



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN
BANWELL YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE (YCC)
AT 7:30pm ON MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2026**

PRESENT: Councillors: Steve Voller (Chairman), Mike Bailey, Andrew Base, Steve Davies, Mike Dolling, Paul Harding (Vice Chairman).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Liz Shayler (Clerk)
WARD COUNCILLOR: Cllr Tristram
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: One

Cllr Voller welcomed everybody.

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

i) Members of the public.

No members of the public wished to speak.

ii) Community Beat Manager's report.

The following report was received for the period 18/01/2026 to 15/02/2026.

A total of 46 incidents were reported, including the following crimes: 4 abandoned 999 calls, 2 assaults, 1 burglary, 2 concerns for welfare, 3 harassment, 15 road-related, 2 suspicious activity, 1 theft, 2 threat and 1 theft of a vehicle.

The next "Coffee & Chat" drop-in session will be Wednesday 18th March 11 till 12. Otherwise, residents are encouraged to stay informed via the Avon & Somerset Police website or by following their Facebook page: North Somerset Neighbourhood Policing. If you see anything suspicious in the area or wish to speak to local officers, please call 101, or 999 in an emergency. You can also report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

iii) Ward Councillor's report.

Cllr Tristram mentioned that North Somerset Council Executive are coming to visit Coffee and Chat and the March Parish Council meeting.

The meeting was convened.

017/26 To receive apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Simon Arlidge, Kelly Smith, Matthew Thomson & Tara Wright,

018/26 To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item (agenda item 2)

No interests were declared.

019/26 To approve as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 19th of January 2026 (agenda item 3)

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

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous with one abstention due to absence)

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

020/26 To note the following minutes (agenda item 4)

- i) Planning Committee Meeting on the 2nd of February**
- ii) Youth & Community Centre Committee Meeting on the 2nd of February**
- iii) Mendip Villages Joint Committee on the 4th of February**

iv) Wolvershill Liaison Group February 9th

The minutes above were noted.

021/26 To note the training and events available and agree any attendance (agenda item 5)

i) Avon Local Council Association (ALCA) Chairmanship Training £45 Cllr Dolling

Resolved – To approve the cost of £45 for Cllr Dolling for the Chairmanship Training.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

ii) ALCA Preparing for Assertion 10 (parts 1 & 2) Clerk Training £35 Clerk

Resolved – To approve the cost of £35 annual for the Clerk to undertake the training.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iii) ALCA Preparing for Assertion 10 Councillor Training £15

Resolved – To approve the cost of £15 for Cllr Dolling to undertake the training.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iv) ALCA e-learning on Nimble

v) Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) Devolution, Governance, and Growth: Tools for the Next Era of Local Councils, Taunton 3rd June All Day £85 Clerk

Resolved – To approve the cost of £85 for the Clerk to attend the SLCC conference.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

vi) Breakthrough Communications Training via ALCA

vii) Various Finance Training via ALCA

viii) Various 'Scribe' Finance Training

ix) Various NALC training from £30

The rest of the training above was noted.

022/26 To receive the Clerk's report/Exchange of information (agenda item 6)

i) Banwell Bypass update

Temporary traffic lights remain on Knightcott Road with no significant issues following sequencing adjustments. Traffic management continues due to utility works, including planned Wessex Water night works (early March) and Wales & West lights on Castle Hill (25 Feb–20 Mar). Wolvershill Road is hoped to reopen mid-March subject to progress. The quarterly newsletter was published in the February Parish Magazine.

ii) Mead Fields Surgery

Three residents attended and raised queries regarding Mead Fields. They were advised that a planning application has been submitted for the retail/health provision area, the play area is temporarily closed due to vandalism (expected to reopen in spring following hedge planting), a new application has been submitted for the pedestrian link to Locking Parklands, and the vehicular road connection works have commenced. A request was made for a zebra crossing between Mead Fields and West Wick and concerns were raised regarding mud on Cowleaze from the Taylor Wimpey site.

iii) North Somerset Children's Services Community Co-ordinator

Banwell has been selected as a pilot area for a new Community Co-ordinator role to identify gaps in provision for families and young people and work with local organisations. Mead Fields identified as an initial focus area.

iv) **Impact Alliance Community Connector role**

The Mendip Villages Joint Committee has agreed to progress a 12-month Community Connector role to support volunteering and reduce loneliness. Following a three-month establishment phase shared with Winscombe Parish Council, the role will be delivered by Banwell Parish Council but funded by the Impact Alliance.

v) **Licensing service**

Cllr Harding reported that he had attended the Licensing Service of Rev. Jacqui Keir-Bucknall and had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council to welcome her to Banwell.

