

**THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY
CENTRE, THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2026**

Present: Mr Jeff Burrell, Mr Keith Drewrey, Mr Rob Plom, & Dr Jo Dalton

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>
1.	<u>Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed members of the Parish Council.
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> There were apologies of absence from Mr Brendan Sparks & Mrs Pam Spicer
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

There were no members of the Public present at the meeting.

The Parish Council were pleased to welcome Stephen Askew who provided an update on the current position regarding the devolution of local government. Stephen advised that it has been indicated this is likely to proceed with a three-unitary council for Norfolk from 2028. Under these proposals, the existing councils would be replaced by three new unitary authorities which will assume responsibility for all local government services in their respective areas.

Stephen also advised that he will be stepping down at the forthcoming elections. The Parish Council expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation for the dedicated service he has provided to Banham over many years.

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>	<u>Actions:</u>
4.	<u>Parish Minutes:</u> Previous Minutes of the 5 th March 2026 meeting were approved, and signed by the Chairman.	Chairman Parish Clerk
5.	<u>Allotments:</u> The majority of allotments are as they should be for this time of year. Unfortunately there are 2 plots which appear to have been neglected for some time, and as such, notice will be given to the plot holders due to an increasing waiting list.	Parish Clerk

Signed Dated: 14th May 2026

6.	<u>Banham Community Hub:</u> Everything is in place for the Bunny Hunt, with a simpler route and more bunnies to find this year. Entertainment will be provided by Andy the Clown, and there will be a dedicated craft table offering a range of Easter themed activities. 100 Easter eggs were donated this year, and any remaining eggs will be passed to the Banham Toddler Group, and families in need in Norwich. Nomination forms and envelopes for the Banham Community Award are available at the Wednesday Cafe, and people are asked to complete the form, place it in the provided envelope, and deposit it into an allocated sealed box. Plans are progressing well for this year's Big Lunch. The Hub has received permission to use the Village Green for the event and the Kenninghall Morris Dancers have been contacted. Further details to follow. Monica's Sponsored Swim raised £535.00 and in addition, the Wymondham and Attleborough Darts League nominated The Hub to receive a donation of £600.00 which was presented by the Banham Community Bar Darts Team. These donations will go towards the Community Christmas Meal in 2026, for which, the hall and caterer have already been booked. The Hub laptop is now up and running and available for Community Use. A volunteer will be on hand to assist anyone wishing to learn how to use it or to help with research online. Finally, the Hub is now a member of the Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers. The new group, Banham Hub Knit & Sew, will meet every second Friday of each month from 2:00pm – 4:00pm at the Banham Barrel.	Mrs Spicer
7.	<u>Banham Community Award:</u> The PC discussed a suitable additional person to be added to the voting panel of the Community Award and following a decision being made, the Chairman will speak with this person to see if they are happy to take part. A further substitute person was also decided upon. In respect of voting, the panel will arrange a suitable date and time for the completed nomination forms to be reviewed and a winner decided upon. The winner will be considered based on number of votes and strength of evidence of the votes received.	Parish Clerk
8.	<u>Grove Road Passing Points:</u> It was acknowledged that Highways have identified required works on Grove Road, but there is no timescale for when this will be carried out at this time. The work required will involve organising a road closure to ensure that the grass verges can be cleared by contractors to allow for vehicles to pull in safely to assist with the safe passing of vehicles on the Grove Road.	Parish Clerk
9.	<u>Assertion 10:</u> The Parish Clerk advised that the website has been updated as advised and required, but that numerous documents now need to be included with regards to Data Protection and policies. The Clerk confirmed she is dealing with these, and the documents will be sent to the PC shortly for approval in order that they can be added to the website. The Clerk now has a new Gov. email address, and this is: clerk@banhamparishcouncil.gov.uk	Parish Clerk
10.	<u>Highways, Street Lights, Footpaths and Hedges:</u> Greyhound Lane overgrown hedges. Clerk to contact owner/Highways	Parish Clerk

Signed Dated: 14th May 2026

11.	<u>Churchyard Tree Works/Basal Growth</u>	
-----	--	--

	The PC reviewed correspondence from the owner of their wall which is connected to the church wall. Also to deal with is the removal of a large broken branch which is situated in one of the trees overhanging the residents garden. It was acknowledged the owner of the wall is concerned about carrying out repairs due to the basal growth on one of the trees, and the PC considered the matter & agreed to have an inspection & report drawn up. Mr Drewrey will make the arrangements.	Mr Drewrey
12.	<u>Planning: Review and consider the following applications:</u> Ref: PL/2026/0324/HOU - 15 Greys Manor, Banham, NR16 2EU (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0286/LB - Stinton Lodge, 20 Crown Street, Banham (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0414/FMIN – Banham Zoo, Kenninghall Road, Banham (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0289/FMIN – Banham Zoo, Kenninghall Road, Banham (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0315/HOU - Alexandra House, Church Hill, Banham, NR16 2HN (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0471/LB - Alexandra House, Church Hill, Banham, NR16 2HN (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this) Ref: PL/2026/0244/FMI - St Marys House Heath Road, Banham (The Parish Council considered the application and confirmed no objection to this)	Parish Clerk
13/14.	<u>Accounts:</u> The Chairman proposed the approval of items for payment. There was unanimous agreement from the Parish Council for the following: £ 80.00 – Hall Hire – Banham Community Hub £ 48.00 – Street Lighting – K&M Lighting £ 50.00 – March Storage of PC items – Mrs J Bensley £ 30.00 – Transport Grant Journey – Harling Taxi's £ 64.40 – Payroll Services – TP Jones LLP £ 66.00 – Hall Hire for PC meetings (quarterly) – BCCA	Chairman Vice Chairman Parish Clerk Dr Dalton
15.	<u>Banham Newsletter:</u> The Clerk will include the Community Hub, Stephen Askew and Community Award	Parish Clerk
16.	<u>Chairman's Other Business:</u> The Chairman advised he will be raising mower repairs/replacement at the May meeting.	Chairman
17:	<u>Next Meeting:</u> Annual Meeting Thursday 14th May 2026 – 7:00pm Followed by monthly meeting – 7:30pm The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre	

Signed Dated: 14th May 2026