



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 17 December 2014 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs F Benbow, B East, M Huxtable, A Ridd-Jones, R Steele and G Tribe,

In attendance: 7 parishioners, PCSO Adam Berry, PCSO Anthony Charles, Parish Clerk

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

103. Presentation by David Wilson Partnership for proposed solar park at Knightacott Cross

The Chairman introduced Maria Bailey and Pete Leaver from the David Wilson Partnership. Mr Leaver explained that a client of theirs was proposing to install a 12 acre solar array in the field adjacent to the proposed wind turbine at Knightacott Cross which was refused planning consent. The array would not be visible from the road or Knightacott, but would just be seen from Exmoor and Challacombe Common.

It was possible that the 4 acres of the site that was not being used for the solar array would be turned into a wildflower meadow. The developer had been in contact with the National Grid and had reserved a 500kW input into the system.

The company were in talks with the school to provide solar panels, which would make an annual saving for the school of £1700.

104. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse, T Shapland, Mrs V Worms and County Cllr R Edgell.

105. Police Report

A report had been received from PCSO Adam Berry.

During November three incidents had been logged for Bratton Fleming: Suspicious male trying to sell generators; 3x RTC's; 2x Mud on the road.

One crime had been recorded - 1x Fuel theft

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

Everyone was asked to ensure wherever possible to secure their vehicle at night to avoid people being able to gain access to the fuel tanks. For those who are unable to park their vehicle inside it was suggested reversing their vehicle up to their property and try to park next to something that prevents access to the side of the vehicle where the fuel tank is.

Everyone was also made aware as was coming up to winter again which is a prime time for fuel tanks to be broken into so please be aware of this and report any suspicious behaviour.

106. Public Participation

1. Mr Williams reported that North Devon Council were proposing to transfer ownership of the chipper to the parish council, with the proviso that other parishes would be permitted to use it. The terms of the agreement had not yet been seen.
2. It was reported that no survey form regarding play equipment on the Millennium Green had been delivered with the Bratton Fleming News. Cllr Ridd-Jones agreed to contact the Chairman of the News over the matter.
3. A request was received urging the parish council to request all power lines at the new solar array be placed underground.
4. Concern was raised over the erection of a fence in Furze Park Rd. it was understood that it had been erected by North Devon Homes. It was agreed to enquire into the ownership of the land.

107. Declaration of Interests

None.

108. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 19 November 2014

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

109. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 19 November 2014

None.

110. Planning

1. Applications:

58365 Prior approval application for change of use from agricultural building to one dwelling The Barn, Barton Grounds Mill Lane Bratton Fleming,

It was resolved not to object to the application.

58438 Listed building application for internal alterations Shorland Old Farm Bratton Fleming

It was resolved to recommend approval.

58518 Erection of a double garage with car port Middle Knightacott road from Buttonhill Cross to Knightacott Cross Bratton Fleming

It was resolved to recommend approval

58523 Extensions & alterations to dwelling Parsloes Bratton Fleming

It was agreed to defer making a response to the application until after a site meeting had taken place. It was agreed to hold a site meeting on Friday 2 January at 3.00pm.

58538 Erection of twin poli in-line overhead lines Capelands Farm Bratton Fleming

It was resolved to recommend approval, with the proviso that the cables were placed underground, as had previously been agreed.

2. Decisions

1. Approval:

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

111. Correspondence

1. A letter had been received from the Rural Alliance requesting the parish councils views as to whether meetings should still be held, due to some being poorly attended. It was agreed to respond stating that this council would like the meetings to continue, as at present.
2. An enquiry had been received from the police into the existence of an emergency plan in the parish in times of extreme weather. It was agreed to respond stating that whilst there was no formal plan in place, there was a good community spirit that ensured that everyone looked after their neighbours when bad weather was experienced.
3. A request had been received from the See Hear Centre for somewhere to park their bus when it visited the parish on the fourth Wednesday of alternate months. It was agreed to suggest either the car park at the Baptist, or the entrance to the Millennium Green.

112. Highways

It was reported that the road at Goodleigh Cross and near the Sports Club was repeatedly flooded. It was agreed to write to Stuart Hughes expressing the council's dissatisfaction with road maintenance which resulted in the road being flooded so frequently.

Cllr Benbow reported that he had been informed that the A399 was due to be closed between Aller Cross and Brayford. No notification of the closure had been received from Highways, The Barnstaple office had also been unaware of the closure. He had written to Stuart Hughes regarding yet another road closure, but had not received a response.

113. Snow Warden

A report prepared by Cllr Benbow was circulated to councillors, identifying high, medium and low priority areas. It was agreed to include the Baptist Church car park to permit access to the post office, and the road to Exmoor Zoo.

114. White Hart & Community Shop

Cllr Benbow reported on a meeting with the action group, and explained that the aspiration of the parish council was to maintain the village amenities.

A further meeting with the action group would be held when the intentions of the owner were known.

115. Reports

1. District Councillor's Report

None.

2. County Councillor's Report

None.

3. Composting Group

Three members of the Group had been assessed for use of the chipper, and had received their certificates, together with three members of the Combe Martin group. It was possible that the normal fee of £50 per person would be waived as the company may use the occasion as a publicity spot in their catalogue.

During the past month £695.64 had been received for 12.48 tonnes of material removed during November. No payments had been made. The balance stood at £4741.81

4. Woodland Group

None.

5. Chairman's Report

None.

116. Finance

1. Application for Grant

A request for a grant towards the upkeep of the building had been Bratton Fleming Village Hall Committee.

It was resolved to make a grant of £400.

Cheque No. 928

2. Payments:

1.	Bratton Fleming Village Hall – hire – Sept/Oct	£ 34.45	Cheque No. 924
2.	Bratton Fleming Village Hall – hire Nov	£ 16.25	Cheque No. 926
3.	Parish Clerk's salary & expenses	£116.32	Cheque No. 927

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

117. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Biodiversity; Solar Energy.

118. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21 January 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:47pm.