

Banwell Parish Council

Action Plan 2024 / 2025

The Parish Council takes its responsibility very seriously and strives continually to improve Banwell to make it a pleasant village where people are proud to be part of our community. Its aims are.

1. **Facilities & Amenities** - To continually promote the best interests of all members of the local community by providing facilities and amenities in the parish not provided by the Unitary Authority e.g.: a cemetery, a community centre, open spaces (Recreation Ground & Riverside).
2. **Direct Services** - Where the Parish Council provides direct services, it will do so ethically and endeavours to maintain high professional standards and a quality service. It feels that such quality is the expectation of the parishioners and will not compromise these standards.
3. **Communication** - The Parish Council aims to be a "Listening Council" and encourages you to let us know your opinions, comments and concerns. Where needed, we will act promptly to pass onto other local authorities or bodies, concerns which we cannot deal with ourselves, problems within the powers of the Parish Council will be passed to the relevant committees.
4. **The Local Environment** - The Parish Council has declared a climate emergency. It will operate and promote positive measures impacting the environment while reducing and eliminating adverse impacts. The Parish Council will use appropriate policy (principles of action to be formally adopted by the Parish Council) and planned activities.

When the Parish Council set their budget for the next financial year, members try and think about the aims above and using the Strategic Plan and its associated Action Plan the budget reflects what the council can do to achieve their aspirations in the next year and beyond.

These may include ensuring there is a small financial provision to enable the improvements / events to be made and in addition often applications can be made to both local and national funding bodies to provide those facilities which otherwise would not have been possible.

Our Plan therefore includes 4 sections:

- Facilities & Amenities
- Direct Services
- Communication
- The Local Environment.

Please have a look at our action plan and if you feel you can help or become involved in any way then please contact us.

clerk@banwellparishcouncil.org.uk / 01934 820442/Youth & Community Centre, West Street, Banwell. BS29 6DB

Facilities & Amenities			
Aims	Objectives	Budget Implication	Timescale
1.1 Develop & Enhance	1.12 To assess the War Memorial Assess the War Memorial to improve clarity of names.	£5000 in budget although grant possible.	Sept 24
1.2 Wellbeing	1.21 To continue to ensure all open spaces are well cared for & enhanced Install all-weather path on the Recreation Ground.	Approx £54,000 in budget as part of CIL – looking for grant opportunities.	Sept 24
	1.22 Run events and activities to support mental & physical wellbeing across all sections of the community. E.g. additional cooking sessions.	Grant for cooking sessions.	Ongoing
	1.22 Continue the Remembrance Day Parade.	Possible budget implications hoped that it will be funded by contractors building the bypass.	Oct /Nov
	1.22 Review Window Trail	No cost except officer time and printing.	August
	1.23 Promote positive planning and influencing local development. Meetings of Wolverhill Development Liaison Group and Wolverhill Working Party.	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing
	1.24 Safeguarding the separate identities of Banwell and the new Village and their environs.	No financial implication	Ongoing
	1.25 Support the implementation of 20mph & road calming measures.	No financial implication	Ongoing
1.3 Inclusivity	1.32 Promote and support local voluntary groups and events held.	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing
	1.34 Encourage the use of the YCC for community services / activities.	Utilities & officer time – employment of Admin Officer	Ongoing

