



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 18 February 2015 at 7:30pm.

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

In attendance: 38 parishioners, County Cllr R Edgell, Parish Clerk.

140. Presentation on the future of the White Hart

Mr Sharp reported on a meeting with Mr Milton, owner of the White Hart, who considered it to be unviable and was therefore not prepared to reopen it.

He stated that he was proposing six residential units on the site. He also suggested that the ground floor could be converted into a lock-up bar, shop and tea room, which could be run by parishioners. No details regarding the size of the units were provided.

As no planning application had been submitted it was felt that the parish council should act on behalf of the village whilst still be able to remain neutral should a application be made.

It was strongly felt that the proposals from Mr Milton were unviable, and could only become viable if the freehold of the property were held by the parish.

It was agreed that the White Hart Group and the parish council should send a joint response to Mr Milton, not accepting his proposals.

141. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs V Worms.

142. Police Report

A report had been received from PCSO Adam Berry.

During January two incidents had been reported in Bratton Fleming: 1x Domestic incident; 1x RTC.

In the same period four crimes had been reported: 3x Fuel theft; 1x Assault.

The police would continue to monitor and enforce the speed limits in the area

The police were arranging some time when they would be in the village at set times to discuss the recent spate of fuel thefts. Poster advertising this would be placed in the shop and the school.

It was suggested that fuel thefts were increasing since street lights were turned off during the night.

It was agreed to enquire what the energy saving was for Bratton Fleming.

143. Public Participation

It was reported that 410 Millennium Green forms had been printed and delivered. It was hoped that this would result in a good response.

144. Declaration of Interests

None.

145. Approval of Minutes of the meetings held 21 & 24 January 2015

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

146. Matters Arising from Minutes of meetings held 21 & 24 January 2015

Min. 124.6 No response had been received from DCC regarding the supply of salt.

Min. 127. It had been confirmed that North Devon Homes owned the fenced off land in Furze Park Road.

Min. 129.1 No response had been received from DCC regarding highway improvements at Sentry Cross.

Min. 129.3 Clause 4 had been removed from the agreement. It was agreed that the contract for NDC to transfer ownership of the chipper to the parish council was acceptable.

Min. 131. Cllr Benbow would prepare a report for the Bratton Fleming News regarding the provision of solar panels on council owned land.

147. Planning

1. **Applications** – None,

2. **Decisions - Approval:**

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

58523 Extensions & alterations to dwelling, Parsloes Bratton Fleming

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

58612 Prior approval of proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (use class c3) and associated operational development class mb(b), Building 1 Greenacres Farm Bratton Fleming

3. **Notice of Public Hearing**

Retrospective application for siting of mobile home, Hilltop Field, Grange Hill.

148. Correspondence

1. Details of public consultation into proposed cuts to public transport budget. It was noted that the 310 service was not affected.

It was also noted that buses were still overcrowded t times, with passengers being left behind.

3. Notice of Road Closure 2 March – 3 April. Loxhore Cross to Borough Farm to enable support work to be carried out to collapsing carriageway.

4. DALC newsletters

149. Highways

It was reported that the hedge at the White Hart was overgrown and posing a danger to motorists. Clerk to contact owner.

Concern was expressed over a large pothole at Snapper. It was thought that this may be caused by a burst water pipe as there appeared to be water flowing from it.

150. Grass Cutting Contract

It was agreed to place an advertisement in the North Devon Journal for grass cutting tenders for the next three years.

151. Provision of Superfast Broadband

Cllr Benbow reported on a successful meeting with Wild West Net. Superfast Broadband was being put into Bratton Fleming, Stoke Rivers and Loxhore. Grant funding was available for the provision to be installed in community buildings.

152. Biodiversity

Cllr Steele had circulated suggestions on how he proposed biodiversity could be increased on the Community Woodland, Millennium Green and Recreation Ground.

The Chairman attempted to go through the list, but was repeatably interrupted by Cllr Steele.

There was no objection to a bird feeding station in the Community Woodland provided that there were enough volunteers available. The hide could only be open if someone was willing to accept responsibility for any damage etc. Cllr Huxtable proposed that no more trees should be planted. Seconded by Cllr Ridd-Jones and agreed. Cllr Steele's proposal to plant native wild flowers was agreed,

Cllr Steele was warned not to interrupt the meeting or he would be asked to leave.

It was agreed that any action must be left to the individual committees.

Cllr Benbow left the meeting.

153. Reports

1. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Prowse reported that he had given a grant to the Youth Club for decorating and the provision of new equipment.

NDC was on target for all staff to leave the Civic Centre into new offices in Lynton House and at Brynsworthy.

There would not be any increase in the District Council element of the Council Tax for the next financial year.

Cllr Steele left the meeting.

2. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported that the Council Council was proposing to increase Council Tax by 1.98% for the next year, the first increase for five years.

3. Composting Group

Payments made during the past month had been £500 to the Gardening Club, £24 for a safety helmet, and £482.10 for the annual dinner for helpers.

Receipts had been £525.10 for 9.6 tonnes material removed from site. The balance stood at £4310.09.

4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland reported that the laurel had been trimmed.

No details of the date for judging for the Devon County Show Woodland competition had yet been received.

5. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report.

154. Finance

1. Payments

1. Mr S Shapland – grass cutting	£ 20.00	Cheque No. 931
2. Bratton Fleming Village Hall – hire	£ 66.95	Cheque No. 932
3. Parish Clerk's salary & expenses	£124.67	Cheque No. 933.

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

155. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Biodiversity.

156. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18 March 2015

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.