



Banwell Parish Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE (YCC) COMMITTEE HELD AT THE YCC, WEST STREET, BANWELL AT 7:30pm ON MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2026

Present: Cllrs Andrew Base, Mike Bailey, Paul Harding, Kelly Smith & Matthew Thomson.

In attendance: Liz Shayler (Clerk) and Cllr Davies.

Members of the Public: two

01/26 To elect a Chairman of the YCC Committee for 2025/26 (agenda item 1)

Resolved: That Cllr Bailey be elected as Chairman of the YCC Committee for the remainder of 2025/26

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

02/26 To elect a Vice Chairman of the YCC Committee for 2025/26 (agenda item 2)

Resolved: That Cllr Thomson be elected as Vice Chairman of the YCC Committee for the remainder of 2025/26

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

03/26 To receive apologies for absence: (agenda Item 3)

No apologies were received.

04/26 To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item (agenda Item 4).

No interests were declared.

05/26 To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the YCC Committee minutes from the 3rd of November 2025 (agenda Item 5)

Resolved: To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the YCC Committee meeting from the 3rd of November 2025.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

The minutes of the meeting were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

06/26 To note the YMCA Dulverton report on the current Youth Club (agenda Item 6)

The report was noted.

07/26 To complete the YMCA Dulverton appraisal process (agenda Item 7)

Resolved: The appraisal process was completed, resulting in a satisfactory outcome (see attached)

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

08/26 To receive the Officer's report/Exchange of information (agenda Item 8)

i) Community Payback Team

The boundary fence area required for the hedge planting has now been fully cleared.

ii) ARUP Project Update

A visit was carried out by the land management team and an acoustics engineer. Photographs were taken and tests undertaken, with a view to providing recommendations.

iii) **North Somerset Children's Services**

Children's Services will be returning to the building. They have proposed delivering a group entitled Bright Beginnings on Monday mornings, comprising two sessions of approximately two hours each, over a seven-week period.

iv) **North Somerset Children's Services Brenda**

Children's Services have appointed a new Community Co-ordinator who is reviewing gaps in children's and family provision, with a view to identifying opportunities for the Parish Council and North Somerset Council to work collaboratively to address them. The Clerk has invited her to attend the Impact Alliance meetings, as this aligns closely with related work being undertaken in Banwell.

v) **Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS) Community events for young people (aged 11-18)**

The Parish Council has been contacted by VANS regarding the potential to host community events for secondary school-aged young people. The Clerk has indicated provisional support for further discussions. A recent event in Nailsea was delivered alongside a youth club, in a separate space, and included stalls and guest speakers and a private room for professionals to hold confidential conversations with young people, parents and carers.

09/26 To note the chairmanship training on the 3rd of February from 6:15 – 8:30pm and agree any attendance for £45 per person (agenda Item 9).

To note the Chairmanship training.

10/26 To consider approval of expenditure (up to £1,000) to remove spikes from the top of the boundary fence at the Youth and Community Centre (agenda Item 10).

Resolved: To approve expenditure of up to £1000 to remove the spikes from the top of the boundary fence at the Youth & Community Centre before the hedge is planted.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

11/26 To review new and the current charging schedules for the YCC and Field (agenda Item 11).

i) **Alzheimer's Society**

Resolved: To offer the YCC for a further six months for free with a review in November as part of the 2027/28 budget setting process.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

ii) **Sunday Methodist Services**

Resolved: To approve the potential permanent, weekly hire of the Youth and Community Centre on Sundays.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

iii) **New Banwell Village Market**

Resolved: To offer the YCC for a year for free on the proviso that tables are offered to Banwell Businesses for free with a review in February 2027.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

12/26 To note the Youth and Community Centre and Youth Club budgets (agenda Item 12).

The Youth and Community Centre and Youth Club budgets were noted.

13/26 To note the Youth and Community Centre and Youth Club budgets for the 26/27 financial year (agenda Item 13).

