

Access System

Keycode access

The keycode access system runs in parallel with the fob access system.

Hardware

It consists of:

- A keypad outside
- A pi Inside
- A relay board inside

Getting access codes

The Pi gets a (announce_name, fob_id) CSV list of valid members every few minutes from the membership system and stores this locally.

fob_id may sound like it's for fobs only but we've adapted how we use the fob table to include access codes. To separate the two, access codes start with ff, whereas fobs don't.

When a code is entered, the code is compared to the list of all codes that start with ff. If there's a match, the door is released.

Requesting an access code

When requesting an access code in the membership system, it's the same functionally as adding a fob with ID ff000000. The backend identifies any new fobs that start with ff and discards them, instead generating and saving a random 8 digit number.

Common numbers like 12345678 etc have already been blacklisted so can't accidentally become in use.

Keyfob access

The current system has been in service for many years now and has proven mostly reliable. However, it requires a Pi 1, due to a custom hat that was made for it.

It's therefore a candidate for modernising using a Pi 4.

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