

THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024 AT 7:30PM

**Present: Mr Jeff Burrell, Dr Jo Dalton, Mr Keith Drewrey,
Mr Rob Plom & Mr Stephen Askew**

Item	Details
1.	<u>Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed Councillors and members of the public.
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> There was an apology for absence from Mr Brendan Sparks and Mrs Pam Spicer
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There was a declaration of interest in respect of a payment owed to the Chairman with regards to payment of pumps and hoses purchased.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

Thanks were given to the Chairman for his pro-active and dedicated assistance during the recent floods, resulting in no housing floods this time in Banham.

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item.</u>	<u>Details.</u>	<u>Action.</u>
4.	<u>Previous Minutes:</u> Previous Minutes of the 1 st February 2024 meeting were approved, and signed by the Chairman.	Chairman Clerk
5.	<u>Allotments:</u> Mr Keith Drewery advised that he had inspected the allotments, very little had changed since last months' inspection. Again it was acknowledged that the wet weather and muddy ground is keeping plot holders away at this time. The Clerk is due to send the previously agreed letter to plot holders with regards to maintenance.	Mr Drewrey

Signed: Dated:

Item:	Details:	Actions:
6.	<p><u>Spring Litter Pick:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that Banham Primary School are willing to participate in a village Litter Pick, and the date for this had been proposed for Tuesday 26th March. The Chairman, Dr Dalton, and Mr Plom are able to attend, and assist with the litter pack. The Clerk will revert to Mr Gamble for final details, and will apply for the litter picking kits as required. The Clerk will also look to get some stickers/badges for the Children taking part. An amount of £50.00 was proposed for this. Seconded by Mr Plom. The Clerk will also speak with the Banham Village Community Hub in respect of providing refreshments.</p>	Clerk
7.	<p><u>Community Orchard:</u></p> <p>The matter has been deferred to next month, as Dr Dalton needs to review the situation, and reach out for further advice and assistance.</p>	Chairman
8.	<p><u>Banham Play Area:</u></p> <p>Mr Drewrey, Mr Plom and the Chairman will be dealing with maintenance of the play area on Thursday 28th March.</p>	Chairman Mr Drewrey Mr Plom
9.	<p><u>Banham Wheels/Banham Transport Grant:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that she has sent the application for the Banham Wheels project to Breckland. Mr Askew acknowledged this had been received and asked if we required any further assistance. The Clerk advised we will shortly again be advertising for volunteer drivers and once we have some definite numbers, we will review this further. In respect of the transport grant awarded in 2023, the Clerk will revert to East Harling Taxis in respect of some final enquiries relating to waiting times between drop off and pick up times and payment terms. It was decided that journey's will be limited to 2 per person per month, and we will limit journeys to a 15 mile round trip, unless there are extraordinary circumstances. 72 hours notice preferred for bookings.</p>	Clerk
10.	<p><u>Highways:</u></p> <p>Mr Plom advised of numerous potholes on the Kenninghall Road. The Clerk will report these. Insofar as the Grove Rd replacement street light, the Clerk is in contact with Clayland Homes regarding ownership of this.</p>	Clerk

Signed: Dated:

11.	<p><u>Banham Flooding:</u></p> <p>The Chairman advised that we now have 3 emergency pumps, and all associated equipment in the village. The Chairman acknowledged that we need to look to get a protective cover for the pumps going over the road during the time of pumping water, and that he is looking into this. During the recent flooding, the Chairman parked his vehicle over the road to stop vehicles passing, but the police were also called to block the road. The Chairman advised that he encountered some threatening and abusive behaviour during the time of the road closure, and is conscious that going forwards, we do need to endeavour to get a protective barrier for the hoses to allow vehicles to continue to use the roads. The Chairman is in discussions with regards to the creation of this 'barrier'.</p> <p>Mr Askew advised that he is still in contact with Steven Halls at Highways in respect of assistance for the flooding, but advised that given the widespread issues caused by the flooding, this is going to take time and also considerable expense. Highways will focus on priority cases whereby houses are in danger of flooding.</p> <p>The Chairman reiterated that there are emergency pumps in the village, and so hopefully, any flooding can be dealt with as required, though hopefully, we are now at the 'back end' of this and the land is starting to dry out, which again will make a difference to any future flooding.</p> <p>Camera surveys have been carried out on Heath Road with a view to applying extra drainage.</p>	Clerk
12.	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>No Planning Applications received 1st February & 7th March 24</p>	Chairman
13.	<p><u>Review of Parish Council Documents:</u></p> <p>The Parish Council reviewed the Financial Regulations, Code of Conduct, and Standing Orders and were happy with these. No amendments required.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p><u>Accounts:</u></p> <p>The Chairman proposed the approval of items for payment. There was unanimous agreement from the Parish Council in favour of payment of the following:</p>	Clerk

Signed: Dated:

	<p><u>Accounts continued:</u></p> <p>£ 44.00 – Street Lighting – K&M Lighting £ 50.00 – Storage of PC items – Mr R Bensley £ 50.00 – Hall Hire – Banham Village Community Hub £ 15.00 – Xmas Voucher Payment - Banham Post Office £ 15.00 – Xmas Voucher Payment – Banham Butchers £530.86 – Payment of new Flooding Equipment – Mr J Burrell</p>	
15.	<p><u>To approve payment of invoices received since 27/02/24</u></p> <p>£ 24.99 – USB Flash Drive for Clerk – approved by Parish Councillors £107.00 – Pump Accessories – Mr J Burrell</p> <p>(please see ‘Extraordinary Minutes’ posted separately)</p>	Clerk
16.	<p><u>Chairman’s other business:</u></p> <p>No other business</p>	Clerk
17.	<p><u>Next Meeting:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday 4th April 2024 – 7:30pm</u> <u>The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre</u></p>	

Signed: Dated: