encourage people to make best use of the new road through Nansledan, rather than cross the Quintrell Downs level crossing and are currently waiting on the Duchy to review some of the signage.
- Halt at Goss Moor: The possibility of a Halt at Goss Moor. When discussed previously between DB and NJ, DB has spoken to GWR who in turn have asked for a business case before it can be considered.
- Cycle Capacity on Trains: Has there been any discussion with GWR about enhanced cycle capacity on trains. DB confirmed that he has discussed it with them. Some railway lines may not be long enough for an extra carriage, although there have been talks about extending those lines.
- In terms of strategy, how are things embedding with the Local Transport Plan, AONB and National Landscape Management Plan and Local Plans:
    - The LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans) which are being developed for most towns in Cornwall are currently being updated.
    - Nearly all of the Saints Trails is fully open.
    - The Local Transport Plan has made it a priority in getting active travel embedded in it, it, we have been looking for Government grants, however the Government is pulling back from some major projects so we are unable to answer until June at the earliest.
    - Other projects include Bickland Water Road, Falmouth - mainly pavement widening in that area, there is a lot of housing, three schools, employment space and a football club, which will improve access and active travel. These are imbedded in the Local Transport Plan.

- GWR Network Rail are looking to increase capacity on the St Erth to Looe line. Some improvements have already been put in place and have made the trains longer. There is a possibility the number of trains will increase however, in order to do that a passing loop will need to be put somewhere near the golf course.
- Subject to planning permission they will make the platform at St Ives double sided. The train doors will be double sided so that people will exit on one side and those entering will do so on the other side.
- DB to Provide specific feedback on the accessibility of the gates for wheelchair users to Network Rail and GWR, including consulting with the Rolling Ramblers for their input.
- DB to ensure that the Cornwall Local Access Forum (CLAF) is included in future consultations for projects and send any consultations to TB and JT for distribution throughout the forum.

4. Volunteers / nominations for Chair – No volunteers to date. VBD to send an email to the group pushing for volunteers or nominations before the next meeting. JT suggested changing the constitution and have a rotating chair rule in the short term.

5. Changes to membership/appointment of new members (vacancies) – Welcome Jim Hancock who gave a brief introduction of his background.

6. Updates
   - Cornwall Council
     - Commons Applications Priority Policy (Emma Walker)
       EW gave a brief introduction of the work in the team on the Registration of Commons and Village Green Land and shared the Priority Policy on screen.

       Q. It says in the policy that you will process the applications at a rate determined each year by the PRoW Team Plan, is that set out going forward on how many you are going to do?
       A. With current resources and officers that have been recently recruited, we aim for 10 to 15 applications per year, pushing to 20 if we can, to take into account those applications that require hearings and further enquiries.

     - PPO (Public Path Order) Priority Policy (Jon Rowell)
       JR gave a brief introduction of the PPO Policy and why they have introduced it and shared the policy on screen.
       Q. What is the difference between a PPO and a DMMO (Definitive Map Modification Order).

A. The DMMO provides the provisions in the Wildlife and Countryside Act, it is where applications are received from members of the public who have identified where rights that are not recorded on the map should be recorded, we can upgrade and down grade paths and also delete them, though we rarely accept application for those reasons. It is an evidential process, requiring an application from the member of public, which we have a statutory obligation to process. The PPO is a discretionary process and applies to the Highways Act and the town and country Act and is largely employed by landowners and developers to move paths on the ground, not on the map, there has to be a subsidiary order on called a legal event modification order to update the map.

- If any there is any feedback for Emma and Jon, members to email VB-D.
- Thanks, given to both Emma and Jon for training this morning.
- TB to circulate presentations.

- Cormac (Don Martin)
  - Currently finishing off the current capital programme and putting in place projects for next year. They have been successful in securing further capital investment for next year.
  - Currently working through the impact of both storm Eowyn and storm Darragh, the majority of issues relating to fallen trees and structural damage.
  - Coastal access work is drawing to a close and are finishing off on major projects that has been a huge undertaking over the last two years.

  Q. A list of 2024 programme of works was discussed in January 2024. Has there been any projects that they have not been able to do or will not be able to do and if so which ones. Will there be a similar project list for 2025/26 project year?

  A. There is a level of fluidity through the programme however, there is a list of priorities at the start of the year that can change as an when issues arise that take priority.

  - DM can detail what was completed for this year and what projects will be carried over.

  ACTION: TB/DM to look for slides from meeting held 17th Jan 2024.

  - The role of volunteer coordinators and the potential for collaboration with organizations like the Ramblers was highlighted. DM mentioned that Cormac provides support for volunteers, including insurance coverage, access to tools and equipment, and coordination with the operations team.

- Sustrans' involvement in maintaining cycle routes: DM mentioned past collaborations with Sustrans for capital investment and offered to investigate specific maintenance responsibilities. SB to forward a contact to VB-D.

7. Working Groups Feedback – *** **NO REPORTS RECEIVED** ***
   The effectiveness of working groups and the need for better organization and communication was discussed. It was agreed that the working groups would be reviewed and potentially restructured at the next meeting to improve their effectiveness. **ACTION: JT** to find out any major developments and whether we can have that consultation sent to CLAF

8. Correspondence to the Forum - None
9. AOB
10. Date of Next Meetings
    22nd April, 13:00 – 16:00, Grenville Room
    21st July, 13:00 – 16:00, Grenville Room
    28th October, 13:00 – 16:00, Grenville Room, tbc

Forum Membership (as at date of meeting): ***PLEASE UPDATE IF NECESSARY***

Landowner/ Manager Group (7)	*User Group (7)*	*Others Group (3)*	*Cornwall Council (3)*
Bill Makin Jim Flashman Martin Howlet Nicholas Jeans	Carol Wilson David Cooper Paul Rabbeth Philip Allen Shelley Barratt Stephen Church	Jeremy Elvins Jim Hancock Kay Driver Victoria Burton-Davey	Jennifer Cruse John Fitter Matt Luke

Signed: Chair of Meeting _____ **22/04/2025**