

**THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY
CENTRE, THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2025 AT 7:30PM**

Present: Mr Jeff Burrell, Mr Keith Drewrey, Mrs Pam Spicer, Dr Jo Dalton

<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 apologies of absence from Mr Brendan Sparks, and Mr Rob Plom
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

There was one member of the public in attendance. They raised an issue with regards to the access on Church Lane. As this was on the agenda for discussion, please see full details under item No. 13.

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>	<u>Actions:</u>
4.	<u>Previous Minutes:</u> Previous Minutes of the 4 th September 2025 meeting were approved, and signed by the Chairman.	Chairman Parish Clerk
5.	<u>Allotments:</u> Mr Drewrey acknowledged that occupied plots are as they should be for this time of year. The Clerk confirmed that notice of the change in annual rent has been sent to plot holders along with the amended tenancy agreement. To date people have acknowledged receipt and advised that signed tenancy agreements and rent will be paid shortly. Finally it was acknowledged that there will be 2 available plots after a couple on the waiting list had advised that they were no longer able to commit to a plot due to other commitments which have now arisen. The Clerk will contact the final person on the waiting list and will also do an advert for the newsletter and also social media pages.	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 6th November 2025

6.	<u>Banham Community Hub:</u> The Community Hub Wednesday Cafe continues to see an excellent turn out. The MacMillan Coffee Morning raised £246.56 earlier in the month, and the bingo night saw high numbers with lots of fun being had. 2 people attended for the wellbeing walk, and another is being planned. There was a visit from Lorraine and Holly of Breckland Council who provided support and advice in respect of health and wellbeing, as well as housing and financial matters. The Dove of Peace remains in the church and there are lots of squares and pom-poms being made for the Community Christmas Tree. Sunday 12th October will see a music fundraiser at the Banham Barrel, and Age UK will be attending the Hub in January who will be providing advice on Powers of Attorney and other well needed general advice.	Mrs Spicer
7.	<u>Churchyard Maintenance:</u> Mr Drewrey advised that he will be carrying out a Health & Safety Survey in respect of all memorials. The Chairman will also be carrying out an inspection of the church wall to ensure that there has been minimal movement and there is no need for maintenance. Finally Mr Drewrey advised that the Basal growth around the trees needs cutting and proposed a cost of around £350.00 - £500.00. The proposal was seconded by the Chairman and unanimously agreed by the Parish Council members.	Chairman Mr Drewrey
8.	<u>Christmas Tree on the Green:</u> The Parish Council confirmed that the Tree on the Green will be erected before the 6th December in readiness for Carols on the Green. The Clerk will look to see if an illuminated star can be sourced for the tree. The Chairman has now repaired and painted the flagpole and will submit details of costs £70.00 - £80.00 at the next meeting for payment. The Parish Council approved the costs for payment.	Parish Clerk
9.	<u>Playground Maintenance Update:</u> The bulk of the required parts have been delivered, with a couple still awaited. Once all necessary parts have been received then the relevant maintenance works will be undertaken.	Mr Drewrey Mr Plom
10.	<u>Grove Road Speed Review:</u> It was acknowledged that the "slow" road markings have been applied to Grove Road at the built up residential area. Unfortunately, the quality of the road signage is well below expectations. It was also acknowledged that other road signage around Banham has failed to meet expectations (particularly at the end of Heath Road), and with this in the mind the Clerk will contact Highways to make them aware of the Council's disappointment. Whilst it is acknowledged that little will likely be done to correct the road signage, the costs of these works are very high, and Highways should be made aware of this.	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 6th November 2025

11.	<u>Pride of Banham:</u> The Clerk advised that the website has now been updated to include details of the Pride of Banham award, along with a nomination form for completion. The award will not be launched until early 2026 but everything is in place for this. The Clerk will also make enquiries with regards to placing a nomination form in the Banham Newsletter.	Parish Clerk
12.	<u>Transport Grant:</u> The Clerk advised on difficulties with regards to bookings for medical appointments due to commitments with the taxi firm in respect of morning and afternoon school/work runs. Unfortunately, this is an issue which will be encountered with all taxi firms and so there is little we can do other than try to accommodate people if and when a booking is required.	Parish Clerk
13.	<u>Church Lane 'Dead End' Signage:</u> The Clerk had previously been contacted by a resident of Church Lane in respect of a high amount of vehicles driving up and having to reverse down Church Lane. Often motorists do not realise Church Lane is a dead end/narrow lane, and so have difficulties manoeuvring. It was acknowledged there is a 'dead end' sign placed at the entrance of Church Lane, but the Clerk will contact Highways to request they inspect the area to see if an additional sign can be applied advising on narrow access or other appropriate signage.	Parish Clerk
14.	<u>Appleyard Meadow ACV: (Assets of Community Value)</u> The Clerk advised that the Appleyard Meadow owner had been in touch and confirmed that the meadow has been submitted to the Breckland 'Call for Land' following advice. There is no guarantee that the land will be used and the Parish Council are concerned that if this land isn't utilised then building could occur in another area which will effect Banham in a much more negative manner. As such, the Parish Council cannot support an ACV in this regard.	Parish Clerk
15:	<u>Planning:</u> Ref: PL/2025/1429/FMIN - Haugh Farm Haugh Road, Banham - Demolition of 2 buildings (Barns 7 and 8), creation of 1 new dwelling, and change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage The Parish Council considered the application and comments in place, and confirmed no objection to the proposal.	Parish Clerk
16.	<u>Fixed Assets:</u> The Parish Council considered the updated 'Fixed Assets' register, and this was unanimously approved.	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 6th November 2025

17.	<u>Santa's Grotto Funding:</u> The Chairman advised that the Christmas Fair will be held on the 30th November, and proposed that the Parish Council fund the Santa's Grotto, including gifts for the Children. This would ensure that visits with Santa, along with the gifts are free of charge to the Parents and Children of Banham. The Chairman proposed £600.00 which was seconded by Dr Jo Dalton, and unanimously agreed by the Parish Council members.	Parish Clerk
18/19.	<u>Accounts:</u> The Chairman proposed the approval of items for payment. There was unanimous agreement from the Parish Council for the following: £ 48.00 – Street Lighting – K&M Lighting £ 50.00 – Storage of PC items – Mr R Bensley £ 80.00 – Hall Rental – Banham Community Hub £ 6.49 – Paper – Michelle Jones (Clerks Expenses) £ 64.40 – Payroll Services – TP Jones LLP £481.16 – CAS Parish Council Insurance £ 55.50 – PC Meeting Hall Hire – BCCA £ 16.31 – Employer Ni Contribution £ 60.00 – Flagpole Repairs – Mr J Burrell	Parish Clerk
20.	<u>Banham Newsletter:</u> Items to be added to the Banham Newsletter include: Community Hub, Christmas Fair, Tree on the Green and advertising allotment.	Parish Clerk
21.	<u>Chairman's Other Business:</u> The Chairman raised the previously discussed 'Banham History' which has been drawn up and is intended for placement on the Guildhall on the Green. The creator will be contacted in respect of the printing of the document and then further consideration will be given to the display case.	Mr Drewrey
21.	<u>Next Meeting:</u> <u>Thursday 6th November 2025 at 7:30pm</u> <u>The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre</u>	Parish Clerk

Signed: Dated: 6th November 2025