	<u>Direct Services</u>		
Aims	Objectives	Implication	Time
2.1 Improve the organisational management & efficiency	2.11 Reviewing the staffing structure and objectives to ensure they reflect changing legislative and community needs.	No cost except officer time. 2 additional staff members budgeted from April. 3 rd from September.	Sept 24
	2.13 Apply for the local council award.	Already budgeted for in 23/24 no cost except officer time.	May 24
	2.14 To ensure all BPC policies and protocols are adhered to and updated as and when necessary	Already included in working practices	Ongoing
	2.15 To adhere to all new legislation	Statutory requirement. Already included in working practices.	Ongoing
	2.16 Implement a strategic plan and associated action plan.	No cost except officer time.	May & June 24
	2.17 To continue monitoring estimates and budgets	Already included in working practices	Ongoing
	2.18 Insurance - to obtain new quotes and accept as appropriate.	Budgetted £2400	Approved May £1819
2.2 Develop and implement a fixed assets strategy	2.21 Developing a fixed assets map.	Civicy App free for 12 months.	May 24 onwards
	2.22 Developing a formal fixed assets maintenance program.	Civicy App free for 12 months.	May 24 onwards
	2.23 Evaluating the Youth & Community Centre as a community and office space in the short, medium & long term.	No cost except officer time.	Jan 25
2.3 Improve forward-planning	2.33 To identify Parish Council projects.	No cost except officer time. Tea & Buns Autumn 24	Ongoing
	2.34 Considering future opportunities and challenges, including anticipated increases in powers and responsibilities.	No cost except officer time. Meeting with Wolverhill Development Liaison Group.	Ongoing
2.4 Pursue all possible appropriate forms of alternative revenue and funding	2.41 Advancing project planning to facilitate timely release of funds.	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing
	2.42 Maximising Section 106 or Community Infrastructure Levy monies available,	No cost except officer time	Ongoing
	2.43 Grant funding	No cost except officer time	Ongoing

	<u>Communication</u>		
Aims	Objectives	Implication	Time
3.1 Understanding our Community	Community feedback survey on picnic and YCC sustainability	Parish Mag £100 printing £100	July 24
3.2 Engaging with our Community	3.21 Replace 1 noticeboard.	£500 wall mounted, £100 free standing.	Autumn 24
	3.22 To continue the quarterly electronic Banwell enewsletter and improve volume of sign ups	No additional cost – Comms Officer hours.	Ongoing
	3.23 To produce 4 x insert for the Parish Mag each year.	In budget all external advertising £650	Ongoing
	3.24 To support a thriving Banwell Business community. Christmas Market	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing 7/12/24
	3.26 Improve the accessibility, relevance, ease of use and immediacy of our communication channels, including social media.	In budgets £650 all advertising – employment of replacement Comms Officer.	Ongoing April 2024
3.3 Involving our community	3.31 Work with NSC & the Wolverhill Developers to create a Wolverhill Master Plan.	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing
	3.32 Increase involvement of the community in Parish Council activities	£35 for award and engraving. Refreshments at Parish Assembly & officer time.	Ongoing 28/4/25

	The Local Environment		
Aims	Objectives	Implication	Timescale
4.1 Act sustainably including adopting a reduce, reuse, recycle strategy.	4.11 Promote and provide opportunities for the reduction of waste and increase of recycling.	Comms Officer hrs	Ongoing
	4.13 Raise environmental awareness amongst employees and the community.	Comms Officer hrs	Ongoing
	4.14 Review & reduce energy costs and associated emissions.	Solar panels fitted energy tariff being considered	June 24
	4.15 Investigation of Community Energy Scheme.	Cllr Arlidge & Voller	Ongoing
4.2 Protect and enhance wildlife and the environment and promote biodiversity.	4.21 Tree Policy	Clerk hours. Annual Inspection and tree works budget £910.	Sept 24
	4.22 Environmental communications relating to wildlife and biodiversity.	Currently Comms Officer hrs. Env Officer being considered in sept.	Sept
4.3 Environment and the decision-making process	4.31 To work with North Somerset's Local Plan team to make it as green as possible.	No cost except officer time.	Ongoing
	4.32 Ensuring money is invested wisely by researching the eco status of banks used / use of green utilities.	Charity Bank account due to end summer 24	June 24
	4.34 To create a "Sustainable Banwell" Facebook page.	Env Officer being considered in sept.	Nov / Dec 24
	4.35 To continue climate communications plan and regularly update with latest news and advice for residents.	Currently Comms Officer hrs. Env Officer being considered in sept.	Ongoing
	4.37 Planning Committee to consider green measures in all recommendations when discussing a planning application.	Currently Clerk hrs. Env Officer being considered in sept.	Ongoing