

Banbury Town Council

Statement of Accounts

(Not Subject to Audit)

31 March 2026

Banbury Town Council

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Banbury Town Council

Council Information

Town Mayor

Cllr Kieron Mallon

Councillors

Cllr Andrew Beere
Cllr Rebecca Biegel
Cllr Chris Brant
Cllr Becky Clarke
Cllr Mark Cherry
Cllr Isabel Creed
Cllr Andrew Crichton
Cllr Balbir Dhesi
Cllr Andrew Eaton
Cllr Henry Elugwu
Cllr Ian Harwood
Cllr Shaida Hussain
Cllr Helen Mears
Cllr Chukwudi Okeke
Cllr Barry Richards
Cllr Jayne Strangwood
Cllr John Stansfield
Cllr Kerrie Thornhill
Cllr Sian Tohill-Martin
Cllr James Urwick
Cllr Dom Vaitkus
Cllr Wendy Woodward

Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer

Mark Hassall ACMA CGMA MA

Auditors

Moore

Banbury Town Council

Introduction to Accounting Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The Accounting and Audit Regulations governing the production of the Council's accounts were amended on 31 March 2012. Prior to this date the Council were obliged to prepare its accounts under the 2008 FRSSE and these accounts were subject to a full code audit.

The new regulations allow the Council to adopt the Limited Assurance Audit Regime, the principal advantage being a considerable saving in audit fees and a less arduous audit regime.

The Council's statutory accounts are now produced in the form of the Annual Return. The Statements of Accounts which are not subject to audit provides background workings and explanations of the figures declared in the Annual Return.

The following items are included:

The Statement of Accounting Policies

This statement details the legislation and the accounting principles on which the financial statements are prepared.

The Statement of Responsibilities

This statement identifies the Council's responsibilities and identifies the officer who is responsible for the Council's financial affairs.

The Income and Expenditure Account (Unaudited)

This document shows the income generated and the total expenditure on the services provided by the Council for the year. If required, this document includes capital expenditure and the capital element of loan repayments.

The Income and Expenditure Account Reconciliation (Unaudited)

This document reconciles the figures shown in the Income and Expenditure Account to the Annual Return.

The Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

This sets out the financial position of the Council on 31 March. It shows the value of its assets, the value of its cash and bank values, how much it is owed and how much it owes and the balance of reserves at its disposal.

Notes to the Accounts

These provide further information on the amounts included in the financial statements.

Budget Comparison for the year ended 31 March 2026

The Council's policy is to estimate the total expenditure for the year, which may contain capital expenditure not financed via the precept. Any such expenditure of this type is included within the actual revenue expenditure for the year.

The budget out-turn is summarised below :

	Net Expenditure	Net Budget	Variance
SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC			
Litter and Dog Bins	(168,555)	(179,405)	10,850
Cemeteries	(245,663)	(263,560)	17,897
Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation	(1,012,547)	(1,184,906)	172,359
Cultural and Heritage	(21,950)	(18,348)	(3,602)
Bus Shelters and Grit Bins	(2,938)	(14,040)	11,102
Capital Costs	(140,922)	(93,930)	(46,992)
	(1,592,575)	(1,754,189)	161,614
DEMOCRATIC, CIVIC AND CENTRAL COSTS			
Civic and Events	(210,859)	(240,406)	29,547
Service Support Costs	(396,160)	(424,113)	27,953
Town Hall	(65,670)	(69,291)	3,621
Swimming Pool and Other Grants	(105,202)	(110,722)	5,520
Capital Costs			-
Interest and Other Income	204,641	197,817	6,824
	(573,250)	(646,715)	73,465
Developer Contribution under S106 agreements	105,866	105,866	-
Precept	2,299,215	2,299,215	-
Net surplus/(deficit)	239,256	4,177	235,079

It is the Council's policy to provide full information about its affairs. Interested members of the public have a statutory right to inspect the accounts before the audit is completed. The availability of the accounts for inspection is advertised on the Council's notice boards and website.