The Youth and Community Centre and Youth Club budgets for the 26/27 financial year were noted.

14/26 Date of Next Meeting (agenda item 14)

Youth & Community Centre (YCC) Committee Meeting at Banwell YCC on 11th May 2026.

The meeting closed at 7:55pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

DRAFT

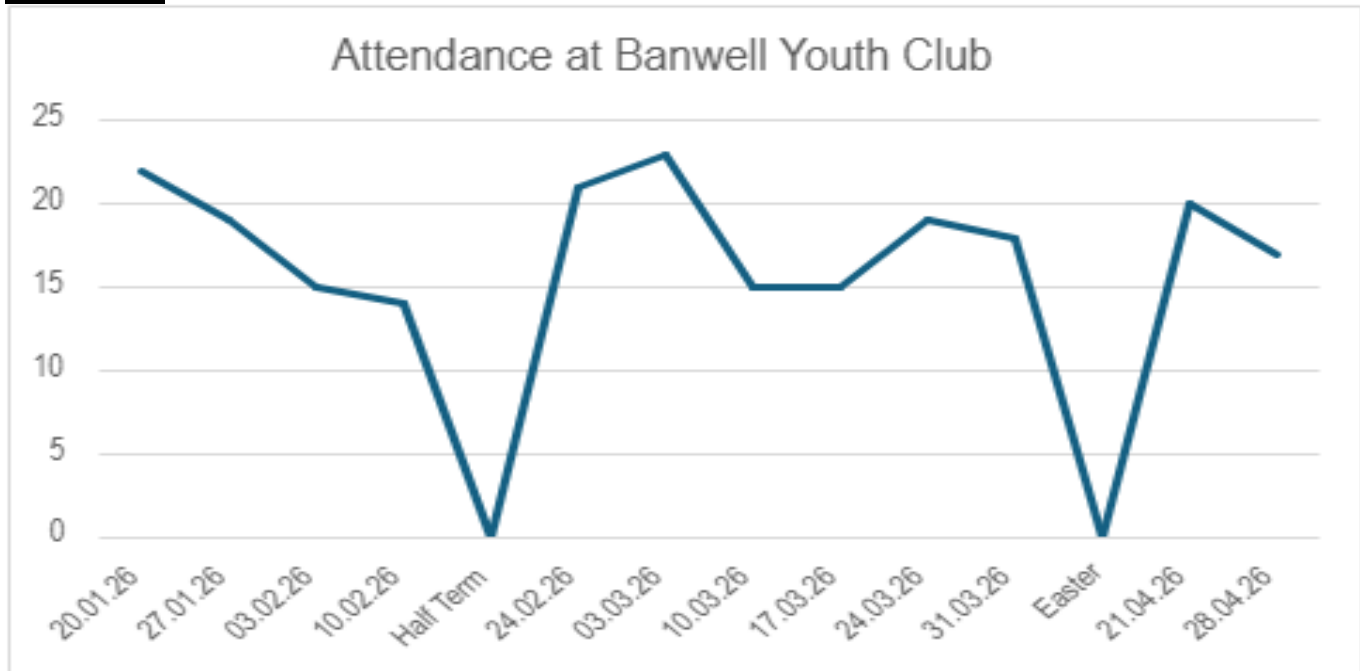
YMCA –REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

