

**THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY
CENTRE, THURSDAY 4TH JUNE 2026**

Present: Mr Jeff Burrell, Mr Rob Plom, Mr Brendan Sparks, Dr Jo Dalton & Mrs Pam Spicer

<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 Keith Drewrey
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

There were 2 villagers present. 1 Villager advised of the issues being caused by the basal growth on the trees lining the Green. The growth is now causing issues to vehicles passing and parked around the Green. It was agreed the Clerk would contact the owner of the Green to request maintenance. Furthermore, it was confirmed that the hedge alongside the school playing field was becoming overgrown again causing restrictions to the already narrow Church Lane. The Parish Council advised that hedges cannot be cut back during March and August, but proposed that they would make contact with the school regarding the hedge maintenance earlier on in the year to see if it could be 'kept under control' during these periods. District Councillor Steve Askew advised that food waste collections were to be 'rolled out' in September 26 in 2 phases. Households would receive a food caddy for the home, and a 23 litre bin for the outside. Nigel Wilkin is the new Chairman of Breckland Council, and has also been the Chairman of the Planning Committee for the last 7 years. In respect of the County Council elections, the current council should now run for the next 2 years, and after the 1st year, there will then be elections for new councillors for the new 3 tier system. Current councillors will continue until 2028, when the new 'set up' and new councillors elected will be put in place. There will also be mayoral elections in 2028, and Breckland, as a council will also run until 2028. The new system will come into force in May 2028.

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Details:</u>	<u>Actions:</u>
4.	<u>Parish Minutes:</u> Previous Minutes of the 14 th May 2026 meeting were approved, and signed by the Chairman.	Chairman Parish Clerk

Signed Dated: 2nd July 2026

5.	<u>Allotments:</u> It was reported by the Vice Chairman that the allotments are in good order, and people are making good progress, particularly some of the new plot holders. The Clerk advised that no response had been received from the resident of Plot 2 following emails sent, and so a letter would be sent and posted with regards to the notice, and to request that the plot is vacated within 2 weeks.	Parish Clerk on behalf of Mr Drewrey
6.	<u>Banham Community Hub:</u> The Hub saw 65 people at the last cafe and there were 14 participants at the Women's Self Defence Class. The Banham Hub Knit and Stitch Group is flourishing, and knitted and crocheted squares are already being made for the 2026 Christmas tree. The Big Lunch is due to take place on the 7th June on the Green with free refreshments, home-baked cakes, and a craft table for the kids. Kenninghall Dancers will be performing at 1:00pm.	Mrs Spicer
7.	<u>Highways, Street lights, Footpaths and Hedges:</u> Fallen Tree on footpath leading from Greyhound Lane to the Spong. Clerk advised reported to Highways, and Highways to contact land owner. Overgrown Hedge on private property on Crown Street. Chairman will speak with owner.	Parish Clerk
8.	<u>Churchyard Tree Works /Basal Growth:</u> Vice Chairman reported that works have been authorised.	Vice Chairman
9.	<u>Church Farm Barns Junction:</u> Parish Council to discuss wording for a sign to be placed on wall at junction. Clerk will also seek quotes for A4 sign.	Parish Clerk
10.	<u>Grove Road Maintenance:</u> It was acknowledged that there have been complaints from Villagers, and the Chairman advised that the works carried out were a disappointment. PC member advised that he saw a Council bin lorry parked on the 'top soil border' the day it was done. Top soil with vehicles driving on it, and heavy rains has simply been spread into road. It was noted that the PC had requested for opposite side of carriageway to be maintained to allow vehicles to pull onto grass and create natural parking spaces. No works have been undertaken on the opposite carriageway. PC very disappointed with the works, and acknowledge that there are no passing places bringing Grove Road to a standstill. Email to be sent to Highways conveying disappointment and to ask how the works will be rectified.	Parish Clerk
11.	<u>Street Lighting for Greyhound Lane development:</u> The Chairman advised the Parish Council have been approached with regards to funding street lighting on the newly proposed site on Greyhound Lane. The developer has confirmed that the council advised that new developments do not generally require new street lighting unless there is a specific safety need identified. The Parish Council advised that they will not fund street lighting due to the light pollution this would create as well as the need to avoid setting a precedent for both previous and future developments. Furthermore the ongoing maintenance would mean a substantial financial commitment for the PC with associated costs likely falling on residents through the Parish precept. The Clerk will contact the developer to advise.	Parish Clerk

Signed Dated: 2nd July 2026

12.	<u>Planning:</u> Reference: PL/2024/1178/FMAJ - Poultry Houses, Park Common, Kenninghall Proposal: 3no. replacement poultry sheds and ancillary development - Environmental Impact Assessment The Parish Council discussed and advised no objection to the application filed	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 – Storage of PC items – Mrs J Bensley £154.08 – Website hosting fees/domain registration fee – NALC Mrs Valerie Plummer presented the accounts for 2025/2026 and gave her report. The annual accounts and AGAR forms were reviewed and approved by all Members present. The RFO advised that the internal audit had not yet been concluded due to illness of the auditor, but expressed hope that this would be completed shortly. The AGAR forms were signed as required. Once the accounts have been fully audited, these and the associated AGAR documents will be published on the PC website and displayed on the notice board. The forms will also be submitted to the external auditor. The Clerk will arrange this. Mrs Plummer commented positively on the donations and financial support provided by the PC and advised that income from glass recycling had increased. Members of the PC agreed that recycling would again be promoted in the forthcoming newsletter. It was noted that partial funds had been transferred from the current account to the savings account, where interest is now being accrued. Mrs Plummer will report back to the PC once the internal audit has been completed and the AGAR forms are ready for submission to the external auditor.	Parish Clerk RFO
15.	<u>Banham Newsletter:</u> The Clerk will include information for the Community Hub, Banham Community Award, and Glass recycling.	Parish Clerk
16.	<u>Chairman's Other Business</u> The Chairman advised that a window at the BCCA had been broken and that it had allegedly been caused by a stone thrown up during strimming maintenance. The Chairman confirmed he had sought a quote for the necessary repairs and would update the PC once the matter had been reviewed and the associated costs advised upon.	Parish Clerk
17.	<u>Next Meeting:</u> <u>Thursday 2nd July – 7:30pm</u> <u>The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre</u>	

Signed Dated: 2nd July 2026