Further information about the accounts is available from The Town Hall, Bridge Street, Banbury, OX16 5QB. This is part of the Council's policy of providing full information about its affairs.

Banbury Town Council

Statement of Accounting Policies

31 March 2026

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioners Guide (England).

These accounts have been prepared having regard to the fundamental accounting concepts of: Going Concern, Prudence, Accruals, Relevance, Consistency, Reliability, Comparability, Understandability and Materiality.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Prior to 1 April 2012 the Council's accounts were prepared in line with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE 2008). The change from the FRSSE has resulted in a review of accounting policies, with changes in respect of the treatment of Fixed Assets.

Fixed Assets

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of fixed assets above the Council de-minimus (currently £5,000) is written off to the Council's Income and Expenditure Account in the year of acquisition. Expenditure on fixed assets is then included in the Balance Sheet with a corresponding transaction shown in the Capital Financing Reserve to balance the transaction.

Fixed Assets are included in the balance sheet at carrying value current on 31 March 2009 together with subsequent acquisitions and enhancements at cost.

Depreciation Policy

All assets are held at cost on the balance sheet, in line with the accounting regulations.

Disposals

Where an asset is disposed of at a value above the de-minimus level (currently £10,000), the proceeds of the capital receipt within the meaning of the Local Authorities (Capital Financing and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2011, are included in the Income and Expenditure Account and carried to the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve.

Grants or Contributions from Government or Related Bodies

Capital Grants

Where a fixed asset has been acquired or improved with the financing either wholly or in part by a grant or contribution from government or a related body, e.g. Sports Council, the full amount of the grant has been included in the Income and Expenditure Account to off-set the cost of purchasing the relevant asset.

Revenue Grants

Whether paid on account by instalment or in arrears grants and third party contributions are recognised as income on the date the Council receives the payment. Revenue grants are matched in revenue accounts with the service expenditure to which they relate and are shown under a separate heading in the Statutory Income and Expenditure Account.

Capital Receipts

Capital receipts arising from the disposal of fixed assets are taken to the Capital Receipts Reserve until such time as they are used to finance new capital expenditure.

Investments

Investments over one year in length are not included in the balance sheet and realised gains or losses are taken into the Income and Expenditure account as realised.

Stocks and Work in Progress

Stocks where relevant are being constantly replaced and their value is not material to assessing the Council's state of affairs, as a result, stock is written off directly to revenue expenditure.

Debtors and Creditors

The revenue accounts of the Council are maintained on an accruals basis in accordance with the regulations. That is, sums due to or from the Council during the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received or paid in the year. Exceptions to this are payment of regular quarterly and other accounts (e.g. telephones, electricity). This policy is applied consistently each year. Therefore, it will not have a material effect on the year's accounts or on the Council's annual budget.

The Council reviews the level of its commercial debtors on a regular basis and provisions are made, as required, where the likelihood of amounts proving ultimately collectable is in doubt.

Value Added Tax

Income and Expenditure excludes any amounts related to VAT, as all VAT suffered/collected is recoverable from or payable to HM Revenue and Customs. Any amounts not so recoverable are treated as a separate expense.

External Loan Repayments

When required, details of the Council's external borrowings are shown in the notes.

The Council shows external borrowings in its Balance Sheet. However the capital element of loan repayments is included in the Income and Expenditure Account and transferred to the Balance Sheet via the Capital Financing Account.

Leases

The Council has no commitments under finance leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to revenue on an accruals basis.

Reserves

The Council maintains certain reserves to meet general and specific future expenditure. The purpose of the Council's reserves is explained in the notes.

The Capital Financing Reserve is maintained to manage the accounting processes for tangible fixed assets. It does not represent usable resources for the Council:

Capital receipts arising from the disposal of fixed assets are taken to the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve until such time as they are used to finance new capital expenditure.

Interest Income

All interest receipts are credited initially to general funds.

Interest is reallocated to certain reserves based on the level of their fund balance.

Cost of Support Services

The costs of management and administration have been apportioned to services on an appropriate and consistent basis.

Pensions

The pension costs that are charged against precept in the Council's accounts, in respect of its employees, are equal to the contributions paid to the funded pension scheme for those employees.

