Bratton Clovelly Parish Council

*Clerk to the Council: Rachel Ward •* Crane Cottage, Germansweek, Beaworthy, Devon EX21 5BA

*Email:* *brattonclovellyclerk@yahoo.co.uk*

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting (no.217) held at 7:30pm on Wed 8th November 2023, in the School room.**

Present: Cllrs Braidwood, Gilbert, Jellyman, Bowyer, Huggins and May. WDB Cllr Southcott and R Ward – Clerk

There was one member of the public.

1. Public Participation: There was a brief discussion about an empty house in the village. This has been taken over by DCC and will be sold.
2. Apologies: WDB Cllr Mott in a previous engagement. Cllr McNelis offered his resignation to the clerk earlier in the month. The PC would like to thank Bernard for his hard work during his many years on the council and wish him well and good health.
3. Declaration of Interest: Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date. To declare any personal or pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature. (Councillors with pecuniary interests must leave the room for the relevant items). ***None***
4. West Devon Report: Cllr Southcott/Mott: Cllr Southcott reported that County will close the mobile library in March. The possible takeover of the mobile library will be added to the next agenda
5. Planning
	* 1. 3249/23/FUL Proposal: Change of use from agricultural land to extension of domestic garden (retrospective) Site Address: Paddocks Barn, Bratton Clovelly, EX20 4JJ It was agreed to support this application with the proviso that permitted development rights are removed from this parcel of land.
		2. 3583/23/AGR Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - proposed stoned track to provide direct access from agricultural barn and yard to adopted highway. Site Address: Kalehouse Farm Bratton Clovelly EX20 4JG this application has been withdrawn.
	1. Other planning - None decision making
6. Agree and sign minutes: - from 11th October 2023 (216) ***Agreed***
7. Finance:
	1. Financial report (Clerk - emailed round). The account with ST Lanes needs to provide a more detailed bill and the list of signatories needs updating – Cllrs Gilbert and Braidwood will arrange this.
	2. To note payment of Clerk’s wages and HMRC Payments - Total to be paid from 4th Oct to 3rd Nov 2023 - £266.07

Approve the following payments:

Community Heartbeat Trust £106.20 ***agreed***

* 1. Discuss the precept and budget and arrive at some figures to put to the vote by the PC in January: the budget was gone through and some figures put forward for consideration at the next full PC meeting in January. It was agreed to move £3500 from the contingency budget to the playground budget.

At 9:30pm there was a vote to suspend standing orders 3x which was passed unanimously and the meeting continued.

1. PHMC report – Cllr Gilbert - there are 34 stalls for the Christmas Market. There had been lots of ideas about what the hall should do in the coming year and the decision has been made to hold a summer BBQ and a bingo night – dates to be confirmed.
2. Square: Update Cllr Huggins/Jellyman – this is looking very good after the working party of volunteers have tidied up. The rhododendron bushes will be the next thing to tackle and will be removed.
3. Defibrillator – update new pads have been put in.
4. New Notice board: it was agreed to purchase a new notice board that would be sited on the village hall. Cllr Gilbert may spend up to £260 to purchase on that meets the requirements discussed. It is not likely to cost as much as this.
5. Policy review: current policies are: Code of conduct, complaints, financial regs, Standing orders, internal control, Civility and Respect, Protocol for recording meetings, GDPR, Accessibility, All are on the website for inspection. Proposed – Donations policy. This will be deferred to the next full meeting
6. 20’s plenty: clerk update – there has been no response to the proposals so it was ***agreed*** ***not*** to take part.
7. Police Liaison: Update Cllr Huggins – Okehampton Police desk will open in the New Year. There is a current campaign to reduce cyber fraud encouraging people to use two step authentication to keep safe – more info at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk). Anyone who gets a suspicious email should report it to Report@phishing.gov.uk
8. Roads and ditches: Cllr Huggins – the Lewdown road has been resurveyed and it has been agreed that it needs work. As a result of this the “report it” page on the county website will be amended to include “road surface deterioration”.
9. P3 – Cllrs Gilbert and Braidwood – Update Ros Davis is no longer with P3 a replacement will be recruited soon. All paths will be walked by January ready for the annual report. Works at North Coombe have been reported.
10. Playground Report: Cllr Huggins - consider the issues around the garage wall. A fence will be erected to protect playground users from possible injury and the wall from bark chippings. An email will be send to the garage owners. The builder will be approached to see if we can pay for the materials so we can reclaim the VAT
11. Items for next agenda: As raised: Library, Noticeboard - authority to purchase.
12. General updates to note: caps have been put on the street lights at church meadows to reduce glare. There will be a service in the square for Remembrance Sunday 10-11 am. Cllr Gilbert will put the Air ambulance night lights on the parish hall PAT schedule.
13. Date of next meeting: 10th January 2024 at 7:30pm - School Room

Meeting closed at 10:00pm