



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BANWELL YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE (YCC) AT 7:30pm ON MONDAY 17th AUGUST 2026

PRESENT: Councillors: Steve Voller (Chairman), Mike Bailey (Vice Chairman), Simon Arlidge, Andrew Base, Steve Davies, Mike Dolling, Kelly Smith, Matthew Thompson and Tara Wright.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Liz Shayler (Clerk)
WARD COUNCILLOR: None
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Two

Cllr Voller welcomed everyone.

Before the meeting was convened, the member of the public was invited to speak.

i) Members of the public

A member of the public spoke in opposition to planning application 26/P/1406/OUT Land North of Lower Laurel Farm Summer Lane Banwell BS25 1DU for the following reasons;

- Concern about how the size of the site had been calculated and whether the proposal should be classified as a small site.
- That the proposal appeared to be considered acceptable because of its relationship with the wider Wolvershill development/masterplan.
- Potential drainage impacts on neighbouring properties.
- Highway safety, particularly the proposed visibility splay and its apparent reliance on land within a neighbouring property.
- Whether the required Ecology and Biodiversity Net Gain could be achieved and whether the potential impact on bats had been adequately considered in the context of the significant future development proposed through the wider Wolvershill masterplan.
- Whether there was an identified need for the proposed later-living accommodation, with reference made to information suggesting an existing oversupply.

ii) Community Beat Manager's Report

No report was received.

iii) Ward Councillor's Report

No Ward Councillor was present and no report had been received.

The meeting was convened.

125/26 To receive apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Paul Harding and Darren Salvage and District Councillor Joe Tristram.

126/26 To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item (agenda item 2)

No declarations of interest were received.

127/26 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th of July 2026 (agenda item 3)

Resolved – That the July minutes of the Parish Council Meeting be approved as a correct record.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded and carried unanimously with one abstention due to absence.

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

128/26 To note the following minutes (agenda item 4)

- i) **Banwell Recreation Ground Trust 20th July 2026**
- ii) **Planning Committee 3rd August 2026**
- iii) **Youth & Community Centre Committee 3rd August 2026**

The minutes above were noted.

129/26 To note and comment upon planning application 26/P/1406/OUT North of Lower Laurel Farm Summer Lane Banwell. BS25 1DU (agenda item 5)

Resolved – To note planning application 26/P/1406/OUT and make the following comments:

- Concern regarding the proposed access arrangements and highway visibility splay.
- Whether there is an identified local need for the proposed later-living accommodation falling within Use Class C2.

If North Somerset Council is minded to approve the application, the Parish Council requests that the following conditions are imposed:

1. No external lighting shall be installed until details, including:
 - (i) details of the type and location of the proposed lighting;
 - (ii) existing lux levels affecting the site;
 - (iii) the proposed lux levels; and
 - (iv) lighting contour plans, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Any external lighting shall be installed and operated in accordance with the approved details.
2. A Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) shall be prepared to demonstrate how the proposed habitat creation and enhancement measures will be managed, monitored and maintained over the long term, specifically in relation to Biodiversity Net Gain.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded and carried unanimously with two abstentions.

130/26 To review the positions of dog bins around the parish (agenda item 6)

Resolved – To seek legal advice regarding the dog waste bin at Knightcott Gardens, with a view to returning it to its original location subject to that advice. To install a new dog waste bin at the new public open space at Mead Fields and to make budget provision for two further bins in 2027/28.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

131/26 To note the training and events available and agree any attendance (agenda item 7)

- i) **SLCC National Conference £550.**

Resolved – To approve the cost of £550 for the Clerk to attend the Society of Local Council Clerks National Conference.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

- ii) **ALCA events and training from £30 each**
- iii) **ALCA e-learning through Nimble £14 each**
- iv) **Breakthrough communications training £30**
- v) **Various finance training £30**
- vi) **Various Scribe finance training - Free**
- vii) **Various NALC training from £32.68**

The training above was noted.

132/26 To receive the Clerk's report/Exchange of information (agenda item 8)

i) Banwell Bypass update

Work on the Banwell Bypass continues, with drainage and culvert works progressing, although delays remain around utility diversions. East Street is currently closed until 29 August, with ongoing issues caused by HGVs ignoring diversion and restriction signage. Riverside reopened on 24 July, while the new Moor Road link is temporarily closed until 23 August for bridge and culvert works. The permanent closure of Moor Road is now expected from 24 August, subject to Bristol Water's programme. Further traffic management is expected in September, including temporary lights on Knightcott Road and a closure of Wolverhill Road for several weeks to allow utility works to take place. Concerns have also been raised about future walking, cycling and horse-riding access to Moor Road North. There will initially be no through access for approximately a year, but once the bypass opens a new active travel route will run beneath the Riverside bridge, alongside the bypass and reconnect with Moor Road further north.

ii) Mead Fields Surgery

The Council were informed that the Mead Fields Surgery and litter pick had taken place on 5 August, providing an opportunity to engage with residents, the Methodist Church and North Somerset Council, including discussion regarding additional dog waste bins.

iii) Defibrillators, training and replacement pads

The Council were informed that the new defibrillator had been installed at Mead Fields Care Home, although concerns had been raised regarding its visibility and accessibility. Defibrillator training sessions were due to take place in September at Banwell YCC and Mead Fields Hub.

iv) High Street Weight Limit Signage

The Council were informed that North Somerset Council had agreed to install additional 7.5-tonne weight restriction signage at High Street/Littlefields Avenue, North Road/Greenfields Avenue and West Street/Westfield Road before Christmas, with no contribution required from the Parish Council.

v) Adverse Possession

The adverse possession application had been completed and the land included within the application had been registered to the applicants. It was subsequently identified that the access track had not been included within the area covered by the application and therefore remained in Parish Council ownership. Clarification was being sought regarding appropriate next steps.

133/26 To discuss increasing the cost of the soup and a roll to £2.50 (agenda item 9)

Resolved – To increase the voluntary contribution for soup and a roll to £2.50. The position will be reviewed in three months to assess the impact of the increase and the additional measures introduced. It will then be considered again in December as part of the 2027/28 budget-setting process.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

134/26 To discuss the replacement fence at Riverside and agree a way forward (agenda item 10)

Resolved – To agree in principle to install recycled plastic fencing, with a budget of up to £10,400. The Clerk to use Contracts Finder to identify additional suppliers, with quotations/options to be brought back to Council in October.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

135/26 To discuss the grant awarded for the gym equipment and discuss a way forward (agenda item 11)

The Clerk updated the Council that the £35,000 Reaching Communities and Partnerships grant application had been unsuccessful. One further application, for £17,862, remained outstanding, although a decision was not expected until October. As £14,999.08 of the project cost had already been secured through the 50% grant award, the additional benefit of the outstanding application would be approximately £2,800.

Resolved – To agree to proceed with the appointment of KOMPAN for the outdoor gym equipment at a cost of £29,998.16 excluding VAT, accepting the 50% grant already awarded and funding the

remaining £14,999.08 from the Council's existing budget/CIL allocation, rather than delaying the project pending the outcome of the final grant application.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

136/26 To consider whether to participate in the Highways Working Together Pilot and agree the Council's response in relation to (agenda item 12)

i) Additional verge cutting

Resolved – To participate in the additional verge cutting element of the Pilot at a cost of £2,925.06. To take before and after photographs/videos to assess the effectiveness of the work and inform any future decision on whether to fund similar boundary cuts.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

ii) Parish Gang

Resolved – Not to participate in the Parish Gang element of the Pilot for 2026/27, on the basis that the current cost of £3,177.88 does not represent sufficient value for money for the parish. The Council agreed to keep the matter under review for future years.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

137/26 To discuss allocating approximately £6,000 as a contribution for a North Somerset Community Response Officer in the 2027/28 budget (agenda item 13)

Resolved – To allocate £5,567.57 in the 2027/28 budget as a contribution towards a shared North Somerset Community Response Officer, subject to satisfactory further information being provided on the proposed hours of work, deployment arrangements, cover during periods of annual leave or absence, and reporting arrangements.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

138/26 To consider a grant application from the Air Ambulance (agenda item 14).

Resolved – To approve a grant of £200 for the Air Ambulance.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

139/26 To note the quarterly internal control report and agree any recommendations (agenda item 15).

The Parish Council's quarterly internal control report with no recommendations was noted.

140/26 To note the Parish Council's end of July net position, bank balances, bank reconciliation and reserves (agenda item 16).

The Parish Council's end of July net position, bank balances, bank reconciliation and reserves were noted.

141/26 To authorise bills for payment for July (agenda item 17).

The Clerk tabled an amended schedule of bills for payment.

Resolved – To authorise July payments totalling £10,424.91. Cllrs Harding, Voller and Bailey were authorised to approve the BACS payments on behalf of the Council.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

142/26 Dates of the next meetings (agenda item 18)

Monday 7th of September 2026, 7pm Planning Committee at the Youth & Community Centre (YCC).

Monday 21st of September 2026, 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting at the YCC.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm

.....Chairman

.....Date

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