



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 18 December 2013 at 7:30pm.

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

In attendance: 3 parishioners, County Cllr R Edgell, Parish Clerk

112. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Steele and Mrs V Worms.

113. Police Report

A report had been received from PCSO Adam Berry, covering the period 1st – 30th November 2013. Six incidents in the parish had been logged by the police:

1 Domestic incident; 2 highway disruptions; 1 Missing person; 1 complaint against dog; 1 request for help.

Two crimes had also been recorded: 1 growing of class B drugs; 1 communications act/

114. Public Participation

In answer to a question Cllr Prowse reported that bark for the Millennium Green had been delivered to Bratton Clovelly, and had been reordered. The bark was financed by a balance of \$106 money.

115. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 20 November 2013

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

116. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 20 November 2013

- Min. 83 Wild West Net. Cllr Benbow reported that a connection for the village was moving ahead. It was agreed in principle to provide help in publicising the system. This could be funded with TAP: Funding, in partnership with Stoke Rivers and Loxhore.
- Min. 99. No response had been received from Highways regarding road defects reported in past meetings.
- Min. 103. Biodiversity Audit. Cllr Benbow reported that he had contacted Tom Hynes at NDC who had sent him a copy of a diy audit. A list of those qualified to carry out an audit was included. It was agreed that the services of a fully qualified inspector should be engaged, and that other community groups could be involved.

117. Planning

- 1. Applications** – None received.
- 2. Decisions – Approval:**
56415 Erection of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic panel array (4 Rows, 50kw) at Exmoor Zoo Twitchen Lane Bratton Fleming
- 3. Planning Appeal Notice:** Hilltop Field, Bratton Fleming - Dismissed.

118. Correspondence

- DCC Highways advised that the road closure on the A399 scheduled for 6-10 January had been replaced by a 10mph speed limit.
- The next Rural alliance meeting, at East Down on 21 January, would be attended by Stuart Hughes, Portfolio Holder for Devon's Highways. Any questions for Mr Hughes should be forwarded to Margaret Done asap.

119. Street Lighting

It was reported that the street lighting at the top of Furze Park Road remained on throughout the day. Clerk to report.

120. Burial Ground

Cllr Prowse reported that the provision of a burial ground was included in the draft of the Local Plan. The first draft of the Plan was now available to view.

121. Highways

Concern was raised over the state of the road at Snapper and between Loxhore Cross and Chelfham. It was agreed to report the problems to Highways again. Cllr Edgell offered to also raise the matter.

122. Reports

1. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported that the Boundary Commission was looking at reducing the number of councillors on Devon County Council.

Parish councillors considered that this could result in wards being too big for councillors to attend parish council meetings.

Cllr Edgell also reported that the application for funding from the Scout Group had been submitted.

2. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Prowse reported that funding to North Devon Council was being cut from £6.6m to £5.7m for the next financial year, and was due to be cut to £4.8m the following year. This was equivalent to a 45% cut over five years.

3. Composting Group

During the month one payment had been made - £267 for Christmas trees, twenty of which had been distributed around the village.

Receipts totalled £441.78 for 8.16 tonnes material removed during November.

The balance stood at £10916.14.

4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland reported that the entry form for next year's Devon County Show Woodland Competition had been received.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that 66% of the work at the Village Hall had been completed. The amount of work outstanding would cost a further £14.5k, which was being covered by loans from the Composting Group and individuals.

123. Finance

1. Payments

Parish Clerk - Salary & Expenses	£115.68	Cheque No. 875
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The account was agreed for payment.

124. Items for the next Agenda.

Defibrillator; Local Plan.

125. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15 January 2014 at 7.45pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.