Period under review 1st November 2025 to 27th January 2026

- 1 Are all contracted sessions being held? **Yes** / No where possible
Comments...
- 2 Are the numbers attending increasing? Yes / **No** / NA
Comments Currently mid 20s.
- 3 Is a comprehensive range of activities being organised? **Yes** / No / NA
Comments... Yes. Received an update about their October trip.
- 4 Are YMCA demonstrating a degree of flexibility in the activities provided to meet users' needs (e.g. weekend or holiday activities)? **Yes** / No
Comments.... Summer Holiday activities to be discussed in February 2026.
- 5 YMCA arranging activities outside of the village? **Yes** / No / NA
Comments... Summer Holiday activities to be discussed. October trip report received.
- 6 Are YMCA seeking other sources of funding for Youth Club activities? Yes / **No** / NA
Comments – N/A.
- 7 Is any feedback from users/parents positive? Yes / No / **NA**
Comments – None received.
- 8 Have any complaints been received about the service? Yes / **No**
Comments... None received.
- 9 Have there been any behavioural issues at the Youth Club including damage? Yes / No / NA
Comments.... New system in place which has improved behaviour
10. Have any unannounced visits been made by Committee members since the review? Yes/**No**
Comments... No, due this term.
11. Any other comments:
In February, the Clerk will meet with the YMCA to discuss summer holiday provision. The NSC Children's Services Manager has also expressed an interest in being involved in these discussions, with the potential to provide staff support. This would enable both trips and in-house activities to take place simultaneously during the summer holidays.
12. Conclusion – **Satisfactory** / Unsatisfactory
13. Action points for YMCA
 - To ensure that Tuck and Subs are being banked correctly at least every half term.
 - To arrange meeting with Clerk to discuss Summer Holiday Provision.
14. Action points for Youth Club Management Committee.
 - None at this time.

Banwell Youth Group
January – April 2026 Report

Attendance



We have seen fluctuations in attendance this quarter, as many young people have been involved in school shows, girl guiding and scouting events and DofE trips. We hope to see the numbers level back out in the mid-20's as the year progresses. We have seen two new attendants join us and are happy to say that they have integrated into the group really well.

What we have been up to the last few months?

There have been a few highlights over the past weeks. We particularly enjoyed the police riot van joining us and the young people got an opportunity to use some of the riot shields be locked in the onboard cell and sound the sirens. To celebrate the end of term and Easter holidays we held an Ester Egg Hunt, where every young person got the opportunity to both hide and find an egg. We have also been creative in a number of mediums including making glue suncatchers, and bead crafts. Food activities are always enjoyed and pizza making is firm a favourite that we have enjoyed once again this term.

Behaviour

On the Whole behaviour has been much improved, this can impart be attributed to the change in weather allowing us to use the outside space to burn off some of the restless energy many of pur attendees experience. This has enabled them to concentrate much better in activities and engage well with both staff and other young people. We have also noticed that there is now less challenge to the rules and young people understand what is expected of them and are aiming to meet these expectations. We had one evening last term where their good behaviour particularly stood out, after the nerf gun battle, they were told that they needed to tidy away the nerf gun bullets before they could have tuck. Not only did they all work together to get the bullets picked up and back in their box, the young people then, without being asked, began to tidy away the other equipment that had been used to stage the room for the fight. This moment impressed all staff who were present and also marked a turning point in their attitude towards the space and litter etc.

The summer trips are about to be announced and as last year we have said that poor behaviour will result in them not being allowed to attend the trips as we need to know we can trust them to behave when in these other settings. This worked well previously to help manage behaviour in sessions and we are confident it will lead to further improvement this time around.

Communication

We continue to make sure we are available to the young people if they need to talk to an adult. As we maintain positive relationships with the young people that have gained the confidence to speak to us at youth club to ask for support or advice, occasionally they may ask to be able to contact us outside of youth club and we continue to be available via our social media or they can speak to a lead youth worker direct on the youth team mobile.

We are also increasing the ease for parent communication by ensuring they all have the email address and telephone number of the lead youth worker. This has meant that parents/carers can let us know if there has been an issue in the week or at home/school which gives us greater understanding and enables us to be prepared for what they might need. We have also found this beneficial in supporting parents and young people to access additional services that they may require, with parents asking us, when they are concerned for their child, if there is anything we can offer or introduce them to which may help their situation. It is also fostering better relationships between the families and staff, which we hope will aid in improving behaviour within the youth club.

We have been using the YMCA DG youth clubs facebook page to share our activities and tag the parish council in. We find this a great way for parents to see what has been happening at youth club and raise awareness of the youth club and activities provided.