These contributions are determined by the fund's actuary on a triennial basis and are set to meet 100% of the liabilities of the pension fund, in accordance with relevant government regulations.

The Local Government scheme is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme.

Banbury Town Council

Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts

31 March 2026

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required:

to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs

to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs.
At this Council, that officer is the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and
safeguard its assets

to approve the Annual Return

The Responsible Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The RFO is responsible for the preparation of the Council's statement of accounts as contained in *Governance and Accountability for Local Councils (Part 3) - A Practitioners Guide England "The Guide"*, to present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2025 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In preparing the statements of accounts, the RFO has:

selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently

made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent, and complied with the guide.

The RFO has also:

kept proper accounting records which were up to date, and

taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsible Financial Officer's Certificate

I hereby certify that the statement of accounts presents a true and fair view of the position of Banbury Town Council at 31 March 2026, and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026

Signed: 
Responsible Financial Officer - Mark Hassall

Date: 1/6/26

Banbury Town Council

Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Prior Year		2026	2026	2026
£		£	£	£
Net		Gross	Income	Net
Expenditure		Expenditure		Expenditure
	SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC			
(167,523)	Litter and Dog Bins	(168,555)		(168,555)
(262,676)	Cemeteries	(332,402)	86,739	(245,663)
(1,029,951)	Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation	(1,079,564)	67,017	(1,012,547)
(2,834)	Cultural and Heritage	(21,950)		(21,950)
(2,124)	Bus Shelters and Grit Bins	(2,938)		(2,938)
(17,794)	Capital Costs	(716,637)	575,715	(140,922)
347,209	Developer Contribution under S106 agreements		129,230	129,230
	DEMOCRATIC, CIVIC AND CENTRAL COSTS			
(280,767)	Civic and Events	(255,982)	45,123	(210,859)
(368,974)	Service Support Costs	(396,160)		(396,160)
(86,545)	Town Hall	(88,765)	23,095	(65,670)
(101,257)	Swimming Pool and Other Grants	(105,202)	-	(105,202)
(6,406)	Capital Costs	-	-	-
235,446	Interest and Other Income	-	204,641	204,641
<u>(1,744,196)</u>		<u>(3,168,155)</u>	<u>1,131,560</u>	<u>(2,036,595)</u>
2,230,520	Precept			2,299,215
<u>486,324</u>	Net Surplus/(Deficit)			<u>262,620</u>
Balances at		Balances at		Balances at
Prior Year	RESERVES	31 March	Movement	31 March
		2025	in Year	2026
1,531,051	General Fund	1,531,051	152,956	1,684,007
2,736,902	Earmarked Reserves	2,736,902	86,300	2,823,202
878,060	Land transfer maintenance	878,060	23,364	901,424
<u>5,146,013</u>	Total	<u>5,146,013</u>	<u>262,620</u>	<u>5,408,633</u>

Banbury Town Council

Income and Expenditure Account and Annual Return Reconciliation

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Annual Return Box Numbers	Income			Expenditure		
	Box 2	Box 3		Box 4	Box 5	Box 6
	Precept	Other Income	Total	Staff Costs	Loans Repaid	Other Costs
Services to the Public						
Litter and Dog Bins		-	-	-		(168,555)
Cemeteries		86,739	86,739	(261,771)		(70,631)
Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation		67,017	67,017	(370,463)		(709,101)
Cultural and Heritage		-	-	-		(21,950)
Bus Shelters and Grit Bins		-	-	-		(2,938)
Capital Costs		575,715	575,715	-		(716,637)
Democratic, Management and Civic						
Civic and Events		45,123	45,123	(105,172)		(150,810)
Service Support Costs		-	-	(284,678)		(111,483)
Town Hall		23,095	23,095	(28,415)		(60,350)
Swimming Pool and Other Grants		-	-	-		(105,202)
Capital Costs		-	-	-		-
Interest and Other Income		204,641	204,641	-		-
Precept	2,299,215	-	2,299,215	-		-
S106 Developer Contributions		129,230	129,230			
Totals Carried to Annual Return	2,299,215	1,131,560	3,430,775	(1,050,499)	-	(2,117,657)
						(3,168,156)

