

**THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY
CENTRE, THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7:30PM**

**Present: Mr Jeff Burrell, Mr Keith Drewrey, Mrs Pam Spicer, Dr Jo Dalton,
Mr Brendan Sparks, Mr Rob Plom & Mr Stephen Askew**

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>
1.	<u>Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed members of the Parish Council and the public.
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> There were no apologies of absence
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

There were two members of the public in attendance. One was querying the progress in respect of additional signage on Church Lane. As this was on the agenda for discussion, please see full details under item No. 11. Mr Askew provided a Devolution update. Councils have submitted their preferred options, with Norfolk County Council preferring a single unitary option for Norfolk and Suffolk with an elected Mayor. District Councils, with the exception of South Norfolk preferring a 3 unitary option, meaning 3 different councils for Norfolk, and South Norfolk preferring a 2 tier option. This is now being sent out for consultation. Next year will see elections for Mayor in May, with possible elections for a share of authority, although this will not take effect until the following year.

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>	<u>Actions:</u>
4.	<u>Previous Minutes:</u> Previous Minutes of the 2 nd October 2025 meeting were approved, and signed by the Chairman.	Chairman Parish Clerk
5.	<u>Allotments:</u> The Clerk advised of 3 new tenants on the allotments. It was acknowledged that another plot will be coming up shortly and that there are a couple of people waiting for this. The clerk will deal with this when the need arises. Almost all of the rent and updated tenancy agreements have been paid and returned with the exception of one plot holder. This will be reviewed at the December meeting.	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 4th December 2025

6.	<u>Banham Community Hub:</u> The Community Hub are doing slightly increased hours at the Wednesday Cafe, which is now open from 10:00am to 12:30pm, with soup and a roll or bacon roll now available. The music event at the Banham Barrel was a huge success, and raised £227.13. The home made 'rag rugs' are coming along, and preparations for Christmas are in full swing. The Christmas meal already has 80 bookings, with 20 spaces still available and deserts have been donated by Next Home Estate Agents. Home deliveries will be available again this year for those unable to make it out. There have been many donations for the 'Bags of Joy', and a 'Buy it Forwards' contribution box has been placed in the Post Office with another soon to be added at the One Stop. Finally, lots of knitted and crocheted squares have been made for the Community Christmas Tree, including contributions from the children at Acorn Park and Banham Primary Schools. The 'Knitters and Stitchers' have also been creating angels to decorate the tree. The 'Wellness for Movement' classes are ongoing and plans are underway for another music event in the Spring of 2026.	Mrs Spicer
7.	<u>Playground Maintenance:</u> The Parish Council are still awaiting some parts, but once these are received, maintenance will be undertaken, with a clean of the playground taking place in the Spring of 2026.	Mr Drewrey Mr Plom
8.	<u>Pride of Banham:</u> It was proposed that an award ceremony could take place on the Green in the Summer of 2026. The Clerk will look into a trophy/keepsake being made in line with the Banham Sign on the Green. In respect of Judging it was proposed that this be carried out by the Clerk and 2 'high standing' residents of Banham. The Clerk will make contact with those proposed to see if they would be happy to assist.	Parish Clerk
9.	<u>Banham History:</u> The creator of the Banham History is dealing with the printing of the previously approved document, and once this is done, the Parish Council will look to deal with the document case.	Parish Clerk
10.	<u>Tree Topper for Village Christmas Tree:</u> The Parish Council reviewed the options put forward by the Clerk, and a star was chosen, the cost of which was approved at £29.99. The Clerk will purchase the star, with further consideration being given to this next year.	Parish Clerk
11.	<u>Church Lane Signage:</u> The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Highways with regards to an inspection and consideration being given to further signage on the entry to Church Lane, and was awaiting a response. Mr Askew confirmed he would speak with Highways with regards to this and the need for a 'no turning' sign on the entrance to Church Lane.	Parish Clerk

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12.	<u>Cemetery Hedge:</u> The Clerk advised she had recently been approached in respect of a quote being submitted to the Parish Council with a request for funding of the cutting of the cemetery hedge. It was acknowledged that every year we consider this request and make a 'good will' donation. Mr Askew advised of a hedge cutting contractor who may be able to assist, and the Clerk will make contact with a view to getting a quote. Once this is known, and a quote has also been received from the Church, then further consideration will be given.	Parish Clerk
13.	<u>Tree Work in Churchyard:</u> Mr Drewrey confirmed the basal growth had been removed from the trees in the Churchyard and advised that one of the trees on the entrance appears to be hollow and at the end of it's life. Though this is the case, the tree is not dangerous, and as such, it was decided to leave the tree in situ at this time.	Parish Clerk
14.	<u>Grove Road Passing Points:</u> The Chairman advised he had contacted Highways due to the ever expanding, 'non official' passing points on Grove Road. It was confirmed that all passing places are on one side of the road and are around 8 ft wide with only the first 3 ft belonging to Highways and the further 5ft belonging to the landowners. Private driveways and gardens are also being damaged due to vehicles being forced to pull over. Highways have been asked to consider applying official passing places on both sides of the road. Mr Askew is supportive of the Parish Council request, and Highways are reviewing the matter. The PC will await an official response, and review matters further once a response is received.	Parish Clerk
15.	<u>Emergency Fuel for Flood Water Pumps:</u> The Chairman advised that the fuel in the pumps is over a year old and likely non-effective. He proposed buying new fuel for 2 x 10L cans. Cost approximately £30.00 - £40.00. This was seconded by Dr Jo Dalton and unanimously agreed by all Parish Council members.	Chairman
16:	<u>Planning:</u> PL/2025/0971/FMIN - Land At Hunts Corner, NR16 2HL - Amendment As the Parish Council had to respond by 22.10.25, it was confirmed that a reply was filed advising that the Parish Council stood by their previous response and objection with regards to (but not limited to) the access road and nuisance to the Highway.	Parish Clerk
17/18	<u>Accounts:</u> The Chairman proposed the approval of items for payment. There was unanimous agreement from the Parish Council for the following: £100.00 – Hall Hire – Banham Community Hub £ 48.00 – Street Lighting – K&M Lighting	Parish Clerk Chairman

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	£ 50.00 – October Storage of PC items – Mrs J Bensley £ 43.20 – AGAR Assertion 10 - Digital and Data Training – Michelle Jones £ 24.49 – Remembrance Poppy Wreath – Michelle Jones £ 50.00 – September Storage of PC items – Mrs J Bensley £ 30.00 – Transport Grant Journey – Harling Taxi's £250.00 – Cutting of Basal Growth from churchyard Trees – Mr A J Forder	
19.	<u>Banham Newsletter:</u> Items to be added to the Banham Newsletter include: Community Hub, Christmas Fair, Tree on the Green.	Parish Clerk
20.	<u>Chairman's Other Business:</u> Mr Drewrey raised the possibility of a donation being made for the recent maintenance on the Banham Sign on the green. This will be placed on the December agenda.	Parish Clerk
21.	<u>Next Meeting:</u> <u>Thursday 4th December 2025 at 7:30pm</u> <u>The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre</u>	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 4th December 2025