Future plans for Banwell youth group

We're looking forward to the rest of this term with activities including pizza pockets and making our own fidget spinners. We are also looking forward to summer and the trips we will be running, the young people have asked to return to Brean Theme Park and a beach, so these trips have been included in the 5 trips this summer.

YMCA –REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

Period under review 1st January to the 30th April 2026

1. Are all contracted sessions being held? **Yes** / No where possible
Comments...
2. Are the numbers attending increasing? Yes / **No** / NA
Comments ... Currently between 15 and 24 (slightly lower than last term).
3. Is a comprehensive range of activities being organised? **Yes** / No / NA
Comments... Yes, see report and summer holiday activities proposed.
4. Are YMCA demonstrating a degree of flexibility in the activities provided to meet users' needs (e.g. weekend or holiday activities)? **Yes** / No
Comments.... Summer holidays activities proposed.
5. YMCA arranging activities outside of the village? **Yes** / No / NA
Comments... All summer holidays activities proposed outside of the village.
6. Are YMCA seeking other sources of funding for Youth Club activities? Yes / **No** / NA
Comments – Suggestion that PC applies for funding for Summer Holiday Activities.
7. Is any feedback from users/parents positive? Yes / No / **NA**
Comments – None received.
8. Have any complaints been received about the service? Yes / **No**
Comments...
9. Have there been any behavioural issues at the Youth Club including damage? Yes / **No** / NA
Comments.... None reported.
10. Have any unannounced visits been made by Committee members since the review? Yes/**No**
Comments...
11. Any other comments:....
12. Conclusion – **Satisfactory** / Unsatisfactory
13. Action points for YMCA
14. Action points for Youth Club Management Committee.
 - Officers to investigate external funding.
 - YCC Committee to undertake unannounced visit.

6. To receive the Clerk's report/Exchange of information: Please note that the Council is unable to make any formal decisions under this item.

(i) Boundary fence

The spikes have now been removed where they could be accessed. This work was completed by the handyman at a cost of just under £300.

(ii) YCC Hedges

The hedging whips have now been planted. Ward Tree Surgeons have agreed to provide wood chippings to place around the base of the hedging. This will help suppress weed growth, improve water retention during dry periods, and provide additional protection while the plants establish. It is hoped that the wood chippings will be delivered ready for the spring clean so that volunteers can assist with spreading them.

7. To agree a budget of up to £400 to purchase waters butts and watering cans for the Youth and Community Centre.

Young whips have been planted at the Youth & Community Centre. Guidance indicates that young trees should generally establish without regular watering, as this encourages deeper root growth. However, given increasingly hot and dry summers, a simple contingency system is also recommended to help protect the trees during prolonged dry periods.

Proposal

Install a small-scale rainwater harvesting system, supported by volunteer watering during dry weather.

- 3 x 300L water butts installed on raised bases on the existing concrete hardstanding (hedge side of the YCC)
- Watering to be carried out manually by volunteers and local groups (e.g. Scouts)

Cost

- 3x Tanks, bases and fittings: £327
- 2x Watering cans: £15
- Installation - Officer time



8. To discuss the 2026 summer provision suggested costs and agree a way forward

A proposal has been received outlining five youth trips during the summer holiday period for up to 14 young people, supported by three members of staff. The trips include Brean Theme Park, Victoria Park, We The Curious, Exmouth Beach, and Noah's Ark Zoo Farm. The total estimated cost of the programme is £2,422.36, which includes staffing, entry fees, parking, and transport-related costs.

Members should also note that lower-cost trips delivered during the previous summer programme proved less popular and, in some cases, only a small number of young people attended. As safeguarding ratios still required three members of staff to attend, this increased the overall subsidy cost per participant.

Last year, the majority of the programme costs were met through a Social Prescribing grant, meaning only a relatively small proportion of the total cost was funded directly through public funds.

Financial and Governance Considerations

The proposed trips would provide positive recreational and social opportunities for the young people attending and support continued engagement with youth provision during the summer period.