Banbury Town Council

Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2026

Previous Year £		Box	2026 £	2026 £
	Current Assets			
123,654	Debtors	8	119,283	
5,436,016	Cash at Bank and In-hand		5,582,731	
5,559,670			5,702,014	
	Current Liabilities			
(413,660)	Creditors and accrued expenses	9	(293,382)	
0	Committed Sums received in advance	11	0	
			(293,382)	
5,146,010	Net Current Assets			5,408,632
	Financed by:			
	Reserves available to the Council			
1,531,051	General Reserve		1,684,007	
	Earmarked Reserve	14		
2,736,900	- Future Projects		2,823,202	
878,060	- Land transfer maintenance		901,423	
				5,408,632
	Reserves Not Available to Council:			
	Represents the Council's Net Investment in Fixed			
	Assets less Outstanding Loans			
5,146,010				5,408,632

These accounts have been approved by the Council.

Leader of the Council *J. Hume*

Date: *16.06.2026*


Responsible Financial Officer

Date: *01/06/26*

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

1 Interest and Investment Income

	2026	2025
	£	£
Interest Income - General Funds	191,564	235,446
	<u>191,564</u>	<u>235,446</u>

2 Audit Fees

Fees payable covering the year 2025/2026 for the services carried out by the Council's auditors, Moore Stephens LLP in the year are £2,520 (2024/2025 £2,520).

3 Employees

The average weekly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2026	2025
	Number	Number
Full-time	16	16
Part-time	9	9
	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>

All staff are paid within nationally agreed pay scales

Number of employees whose remuneration excluding employers pension contributions was over £50,000 in bands of £10,000 was:

Band	Number of Employees 2025/2026	Number of Employees 2024/2025
£50,000 to £59,999	1	1
£70,000 to £79,999	1	1

4 Participation in Pension Scheme

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers and other employees, the Council offers retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme for civilian employees, administered locally by Oxfordshire County Council - this is a defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.

5 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings	Leasehold Buildings	Community Sites	Other Assets	Heritage Assets	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025	2,635,448	145,000	491,064	3,214,227	310,590	6,796,330
Additions	38,566		569,871			608,437
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2026	<u>2,674,014</u>	<u>145,000</u>	<u>1,060,935</u>	<u>3,214,227</u>	<u>310,590</u>	<u>7,404,767</u>

Although classified as capital expenditure, certain minor equipment purchases are not included above as they are not material in overall value (subject to a £5k de-minimis).

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

6 Financing of Capital Expenditure

2026	2025
£	£

The following capital expenditure during the year:

Fixed Assets purchased	608,437	40,713
	<u>608,437</u>	<u>40,713</u>

was financed by:

Useable Capital Grants	-	-
Earmarked Projects Reserve	-	-
Precept and Revenue Income	608,437	40,713
	<u>608,437</u>	<u>40,713</u>

7 Information on Assets Held

Fixed assets owned by the Council include the following:

Operational Land and Buildings

Town Hall Buildings
Cemetery Buildings
Sports Grounds and Pavilions

Vehicles and Equipment

Town Hall Furniture and Fittings
Council Offices Furniture and Fittings
Playground Equipment

Infrastructure Assets

Bus Shelters
Litter and Dog Litter Bins

Community Assets

Allotment Sites
Cemeteries
Play Areas and Open Spaces
Spiceball Country Park
Recreation grounds
Town Signs
Civic Regalia
Council Artifacts

8 Debtors & Accrued Income

2026	2025
£	£

Trade Debtors - amounts falling due under one year	28,718	29,475
Accrued Income	-	118
Prepayments	-	4,982
Land Deposit	-	-
Less: Provision for bad and doubtful debts	-	-
	<u>28,718</u>	<u>34,575</u>
HM Revenue & Customs (VAT recoverable)	90,566	89,080
	<u>119,284</u>	<u>123,655</u>

