

Press statement

The Diocese of Truro and King Charles the Martyr Church continue to work with Black Voices Cornwall and local historians; and have sought funding from the Racial Justice unit of the national church to progress the agreed work on the Thomas Corker Memorial as previously shared.

Whilst the PCC voted to remove the monument, there continues to be no viable storage facility. Therefore, an interim plan was developed. This involves contextualising the monument in situ. A content warning will be displayed, along with opportunities for visitors and those unable to enter the building to provide feedback. Opportunities for education and training are being sought during this period.

“The new Rector of Falmouth, The Reverend Dr. Adam Dunning, is fully committed to working with all parties concerned about the future of the Corker memorial. He will be seeking an outcome that is equitable, appropriate and healing for all of us who feel strongly about the injustice, evil and sin which the memorial represents.”

There is nothing that can repay the damage the transatlantic slave trade caused, and we have to acknowledge that. We now need to find a different way to tell the truth about the past and pay attention to injustice in the present.