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Bratton Clovelly Parish Council

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**Minutes of** the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting (no.237) that commenced at 7:30pm on Wednesday 17th September 2025 in the School Room

**Present:** Cllrs Huggins**,** Gilbert, Braidwood, Jones and Jellyman. Cllr Southcott WDBC.

2 members of the public.

**Chairman reminded participants that this meeting may be recorded.**

**Agree a note taker to respond to planning and record for clerk to minute.** Cllr Jellyman

**Public Participation:** Restricted to 15 mins in total. A member of the public spoke on planning application 2452/25/COM expressing concern over the lack of detail and impact of such a large structure in the centre of the conservation area.

A member of the public spoke on planning application 2394/25/TCA to highlight concerns over the removal of biodiverse habitat if the tree is felled.

1. **Apologies:** Apologies from Cllr Mott – WDBC Ward Councillor
2. **Declaration of Interest:**  No declarations made.
3. **Note Resignation of Cllr Bowyer and Cllr May:** The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to both for their service on the PC. No current interest in vacancies.
4. **Planning:**
	1. Applications:
		1. 2394/25/TCA Proposal: T1: Mediterranean/Italian Cypress - Fell tree due to tree overgrown and will likely damage the structural integrity of the house if left in place Tree to be replaced with single Dodonaea Viscosa Site Address: 1 Church Cottages Bratton Clovelly EX20 4JN For Noting only – None Application ***supported*** due to the size of the tree and the risk posed to the property’s structural integrity. The following response taking account of public opinion will be submitted to WDBC: *The concerns expressed by the applicant regarding structural damage to the property are understood and concurred with.
		To redress the potential loss of biodiverse habitat caused through felling, a replacement specimen of a species that enhances the native ecosystem is encouraged.*
		2. 2452/25/COM Proposal: Notice of intent to install electronic communication apparatus comprising one light wooden pole at 9 metres high Site Address: Land at SX 463 919 Bratton Clovelly Okehampton ***Object*** – Insufficient detail of location. Siting at a busy junction with restricted view and limited turning area for vehicles. Detrimental impact of a 9 mtr pole upon public visual amenity in the centre of a conservation area. The following response will be submitted to WDBC: *The site plan provides insufficient detail of the location of the proposed installation. As it stands, the pole is sited at a busy junction with restricted view and impedes the already limited turning circle there. Highways has failed to address this.*

 *The site is in the centre of a conservation area where the incongruity of a 9 meter pole*

 *would negatively impact on the public visual amenity.*

* 1. For updates – a) Permission granted for application 2054/25/OPA with conditions including occupancy.

b) New application 2435/25/OPA for development of up to 12 dwellings. Consultation ends on 16/10/25. ***Agreed*** to arrange a non-decision making public meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 30th September in the Parish Hall to which the applicant and agent will be invited.

* 1. Housing drop in event – update No further developments
	2. Planning Policy/neighbourhood plan Item to be removed from the agenda until further notice. Suggestion made of trying to establish the appetite for a NP and parishioners’ engagement in the process at the 30 September Public meeting.
1. **Agree and sign minutes: -** from the Parish Council Meeting 235 held on 9th July and 236 held on 13th August 2025 ***Agreed***
2. **Report from WDBC: (Cllr Mott/Southcott) sent via email:**  August was a relatively quiet month at WDBC. Main topic on the agenda is the development of a response to the Government’s Devolution White Paper. The roadshow presentation at Bridestowe was poorly attended by only 5 people – all of whom were either Parish or Ward Councillors. Community feedback is essential and all are encouraged to respond to the survey at westdevon.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation .
3. **Finance:** At the half-year point finances look healthy with no nasty surprises thus far.
	1. To note Clerk’s pay award of 46p per hour backdated to April 2025 and annual incremental increase from Aug 2025 – Calculation sent emailed round. ***Noted***
	2. To note and agree future payment of £180 plus VAT to Joe Rice First Aid Training for 4 Nov community workshop - part of which is to be met from the Locality Fund ***Agreed***
	3. To note the payments listed: ***Noted***.

TEEC – Website £194.39

Clerk’s salary and HMRC Payments –£347.00 for 4th August to 3rd September 2025

and £54.79 back pay

1. **Painting of War Memorial Railings** - give consideration to funding the paint purchased by Stuart Wilson for this work. Funds exist in the Replacement budget for such work. Chair commended the initiative and funding for the paint was agreed. Invoice for £70.99 currently with Chair to be forwarded to Clerk to arrange payment through online banking.
2. **P3:** update (Cllr Braidwood) Signage has been received and arrangements are in place to coordinate manpower for installation. Suggest this item is removed from the agenda until further notice.
3. **Defibrillator training**: update Joe Rice has been booked to provide a Community Defibrillator / CPR workshop (suitable for 12 years and above) on 4th November at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Latter is booked. Early information has been posted on the BC FB Hub and will be bumped weekly from the beginning of October. Cllr Jellyman will laminate posters and arrange their display around the Parish. Bookings to be made through the Clerk. Funding granted from Localities to meet the majority of the cost. Lewdown Young Farmers have been notified of the event and it will be brought to members’ attention at their next meeting.

Sue May has kindly agreed to continue to do the monthly defibrillator checks and complete the online record, letting Cllr Jellyman know when she is unable to. The Webnos site will be monitored for matters requiring BCPC action.

1. **Playground:** update Due to costs and volume of maintenance required to bring both equipment and surrounding fences up to standard, the future viability of the area as it currently exists is in doubt. A dedicated public meeting is proposed to engage the community in decision making. Cllr Southcott advised that it should be possible to request that a S106 agreement be required as part of the planning process on the newest proposed development. This should be done at the earliest opportunity and will be included in the PC’s discussions on the response to the planning application.
2. **Police liaison:** (Cllr Huggins) Nothing to report.
3. **Roads and ditches:** (Cllr Huggins) Currently no issues with the roads in the Parish. Detritus building-up at the sides of the Boasley Road on both hills as far as the Domons footpath is causing a skid hazard and a request for a road sweeper to clear these and affected drains should be made - preferably scheduled for after autumn leaf fall is complete. Highways to be approached in the first instance, copied to DCC James Grainger.
4. **PHMC Report:** (Cllr Gilbert) Bookings for tables at the Christmas Market on 23rd November are nearly full. The Oktoberfest due to be held on 4th October has had to be cancelled because of insufficient support. Cllr Gilbert remains as acting PHMC Chair while a new incumbent is still being sought.
5. **Items for next agenda:** Weight limit restrictions on the road from Headson Cross: Planning application 2435/25/OPA: Future of the play area: Domain compliance: Parish Field grass cutting: Village square/ Memorial garden tidy-up
6. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 7th October 2025 7:30pm in the School Room (**note change of day**)

Meeting closed at 20.56.