



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 19 November 2014 at 7:30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs F Benbow, B East, M Huxtable, Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse, A Ridd-Jones, G Tribe and Mrs V Worms

**In attendance:** 3 parishioners, Parish Clerk

**87. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Shapland, R Steele and County Cllr R Edgell.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Chair was taken by Cllr Benbow, vice chairman.

**88. Police Report**

A report had been received from PCSO Adam Berry.

During October two incidents in Bratton Fleming had been logged: 1 Missing person; 1 Suspicious door knocking in the area. Parishioners were reminded to not answer the door to anyone that were not expected and to ask for id and an head office number for anyone at your door that were thought to be suspicious.

During the same period two crimes had been reported: 5x Thefts from motor vehicle, where fuel had been taken by cutting the pipes

The police were continuing to monitor and enforce the speed limits in the area

With darker nights parishioners were asked to keep themselves safe when out and about by keeping to well lit areas and ensure that they take their mobile phone with them.

Parishioners were also asked to be aware that as it is coming up to winter again it was a prime time for fuel tanks to be broken into, and to report any suspicious behaviour.

**89. Public Participation**

It was reported that there were some slates missing from the bus shelter. Cllr Prowse offered to check the size of the slates and availability.

**90. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 15 & 17 October 2014**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**91. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 15 & 17 October 2014**

No response had been received from North Devon Homes regarding the hedge.

The Clerk confirmed that he had not yet returned the deeds to the solicitor.

**92. Granting of Dispensation to Councillors**

Cllr Prowse explained that there were occasions when councillors had been required to declare an interest and had been unable to take part in discussions concerning matters of public interest.

Under the new code of Conduct the parish council was able to grant dispensation to councillors, enabling them to take part in items that required them to disclose a prejudicial interest. He noted that councillors would need to be very careful when matters of a personal interest were concerned.

**93. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Prowse declared interest in items 94 (School Planning application), 97 & 100.3.2 (Millennium Green), and 100.3.1 (Woodland Group).

Cllr Mrs Kellaway declared an interest in item 94 (School Planning Application), and 103.3.3 (Burial Ground Grant)

Cllr Mrs Worms declared an interest in item 94 (School Planning application), 103.3.3 (Burial Ground Grant).

Cllr Benbow declared an interest in item 94 (School Planning Application).

Cllr Huxtable declared an interest in item 100.3.1 (Woodland Group)

Cllr Ridd-Jones declared an interest in items 97 & 100.3.2 (Millennium Green) and 100.3.1 (Woodland Group).

**94. Planning**

**1. Applications –**

58369 Siting of mobile classroom Bratton Fleming Community Primary School Station Road  
Bratton Fleming

Cllr Mrs Worms declared an interest in the application. Cllr Mrs Kellaway declared an interest and left the meeting while the application was considered,

It was noted that the school was currently full to capacity, and was having to turn children away.

It was resolved to recommend approval.

**2. Decisions - Refusal:**

58124 Outline application for one open market dwelling and one local need dwelling at land off  
Haxton Lane Bratton Fleming

58145 Retrospective application for siting of mobile home for residential use at Hilltop Field  
Grange Hill Bratton Fleming

**95. Correspondence**

1. Proposed cut to Highway budget

2. Petition from Nick Harvey MP and Cllr Greenslade opposing DCC's proposed cut to highway maintenance.

3. Rural Alliance update on broadband roll-out.

It was agreed that the Village Hall and Baptist Church could be considered under the free public building provision by Wild West net.

4. 3 Road Closure notices relating to Collard Bridge – all incorrectly stating road between Collard Cross and Goodleigh Cross.

5. Notice of temporary 30mph speed limit, between Four Cross Way and Knightacott Cross

6. DALC Newsletters

**96. Highways**

It was reported that the Snow Warden was in place, but that there was a problem with the salt as it would not pass through the gritter. It was agreed to enquire if Highways would replace the salt with fresh stock.

It was noted that in past years there had been difficulty in accessing the school due to Station Road not being gritted. It was agreed that a strategy should also be in place to treat Fairfield and Furze Park Rd.

It was reported that there was a problem with water on the road opposite New Mills. It was understood that this could be caused by children blocking gratings.

**97. Millennium Green Play Area**

Cllr Prowse declared an interest in the item as he was a trustee of the trust.

Cllr Prowse distributed a brief history of the Millennium Green explaining that although it had been originally set up by the parish council it had been necessary to register it as a separate charity in order to obtain funding for its development. The only income that the Trust received was an annual parish council grant towards its upkeep, which left no funding available for upgrades etc. The time had now come to look at repairing or replacing some of the play equipment.

Cllr Mrs Worms proposed that a grant of £10000 be made to the Millennium Green Trust, with the proviso that a public meeting be held to consider the needs of the parish. Seconded by Cllr East. All in favour.

Cheque No. 921

**98. TAP Fund**

A request had been received from Goodleigh Parish Council to join with them in using the fund jointly to provide bark for the play areas in the two parishes. This was agreed.

**9. Reports****1. District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Prowse reported that the move out of the Civic Centre was progressing. Devon county Council, as owner of the building, was exploring alternative uses for the Civic Centre. Front of House staff and the planning department would be moving to Lynton House, which would save the council £300k annually.

There had been a delay with the Local Plan as housing figure was being challenged.

The owner of the White Hart had applied through SHLAA to enter the site for 7-8 dwellings. Cllr Prowse felt that there was a need for the parish council to work with the action group to secure the future of the White Hart. Cllrs Prowse, Benbow and East agreed to speak with the action group. It was noted that although the owner had copied a letter he had sent to the action group to the council, he had not made any direct contact with the parish council.

**2. County Councillor's Report**

None.

**3. Composting Group**

Receipts for material collected had been £104.79 for 1.88 tonnes during September, and £231.88 for 4.16 tonnes in October.

Payments made had been a £500 donation to Fawn Lodge, £133.97 for a CCTV camera, and £400 towards a computer for the Bratton Fleming News.

The balance currently stood at £4046.17.

**4. Woodland Group**

Cllr Ridd-Jones reported that good progress was being made on cutting the hedge that ran through the woodland. It was expected that it would cost a further £900 to complete the work.

**5. Chairman's Report**

None.

**100. Finance****1. Setting of 2015/2016 Budget**

A draft budget had been circulated to councillors by the clerk. This was agreed without change.

**2. Setting of 2015/2016 Precept and Grant**

It was agreed not to make any increase to the Precept this year, and to claim the full North Devon Council Grant.

**3. Grants and Donations****1. Woodland Group**

A request for a grant of £4000 was received from the Woodland Group, noting that it was owned by the parish council. This was agreed.

**2. Millennium Green**

A request for the normal grant of £1500 had been received from the Millennium Green Trust for maintenance costs. This was agreed. Cheque No. 921

**3. St Peters Churchyard**

A request had been received from the Church Council for a grant towards the cost of maintaining the burial ground. It was agreed to make a grant of £600. Cheque No. 922

**4. Poppy Appeal**

It was agreed to make a donation of £100 to the Poppy Appeal. Cheque No. 923

**4. Payments:**

1.	Mr S Shapland – grass cutting	£ 20.00	Cheque No. 919
2.	Parish Clerk's salary & expenses	£125.29	Cheque No. 920

The two accounts were agreed for payment.

**101. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.**

White Hart & Community Shop; Snow Warden.

**102. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17 December 2014**

There being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting closed.