



Banwell Parish Council

Banwell Youth & Community Centre

West Street, Banwell. BS29 6DB

Telephone: (01934) 820442

Email: clerk@banwellparishcouncil.org.uk

MEETING: Cemetery and Memorials Working Group.

DATE & TIME: Monday, 12th June 2025 at 6pm.

LOCATION: Banwell Cemetery, St Andrews Church, Church Street, Banwell.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors, Paul Harding (Chairman), Nick Manley plus co-opted members & John Keate (Cemetery Orderly) & Maggie McCarthy (Church Warden).

Also present: Liz Shayler (Clerk).

NOTES

01/25 To elect a Chairman (agenda item 1)

Resolved: To elect Cllr Manley as Chairman of the Working Group.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

02/25 To elect a Vice-Chairman (agenda item 2)

Resolved: To elect Cllr Harding as Vice-Chairman of the Working Group.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

03/25 To receive apologies for absence (agenda item 3)

No apologies were received.

04/25 To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item (agenda item 4)

John Keate as Cemetery Orderly declared an interest in all matters of expenditure.

05/25 To agree the notes of the meeting held on the 7th of October 2024 (agenda item 5)

Resolved: To agree the notes of the meeting held on the 7th of October 2024.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

06/25 To recommend approval of the following documents (agenda item 6).

- i) Cemetery Risk Assessment
- ii) Memorial Risk Assessment
- iii) Cemetery Equality Impact Assessment.
- iv) Banwell Cemetery Public Guidance.

Resolved: To recommend approval of the documents above.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

07/25 Matters for Information / Clerks Report (agenda item 7)

i) Interment of archaeological remains.

The archaeological remains were interred in February 2025. A stone unveiling ceremony is scheduled for 10:30am on 19th July, with associated historical artifacts (discovered at the same time) on display at the Youth & Community Centre from 11:00am to 4:00pm. The Parish Council is partnering with the Archaeological Society for this event.

ii) Remembrance Garden

Mark Walker has produced a design for the area, which would effectively double its current size. The Clerk contacted three companies for quotes: one declined, and the second agreed but failed to submit a quote by the deadline of 9th June. As a result, a Council decision has been deferred to the July meeting to allow time for additional quotes to be obtained.

iii) Ecologist

The ecologist has undertaken a review of all Parish Council owned spaces, including the cemetery. She made several recommendations for the cemetery such as additional tree and bulb planting, as well as the use of creepers on walls. Concerns were raised about potential damage from tree roots to gravestones and walls, as well as the ongoing maintenance of trailing plants. Bulb planting was considered a possibility, provided it was not carried out directly above graves. It was suggested that any increase in biodiversity should be focused within the proposed expanded Remembrance Garden.

iv) Consideration of shroud burials

The committee was asked to reconsider burials consisting solely of a shroud. The Clerk will investigate our current regulations and add this item to the October agenda.

08/25 To undertake the following checks and suggest any work needed (agenda item 8)

i) Cemetery Paths

It was noted that the paths had been sprayed and then subsequently cleared by the Payback Team. However, the section adjacent to the Children's Corner needed to be done.

ii) Trees

The tree arboriculturist was next due in October. Nothing was noted visually.

iii) Remembrance Garden

See above.

09/25 To note the Cemetery and Memorials Budget and income (agenda item 9)

The Cemetery and Memorials Budget and income were noted.

10/25 To undertake the annual memorial inspection (agenda item 10).

The Annual memorials safety inspection was undertaken. The following will be checked for ground anchors: 28 (Bull), 112 (Munden), RC1(Callie) and advice for the wooden memorial 192 (Peregrine). The following require a small amount of cement 16 (Westlake), 23 (Haigh / Ball), 39 (Gent), 82 (Tripp), 84 (Gould), 33 (Roberton), and 297 (Plaister).

11/25 Date of next meeting (agenda item 11)

TBD 14th October, 15th or 16th 2025 Banwell Cemetery. The Clerk to send around a doodle poll.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 17:50

.....Chairman

.....Date