



BRADNINCH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES

**The Guildhall
Bradninch
Exeter, Devon**

Minutes of the Bradninch Town Council Burial Committee Meeting
Saturday February 10th 2024, 12 noon, St Disen's Churchyard

Present: Cllr I Wild, Cllr L Mottram, Cllr S Crawford.

In attendance: Mrs A Marshall, Clerk, no members of the public.

Public Open Session: None.

B/23/25 Apologies: Cllrs Ottery and Chambers – family commitments. Cllr Blythe – work commitment. Cllr M Taylor – holiday.

B/23/26 Declarations of Interest: None.

B/23/27 To consider any updates and correspondence since the last meeting:

- a) Churchyard wilding project: Cllr Wild had recently called a meeting for interested residents in order to take the wilding project forward. Two areas of the Churchyard had been identified for wilding and more information on this, and the meeting in general, would be available in the meeting minutes which would be circulated shortly.
- b) Safety checking of headstones: Following further training on the matter, the Clerk advised that the recommended way forward for this topic was to employ an independent company to carry out annual headstone checking on behalf of the Council. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should continue investigating the matter to gain more information and some costings. It was further RESOLVED to contact the Parochial Church Council and the Church of England for advice and possible contributions towards costs.
- c) Training on the burial process: Cllr Chambers had offered to run a training session to enable the Clerk and interested Councillors to review the burial process and records. The Clerk would arrange the session and advise Councillors accordingly. It was RESOLVED that the burial process created by the Clerk should be tested during the training in order that, once confirmed as being in order, it could be adopted at a future meeting.
- d) Churchyard Yew trees: Following an inspection of the Yew trees it was RESOLVED to leave the ivy in place at the current time as it was not damaging the trees and as it was providing food for bees and insects. The matter would be reviewed at the end of 2024 as any ivy removal should, ideally, take place in January.

B/23/28 General maintenance of the Churchyard and Cemetery: It was RESOLVED that both the Cemetery and Churchyard were currently looking in good order maintenance wise. It was noted that full Council had, at the January meeting, resolved to add an additional grass for the Cemetery and Churchyard to the current grounds maintenance contract. The cut would take place by year end annually. It was noted that if the grass cuttings were removed, the grass would not grow so quickly and so would not need cutting so regularly.

B/23/29 Clerk/Councillor comments (no decision making): The Clerk had a diary note to chase the Church of England for the Council's copy of the Churchyard survey map, now due.

B/23/30 Date of the next scheduled meeting: Scheduled for 11th May 2024.