



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 20 February 2013 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs T Shapland (Chairman), M Huxtable, A Ridd-Jones, R Steele and G Tribe.

In attendance: 9 parishioners, County Cllr R Edgell, Parish Clerk

133. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs F Benbow, Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse, Mrs V Worms and Miss S Wyatt.

134. Police Report

A report had been received from PCSO Gareth Woolway. Since the last meeting 13 calls had been made to the Police:

6 x highways disruptions; 1 x domestic incident; 2 x sudden deaths; 1 x road related offence; 1 x complaint against the police; 1 x concern/ collapse/ illness log; 1 x animal/ wildlife log. 1 Crime had been recorded for the month which was a Criminal Damage.

135. Public Participation

In answer to a question the Chairman confirmed that the three new salt bins had been installed, in Benton Road, Beara Lane, and Station Road. although more had been requested, DCC had advised that they could not be installed along a gritting route. This meant that no bins could be placed along the main village street.

The Chairman confirmed that Mr Heal had not been requested to carry out work after the recent snowfall. It was agreed to check DCC insurance cover for Snow Wardens.

North Devon Plan. There was agreement that the Local Plan was a good idea, and that it was important for parishes to retain some control, and to state what was, and what was not wanted. Cllr Edgell explained that the recently published document was out for informal consultation. The next stage would be a formal consultation, before being finalised. Sections 1 & 2 had been completed, with Section 3 for rural areas still being worked on. NDC was looking for comments from parishes, which could be included.

Concern was expressed over the tight timescale.

It was noted that Cllrs Benbow and Prowse were attending a meeting that evening at the Civic Centre, where the Local Plan was being discussed.

It was reported that some of the gardens in Church Close were in a disgraceful condition. It was agreed to inform North Devon Homes.

It was noted that the Millennium Green Play Area was the responsibility of the Millennium Green Trust.

136. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 16 January 2013

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

137. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 16 January 2013

Min. 122. Cllr Shapland reported that copies of the revised plans of suggested improvements by 'Share the Road' were available. It was agreed to submit these to DCC for their comments/approval.

Min. 126.1. Cllr Shapland reported that DCC Highways was dealing with the flooding problems at Treefield.

Min. 130.2. Cllr Edgell reported that he had made a grant of £770 towards the school mini bus. The mini bus would be kept at Bratton Fleming School but would also be used by Tawstock School and made available to village organisations. It was agreed that the parish council should make a donation of £1000.

138. Planning

1. Applications –

55165 Approval of details in respect of discharge of condition 7 (ground clearance & construction), 11 (proposed private road reconstruction & widening, private turning head, footways, footpaths, verges, sewers, drains, service routes, car parking, construction) & 15 (soft landscape) attached to planning permission 49970 at 3 & 4 South View, Bratton Fleming.

It was resolved to recommend approval.

55173 Extension to zoo grounds together with construction of animal enclosures at Exmoor Zoological Park, Twitchen Lane, Bratton Fleming.

Cllr Ridd-Jones declared an interest and left the meeting while the application was considered.

It was resolved to recommend approval.

55178 Variation of conditions 5, 6, 7 & 8 attached to planning permission 49238 extension to residential care home to provide additional living accommodation for residents & other associated works (amended plans) at Chelfham House Residential Home, Chelfham Barton, Barnstaple

It was resolved to recommend approval.

2. Decisions – Approval:

54992 Listed building application for remedial work to address failing roof structure & reinforcement of corbel in single skin brick wall supporting one truss at Shorland Old Farm Bratton Fleming

139. Correspondence

Various circulars and periodicals were noted.

140. Highways

It was agreed to send a letter to Mr Heal thanking him for his work clearing roads etc during the time of heavy snow.

141. Housing Needs

It was resolved to consider Housing Needs as part of the response to the Local Plan.

142. Biodiversity

Cllr Steele reported that helping wildlife would provide a great benefit, both to wildlife and to those who live in the community. It was noted that some parishes conducted an annual wildlife audit.

At a meeting with Mr Jones from NDC in 2010 suggestions for several areas in the village were made. The Chairman noted that most of the areas identified did not belong to the parish council, and that some of the suggestions had already been carried out.

Cllr Steele advised the meeting that he would be willing to make recommendations on how wildlife could be improved. He considered that membership of the Woodland Group should be open for anyone who wished to join.

143. Reports

1. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported that the Councillor Grant to the village Hall had been paid.

The County Council was proposing not to increase its share of the Council Tax again this year. Authorities not increasing Council Tax would receive an additional 1% funding from central government, which would mean an additional £3.3m. both the Police and Fire & Rescue Service were increasing their share by 2%.

Cuts in funding would mean that road maintenance would be a real problem.

Cllr Huxtable left the meeting.

2. District Councillor’s Report

None – District Councillor not able to be present.

3. Composting Group

Cllr Shapland reported that material was being removed from the site without notification being received. This was resulting in lost income.

During the past month expenses had been £359.30 for the workers dinner.

Payments received had been £201.91 for material removed during December 2012 and January 2013. The balance stood at £19155.58

4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland reported that the schoolchildren had planted a number of small oak trees in the Woodland, but unfortunately 7 had been planted on the path, and would need moving.

The rhododendrons had been marked and would be removed.

Additional Oak trees had been ordered, but had not yet been received.

Cllr Steele repeatedly requested the names of those on the Woodland Group. The Chairman replied that he had been provided with the names on a number of occasions, and that he would be asked to leave the meeting if he continued to disrupt it.

5. Chairman’s Report

Cllr Shapland reported that the Village Hall had applied for a grant from the Community Council of Devon towards the cost of work converting the upstairs room.

North Devon Homes had expressed an interest both in letting the flat and help with funding.

144. Finance

1. Payments

1.	Bratton Fleming Village Hall	£ 16.25
2.	Parish Clerk’s salary & expenses	£ 115.08
3.	Donation towards School mini bus	£1000.00

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

145. Items for the next Agenda.

Snow Warden.

146. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20 March 2013

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:18pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date