



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

Present: Cllrs T Shapland (Chairman), F Benbow, M Huxtable, Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse, A Ridd-Jones, R Steele, G Tribe and Miss S Wyatt.

In attendance: 8 parishioners, County Cllr R Edgell, Parish Clerk

147. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr V Worms

148. Police Report

A report had been received from the police, who were unable to attend the meeting.

During the past month six Logs had been reported. Three of these were Road Traffic collisions; 1 x Sudden death; 1 x Tagging breach; 1 x House Alarm sounding.

No crime had been reported for this period.

149. Public Participation

1. Concern was expressed over the kissing gate entrance to the Recreation Field at Sentry Cross. To be considered by the Recreation Field Trustees.
2. Concern was expressed over the amount of mud on the road between Four Cross Way and Grange Hill. Highways to be informed.
3. An enquiry was received into the response to the North Devon Local Plan. It was noted that the consultation period for sections 1 & 2 was 22 March. In the plan Bratton Fleming had been designated as a local hub. Cllr Prowse explained that in effect this was no different than at present. It was noted that the timescale for responses to Part 3 of the Plan, which affected the rural parishes was too tight, especially as it had not yet been published. It was agreed that it would be vital to hold a public meeting. Cllr Prowse explained that policies and criteria were as important as details on a map. The current informal consultation period will be followed by a formal consultation in the summer.

150. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 20 February 2013

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

151. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 20 February 2013

Min. 135 No response had been received regarding the insurance cover for Snow Wardens.

Min. 142 Cllr Steele proposed a meeting on the Recreation Ground to look at the suggestions made by Mr Jones. It was agreed to meet immediately before the next council meeting on 17 April, at 6:45pm.

152. Planning

1. Applications:

- 55156 Retrospective application for siting of residential mobile home, Hilltop Field, Grange Hill Bratton Fleming

Cllr Mrs Kellaway declared an interest and left the meeting while the application was being considered.

It was resolved to recommend refusal on the grounds that the council did not considered a need existed for the mobile home to be sited on the holding.

2. Decisions: None.

153. Correspondence

1. Minutes of the Station road Allotment Association AGM had been received.
2. Notification of a meeting on Friday 22 March at Bratton Fleming Sports Club at 10am had been received from The Rural Alliance. The meeting had been called to consider the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan.

154. Highways

It was noted that the road between Chelfham and Loxhore Cross had only been partially resurfaced. It was agreed to enquire when the work would be completed, and what work was planned to the stretches of road at Snapper and New Mills.

155. Snow Warden

The Chairman reported that Mr Bawden was willing to give up his role as Snow Warden, and that Mr Heal and Mr Adams were willing to take over. Mr Adams had been trialling salt spreaders attached to his tractor.

It was agreed to pay Mr Heal £100 to cover his expenditure whilst carrying out snow clearance during the recent bad weather, it being noted that he had not been asked to carry out the work.

Cheque No. 862

156. Reports

1. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported that DCC was not increasing its share of the Council Tax again this year, although both the Police and Fire & Rescue Service were increasing their share by 2%. He was pleased that the gutter outside Beara Down Farm had been repaired. A contract had been signed with BT to provide High Speed Broadband for Devon and Somerset.

2. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Prowse reported that for parishes with a population of under 500 there would be no change to the Parish Grant. Larger parishes would see a cut of between 25% - 30%. This reflected the cut in funding to NDC from central government. North Devon Council would not be increasing the Council Tax this year. There had been some progress with the new shop.

3. Composting Group

Cllr Shapland reported that payments made during the past month had been £51.00 for diesel and £1000 to the school towards the cost of a mini bus. A claim had been submitted for 5.265 tonnes of material removed during February. No payment had yet been received. The balance was £18104.58.

4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland reported that a work party had planted 150 oak trees across the whole woodland. The trees planted on the paths by the school had not been moved, resulting in some becoming broken, probably due to being stepped on. Cllr Steele to arrange for them to be replanted. The rhododendrons on the woodland had been removed. Some of the allotments had recently changed hands, with three people currently on the waiting list. It was noted that some allotments were in need of attention. Cllr Shapland would contact the allotment holders if there was no improvement.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the Village Hall application for funding to the Community Council for Devon had been unsuccessful, although it was possible to submit another application before July. It was noted that the library van had only visited once since Christmas. It was agreed to enquire from the library service what action was being taken in order that regular visits could resume.

157. Finance

1. Receipt

Bratton Fleming Allotment Association £8.00

2. Payments

1. Came & Co – insurance renewal £538.46

2. Parish Clerk’s salary & expenses £115.68

The two accounts were agreed for payment.

158. Items for the next Agenda.

North Devon Local Plan; Website.

159. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17 April 2013

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:05pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date