However, members may wish to consider the overall level of subsidy required in relation to the number of participants benefiting directly from the trips. Even with participant contributions towards activities, the average cost per attendee remains relatively high once staffing and associated costs are included. Across the full programme, the average cost works out at approximately £34.61 per young person per trip. Every trip has to be booked with a £5 cost. This year I am suggesting £10 for the Noahs Ark and Brean Down Trips.

Assuming all trips are fully attended by 14 young people, and participant contributions are set at £5 per trip, rising to £10 for the Brean Theme Park and Noah's Ark Zoo Farm trips, the total participant income would be approximately £490. This would leave a remaining estimated cost to the Council of £1,932.36 should no external funding be secured.

Based on full attendance across all five trips, the average net subsidy from Council funds would equate to approximately £27.61 per young person per trip after participant contributions have been deducted.

Previously summer activities have been partially supported with external funding. This year it could potentially be completely from public funds. Consideration should therefore be given to:

- demonstrating wider community benefit;
- ensuring the proportionate use of council resources;
- maintaining equitable access to activities; and
- the longer-term financial sustainability of this type of provision.

Opportunities for external grant funding or sponsorship may be explored to reduce the direct financial contribution required from the Council and improve the sustainability of future summer programmes.

Options for Consideration

Members may wish to consider:

1. Whether the proposed summer youth programme should proceed in principle;
2. Whether the programme should proceed if external grant funding is not secured;
3. The level of financial contribution to be met through Council funds;
4. Supporting officers in seeking external grant funding opportunities to reduce the direct cost to the Council; and
5. Delegating authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Youth & Community Centre Committee, to confirm and implement the final programme arrangements in sufficient time for the summer holiday period.

9. To receive the report from ARUP and agree a way forward.

ARUP undertook a feasibility study for the Youth & Community Centre covering three main areas:

- Heating and energy efficiency
- External works and land use
- Acoustics and audio performance

The report concludes that the building itself is generally sound, but that user comfort and usability are being affected primarily by heat loss, draughts, and poor acoustics in the main hall.

Heating

The existing LPG heating system is considered broadly adequate, although there may be capacity issues during peak winter conditions. However, ARUP consider the main issue to be poor insulation, high air leakage, and draughts rather than outright heating failure.

ARUP recommend a “passive first” approach, including:

- Air tightness testing
- Improving insulation and draught proofing
- Reviewing door seals
- Better heating controls integration

Three heating upgrade options were considered:

1. Expanding the current radiator system
2. Air source heat pump with ceiling radiant panels
3. Air source heat pump with underfloor heating

ARUP’s preferred long-term option is Option 3 (air source heat pump with underfloor heating), due to efficiency, comfort, and improved use of space within the hall.

Acoustics

The front room performs reasonably well acoustically and requires little intervention.

The main hall, however, has excessive reverberation which affects speech clarity during meetings and community activities.

ARUP recommend installing acoustic treatment in the main hall through either:

- Acoustic wall/ceiling panels,
- Hanging acoustic rafts,
- Or a combination of both.

The report also suggests repositioning and improving microphone arrangements to improve audience participation and hearing loop performance during meetings.

External Works

The report reviewed proposals including:

- Orchard planting
- Hedgerow planting
- “Men’s Sheds” style community structures

Due to Wessex Water lease restrictions, utilities, and possible historic contamination from former sewage infrastructure, a traditional orchard is not considered feasible. However:

- Raised planters/potted fruit trees may be possible
- Men’s Sheds/community shed structures are considered potentially feasible subject to further permissions and utility checks.

The report strongly recommends early discussions with:

- Wessex Water Estates (already done)
- Geoenvironmental specialists
- Ecologists
- Utility survey providers

before any external works proceed.

Following receipt of the report, the Clerk and Chairman of the Parish Council met with representatives from ARUP to clarify a number of points within the report, particularly in relation to the potential overlap between acoustic improvements and ceiling-mounted heating solutions.