023/26 To approve the following expenditure (agenda items 7)

i) **Up to £35 for engraving and paperweight for 'Service to the Community Award'.**

Resolved – To approve the cost of up to £35 for engraving and paperweight for 'Service to the Community Award'.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

ii) **£103 for annual automatic front door service at the Youth & Community Centre (YCC).**

Resolved – To approve the cost of £103 for the annual automatic front door service at the YCC.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iii) **£299 for a 35l Fido dog waste bin.**

Resolved – To approve the cost of £299 for a 35l Fido dog waste bin to replace the one at the Recreation Ground.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iv) **Up to £190 for the first year's public liability for the Village Market.**

As per the agenda papers the meeting were told the cost of the public liability was £194.56 with a cost of £30 for a full colour page advert.

Resolved – To approve a payment of £194.56 for the first year's public liability for the Village Market and £30 for a colour advert in the Parish Magazine.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

024/26 To agree the 2026 spring and summer clean dates and a refreshments budget (agenda item 8).

Resolved – To agree the following dates for the spring and summer clean in Banwell (May 16th & September 19th) and Mead Fields (April 8th & August 5th).

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

025/26 To consider the road naming options for the new road on Mead Fields (agenda item 9).

Resolved – To suggest the use of Martins Hill as a road name.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

026/26 To discuss the request from North Somerset to (agenda item 10).

i) **Inspecting issues within Banwell and providing photographic evidence to North Somerset.**

ii) **Minor maintenance work like clearing vegetation from gates and stiles.**

iii) **Place new signage on structures denoting the Public Rights of Way.**

Resolved – To agree that the Parish Council will support this request and that this should be passed to the Environment Working Group to co-ordinate.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

027/26 To discuss the first draft of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2026 to 2029 (agenda item 11).

Resolved – To agree the first draft of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2026 to 2029 with the following addition. Under Priority 1 add a bullet point ‘Working alongside and supporting organisations that offer health and wellbeing activities within the community, helping to increase awareness, access and participation’.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

028/26 To note North Somerset’s A371 Knightcott Road ‘Missing Link’ scheme and agree any feedback (agenda item 12).

Resolved – To note North Somerset’s A371 Knightcott Road ‘Missing Link’ scheme and agree the following feedback:

The Parish Council supports the principle of improving connectivity by completing the walking and cycling link between Banwell, Weston-Super-Mare and the Banwell Bypass route, thereby strengthening the wider strategic network.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

029/26 To note the Environment Agency’s ‘Withdrawal of Maintenance Consultation’ and agree a response (agenda item 13).

Resolved: To note the Environment Agency’s ‘Withdrawal of Maintenance Consultation’ and agree the following feedback:

Banwell Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Environment Agency’s consultation, despite not being a riparian owner, regarding the withdrawal of vegetation maintenance on sections of the Main River within the parish. The Council has received reports of recent property flooding adjacent to local rhynes. While no formal assessment of causation has been undertaken, these incidents have increased community concern regarding channel capacity and vegetation build-up in certain locations. Residents have observed sections of watercourse where vegetation growth appears significant and flow reduced. The Council considers that maintaining channel capacity forms part of local flood resilience.

Banwell is experiencing ongoing development, and cumulative impacts on surface water and fluvial systems are relevant considerations in long-term maintenance planning. The Parish Council would be willing to engage constructively with the Environment Agency and other partners to explore potential solutions should additional evidence support continued maintenance

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

030/26 To note the increase of bank charges for Unity Bank (agenda item 14).

The increase of bank charges for Unity Bank was noted.

031/26 To note the Internal Controls report undertaken by Cllr Voller and agree changes to the following documents (agenda item 15).

The Internal Controls report undertaken by Cllr Voller was noted.

032/26 To note the Parish Council’s end of January’s net position, bank balances, bank reconciliation and reserves (agenda item 16).

