



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 15 January 2014 at 7:45pm.

Present: Cllrs F Benbow, M Huxtable, Mrs P Kellaway, A Ridd-Jones, R Steele, G Tribe and Mrs V Worms.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Chair was taken by Cllr Benbow, Vice Chairman of the council.

In attendance: 11 parishioners, County Cllr R Edgell, Parish Clerk.

126. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Prowse and T Shapland.

127. Police Report

A report had been received from PCSO Adam Berry:

During December 2013 three incidents in Bratton Fleming had been logged: 1 Injured deer in the road; 1 highway disruption; 1 found bag, containing medical equipment.

During the same period two crimes had been reported: 1 Fraud; 1 Theft- Padlock smashed on diesel tank and 250 gallons stolen.

The police were continuing to use the speed gun to monitor speed throughout the village with enforcement were necessary

Other incidents to be aware of:

Oil tanks were often targeted this time of year, everyone was asked to ensure that tanks were as secure as possible.

There had recently been a spate of vehicle crime in the Barnstaple area, with fuel tanks on cars being targeted. Peugeot 306s had been the victim of 6 vehicle damages/thefts from vehicle over the last month. Drivers were asked to be aware of this and be mindful of where vehicles were parked.

128. Public Participation

Concern was expressed over the state of the road between Bratton Fleming and Barnstaple, it being noted that addition funding had been made available for repairing pot holes.

The Clerk reported that he had received notification that the road was scheduled for repairs in March.

Cllr Steel enquired if any progress had been made regarding a burial ground on the Glebe, it being noted that an application had been made to have the field included in the SHLAA report. It was reported that an initial enquiry had been made to the agent, but no decision to continue had been made by the council.

129. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 18 December 2013

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

130. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 18 December 2013

Min. 116. Cllr Benbow reported that no-one had been appointed to conduct a Biodiversity Audit. He would obtain quotes and advice and would report back at the next meeting.

Min. 118. Exmoor Zoo thanked the Parish Council for their work in relation to the recent A399 road closure.

Min. 120. It was noted that the Glebe Field was one possible site for a burial ground.

Cllr Benbow reported that the website was now up and running – www.brattonflemingparish.org.uk. Mr Laurie had offered to host the site for the first 12 months. It was agreed to send Mr Laurie a letter of thanks for his work.

Cllr Benbow reported that two properties had been ‘connected’ to superfast broadband in Bratton Fleming, through Wildwest Net. There would be an Open Meeting at 2pm in the Sports Club on 25 January.

131. Planning

1. **Applications:** None received
2. **Decisions – Approval:**
56595 Erection of one dwelling, land adjacent to Little Garth Bratton Fleming

132. Defibrillator - relocation and door lock update.

South West Ambulance Trust had advised that a locksmith had been instructed to replace the keypad with a latch,

No progress had been made regarding relocating the defibrillator.

133. Local Plan

Deferred to the next meeting to give councillors more time to study the draft chapter on Bratton Fleming.

Cllr Benbow advised parishioners that copies were available by email from the clerk.

134. Proposed barrier on Footpath 16 - Update

Cllr Steele reported that he had discussed the barrier with Mr Simon Houghton, Footpath Warden. He had stated that the barrier would be erected shortly. Funding was being provided by the Footpaths Group.

135. Correspondence

- Royal Mail had confirmed that the post box at Bratton Cross was scheduled for replacement from 17 January onwards.
- Devon Library Service had advised that with effect from April the mobile library would be operating a four weekly service instead of a two weekly service/
- Details of this year’s Best Kept Villager had been received. It was agreed to enter.
- DALC had advised the 2014 Buckingham Palace Garden Party would be held during May and June. Nominations were invited for Chairman of Parish and Town Councils. It was agreed to nominate Cllr Shapland, pending his agreement.
- Other items of correspondence were noted:
TAP Fund deadline of 28 February
Rural Alliance Minutes & Agenda

136. Highways

It was reported that the drains above Quarry house were still blocked. Other blocked drains were reported outside Sea View and The Trap House. The drain opposite had still not been repaired. It was reported that water was recently flowing out of the Solar Park field and alongside the road as far as Four Cross Way, and along the road as far as Cape Farm, where it flowed across the road. this could prove dangerous in cold weather.

DCC Highways had advised two road closures. Although the first (TTRO1406301) indicated that it was the road between Chelfham and Stoke Rivers, the map showed it as being the C459 between Chelfham and Bratton Cross. The Clerk had requested confirmation to which road would be affected.

The second road closure (TTRO1406302) was between Collard Bridge Cross and Goodleigh Cross, 3-7 March. The Clerk had enquired into arrangements for the bus service. Devon Bus had replied stating that they were unaware that the road was used by public transport buses. They were however in consultation with Filers regarding TTRO1406301, and thought that it may be possible for buses to use the road between Bratton Cross and Chelfham. The Clerk had advised them that this road was unsuitable.

David Wines had advised that the road repairs between Loxhore Cross and Chelfham was scheduled to start 28 February. The flooding at Valley cottage had been added to the works list for action.

137. Reports

1. District Councillor’s Report

None – Cllr Prowse not present.

2. County Councillor’s Report

Cllr Edgell reported that there would be a Budget Briefing at County Hall the following Friday.

Unfortunately it would be necessary to contend with ongoing cuts as the council’s budget was reduced.

3. Composting Group

A report had been received from Cllr Shapland:

Payments during the past month had been £1068.00 to Mr Heywood for site work, and £32.58 for stamps etc.

The balance stood at £9815.56

4. Woodland Group

None.

5. Chairman’s Report

None.

138. Finance

1. Payments

Parish Clerk’s salary

£115.08

Cheque No. 889

Bratton Fleming Village Hall –hire Oct-Dec 2013

£ 48.75

Cheque No. 890

Mr P Laurie – website

£ 70.00

Cheque No. 891

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

139. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Local Plan; Biodiversity Audit.

140. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19 February 2014

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date