During these discussions, it was also noted that the Parish Council had previously commissioned a separate study which concluded that an air source heat pump may not be suitable for the building due to the intermittent and irregular usage patterns of the hall. ARUP acknowledged this earlier advice within their report, whilst noting that suitability may alter if building utilisation increases in future.

Suggested Way Forward for the Committee

Phase 1 – Immediate / Low Cost Improvements

The Committee may wish to prioritise relatively low-cost investigative work and improvements before considering major capital expenditure. Suggested actions:

1. Consider commissioning an air tightness test to establish whether draughts and fabric performance are a significant contributor to user discomfort.
2. Obtain indicative costs for acoustic improvements to the main hall.
3. Note the report’s comments regarding future AV/hearing loop improvements for consideration if required.
4. Begin preliminary discussions with Wessex Water regarding external land restrictions and permitted uses.

Phase 2 – Feasibility and Costing

Once the outcomes of the initial investigations are known, the Committee could then review:

- whether fabric improvements are likely to provide meaningful benefit;
- whether heating distribution remains the primary issue;
- and whether acoustic improvements should proceed independently of heating works.

At this stage, the Committee could also consider obtaining indicative costings for longer-term heating options identified within the report.

Phase 3 – Strategic Development

Subject to future priorities, funding availability, and building usage levels, the Committee may later wish to consider:

- Once the outcomes of the initial investigations are known, the Committee could then review:
- whether fabric improvements are likely to provide meaningful benefit;
- whether heating distribution remains the primary issue;
- and whether acoustic improvements should proceed independently of heating works.
- At this stage, the Committee could also consider obtaining indicative costings for longer-term heating options identified within the report.

Suggested Resolution

That the Committee receives and notes the ARUP Feasibility Report and agrees:

1. That the Clerk be authorised to investigate options and indicative costs for further assessment work relating to heating performance, air leakage, and building fabric performance at the Youth & Community Centre, and report back to the Committee with recommendations.
2. That indicative costs be obtained for acoustic improvements to the main hall, in line with the recommendations contained within the report.
3. That officers begin preliminary discussions with Wessex Water regarding restrictions, easements, and permitted uses relating to the external land surrounding the Youth & Community Centre.
4. That any decisions regarding major heating replacement works or wider external development proposals be deferred pending the outcome of the above investigations and any subsequent costings or specialist advice.
5. That a further report be brought back to the Committee setting out findings, options, indicative costs, and any potential funding opportunities.

Banwell Parish Council
Net Position by Cost Centre and Code - Cost Centre Group - YCC Committee

Cost Centre Name

Youth & Community Centre		Bal. B/Fwd.	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
Code	Title		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
701	YCC upgrade				2,000.00		2,000.00
702	YCC repairs & maintenanc				3,000.00		3,000.00
703	YCC CCTV				800.00		800.00
704	YCC Electricity				200.00		200.00
705	YCC Gas				1,000.00		1,000.00
706	YCC water				800.00		800.00
707	YCC waste				350.00		350.00
708	YCC cleaning & supplies				3,000.00		3,000.00
710	YCC phone & wifi				600.00		600.00
711	YCC Grass cutting				1,125.00		1,125.00
712	YCC hedge, fence & tree \				1,000.00		1,000.00
713	YCC grants & donations		1,500.00				-1,500.00
714	YCC income		500.00				500.00
715	YCC Booking software				430.00		430.00
716	YCC Music Licence				600.00		600.00
717	YCC events refreshments				150.00		150.00
			2,000.00		15,055.00		13,055.00
Youth Club							
Code	Title	Bal. B/Fwd.	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Current Balance Budget
801	YC sessions				8,000.00		8,000.00
803	YC extraordinary activities				5,000.00		5,000.00
805	YC subscriptions		550.00				-550.00
806	Tuck Shop						
807	Youth Forum				200.00		200.00
			550.00		13,200.00		12,650.00
NET TOTAL			2,550.00		28,255.00		25,705.00