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

033/26 To authorise bills for payment for February (agenda item 17).

The Clerk tabled an amended 'Bills for Payment Schedule'.

Resolved – To authorise the bills for payment for February of £14,209.67. Cllr Harding and Cllr Bailey to authorise the BACS payments.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

034/26 To discuss the employment of Bridget Bowen as the independent internal auditor for the financial year 2026 / 2027 and beyond (agenda item 18).

Resolved – To agree a contract with Bridget Bowen as the independent internal auditor for the financial year 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

035/26 Dates of the next meetings (agenda item 19)

Monday 2nd March 2026, 7pm Planning Committee at the Youth & Community Centre (YCC).

Monday 16th March 2026, 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting at the YCC.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:15

.....Chairman

.....Date

Bills for Payment - 20th January to the 14th February 2026
Banwell Parish Council

Method	Payee	Details	Gross Amount	Comments	Minute agreed	Power
Already Paid						The Parish Council
DD	TV Licence	YCC TV license	£ 174.50		089/25	
DD	EMS	charge for using card reader	£ 0.92		Admin	
DD	Water2business	YCC Water	£ 139.23		089/25	
DD	YU	Streetlight Power	£ 324.48		089/25	
DD	Octopus Energy	YCC energy use	£ 79.73		089/25	
DD	AvantiGas	Quarterly standing charge	£ 83.92		089/25	
DD	Mainstream	Phone and Broadband	£ 57.37		089/25	
To Pay						
BACS	J K Gardening	Grass cutting & Village Orderly contract	£ 1,043.34		089/25	
BACS	J K Gardening	Emptying NSC bins	£ 15.00		198/24 (ii)	
BACS	J K Gardening	Environmental Fee at Cemetery	£ 40.00		Admin	
BACS	J K Gardening	Hedges; rec, YCC & Riverside	£ 395.00	Total: £1493.34	089/25	
BACS	Corporate Cleaning Services	Dog Bin Emptying	£ 598.00		089/25	
BACS	Insight Cleaning	YCC Cleaning	£ 240.00		089/25	
BACS	YMCA	December Youth Club Provision	£ 405.00		089/25	
BACS	DS Securities	Battery replacement after annual check	£ 84.00		H & S	
BACS	DS Securities	Annual CCTV maintenance	£ 174.00		006/26 (iv)	
BACS	Rob Cox	Annual LPG Survey, replacement tap & CO alarm	£ 324.62		H & S	
BACS	ALCA	Clerk employment training session part 1	£ 35.00		190/25 (i)	
BACS	ALCA	Clerk employment training session part 2	£ 35.00		190/25 (i)	
BACS	ALCA	Chairmanship training	£ 45.00		004/26	
BACS	ALCA	Chairmanship training	£ 45.00		021/26 (i)	
BACS	ALCA	Essential Councillor training	£ 45.00		209/25 (ii)	
BACS	ALCA	Mastering Standing Orders training	£ 32.00	Total: £237	117/25 (iii)	
BACS	Scribe	Civic.ly monthly cost	£ 63.60		172/24	
BACS	Hayley Grant	Village Market Public Liability	£ 194.53		023/26 (iv)	
BACS	GB Sport	Yellow Gates	£ 3,566.40		008/26	
BACS	Parish Magazine	Classified add	£ 36.00		089/25	
BACS	Officer overtime + Expenses	Overtime, expenses (postage, mulled wine, mincepies, milk, butter & rolls)	£ 138.15		contractual & 037/25	
DD	Lloyds Bank PLC	Multipay charge & costs (Open AI, microsoft business, food bank, defib pads, YC bats)	£ 605.17		Various, PC 089/25, 102/25	
SO	Officer Salaries	Officer Salaries	£ 3,203.67		089/25 & E29/25	
DD	Nest	Pension contributions	£ 199.36		089/25	
DD	Unity Trust	Bank Charges	£ 8.70		089/25	
DD	North Somerset	YCC Waste Collection	£ 9.77		089/25	
BACS	CF Corporate	Printer hire	£ 132.00		089/25	
BACS	HMRC	PAYE and NI	£ 1,096.21		089/25	
Totals			£ 13,669.67			

The Parish Council have resolved to use the General Power of Competence as of the 15th May 2023