9 Creditors and Accrued Expenses

2026	2025
£	£

Trade Creditors	(56,629)	(182,888)
Superannuation Payable		
Payroll Taxes and Social Security		
Accruals	(236,753)	(184,997)
Income in Advance	0	(45,775)
	<u>(293,382)</u>	<u>(413,660)</u>

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

10 Grants Received	2026	2025
Capital Grants		
Capital Grants	-	-

11 Commuted Sums	2026	2025
	£	£
Balance at 1 April	-	-
Sums received during the year	-	-

12 Earmarked Reserves	Balances at 1 April 2025	Contribution to Reserves	Contribution from Reserves	Balances at 31 March 2026
Other Earmarked Reserves	3,614,963	215,530	105,866	3,724,627

See Appendix A: for a full analysis of earmarked reserves

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Appendix A:

Schedule of Earmarked Reserves

	Corporate Objectives	Balances at 1 April 2025	Contribution to Reserve	Contribution from Reserve	Movement of reserve funds	Balances at 31 March 2026
Estate Wall Repairs, Fencing & Ditch works	H1	86,240	20,000			106,240
Hardwick Hill Cemetery Extension	B1	563,470				563,470
Park Improvements	H1	757,575				757,575
Sports Capacity Investment	H1	328,160				328,160
Vehicle Replacement Fund (incl GM Plant)	H2	315,840				315,840
Allotment Site Improvement	A1	29,120				29,120
Town Centre Initiative	J1	146,720				146,720
Peoples Park Improvements	J2	151,699				151,699
Computer Software	D1	38,080				38,080
Legal Support			15,000			15,000
CCTV Improvement Reserve			5,300			5,300
Arboriculture Inspection Contract			30,000			30,000
Hard Landscaping - Sports & Play	H1	200,000				200,000
Provision for bad and doubtful debts	D1	20,000	16,000			36,000
Playzone Refurb Chandos & PDP	H1	100,000				100,000
Section 106 Agreements	D1	878,060	129,230	105,866		901,423
		3,614,963	215,530	105,866	-	3,724,627

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Appendix C:

Annual Return Reconciliation

	2025	2026
	£	£
1 Balances Brought Forward	4,659,691	5,146,015
2 Annual Precept	2,230,520	2,299,215
3 Total Other Receipts	796,412	1,131,560
4 Staff Costs	959,996	1,050,499
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repaymen	-	-
6 Total Other Payments	1,580,613	2,117,657
7 Balances Forward	5,146,015	5,408,634
8 Total Cash and Investments	5,436,019	5,582,731
9 Total Fixed Assets	6,796,330	7,404,767
10 Total Borrowings	0	0

Banbury Town Council

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2026

Appendix B:

Reserves Reconciliation to Cash at Bank

		Prior Year £	Prior Year £	2026 £	2026 £
Reserves	General	1,531,051		1,684,007	
	Earmarked	2,736,900		2,823,202	
	- Land transfer maintenance	878,060		901,423	
			5,146,010		5,408,632
Less Debtors		(123,654)		(119,283)	
Add Liabilities	Creditors and accrued expenses	413,660		293,382	
	Commutated Sums received in advance	0		0	
Total			290,006		174,099
			5,436,016		5,582,731
Cash at Bank			5,436,016		5,582,731
Difference			0		0

		2026 £	2026 £
Bank Statement Balances			
	NAT WEST DISBURSEMENTS	87,551	
	NATWEST SALARIES	209,417	
	NATWEST SPECIAL INTEREST A/C	285,296	
	BARCLAYS	117	
	PETTY CASH	250	
	Treasury Deposit 12 months	5,000,100	

		5,582,731
Unpresented Payments		0
Unbanked Receipts		0

Closing Balance		<u>5,582,731</u>
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All Cash & Bank Accounts

NatWest Disbursements	87,551
NatWest Salaries	209,417
NatWest Special Int.	285,296
Barclays	117
Petty Cash	250
Treasury Deposit 12 months	5,000,100

Total Bank & Cash Balances	<u>5,582,731</u>
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