



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 20 April 2016 at 7:45pm.

Present: Cllrs F Benbow (Chairman), B East, P Freeman, M Huxtable, Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse, T Shapland and G Tribe,

In attendance: 5 parishioners, Cllr R Edgell (DCC), Parish Clerk.

168. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Ms N Henry and A Kellaway.

169. Public Participation

1. Cllr Shapland confirmed that the rotten posts at the Community Woodland allotments and pond would be replaced within the next few weeks.
2. It was reported that the door to the hide on the Woodland had been found open, and that no damage had been sustained. It was agreed to leave the door unlocked on a trial basis. Cllr Shapland offered to arrange for slabs to be placed in front of the door which was currently very muddy.
3. The tree guards for the Millennium Green had been made and were ready to be installed. It was noted that the tree had been donated by the Composting Group.
4. A parishioner expressed his concern over the size and number of large vehicles using the Bratton Fleming to Barnstaple road and enquired into the possibility of classifying the road as unsuitable for large vehicles.
He also expressed his concern over the suitability of the new signs at the Grange Hill Industrial Units. Whilst acknowledging that there may be a need, he considered them to be unacceptable for a rural setting, and enquired into the ownership of the units. It was understood that the units were owned by the occupiers.
6. It was noted that the layout of the tables for council meetings had been rearranged in order to help discussions etc to be heard by members of the public.
7. The council minutes and agendas were being posted within the required timescale.

170. Declaration of Interests

None.

171. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 16 March 2016

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

172. Matters Arising from Minutes of the last meeting

- Min. 154. Overgrown trees behind Homer Close.
It was reported that Mr A Jones at NDC has happy to liaise with Mr Steele regarding the TPO on the trees on his land. Mr Steele was happy to carry out whatever work was deemed necessary.
- Min.160 Potholes.
The potholes reported at the last meeting had not been repaired.
Potholes were reported on the back road to Chelfham.
- Min. 157 It was reported that the obsolete equipment on the Millennium Green would be removed shortly.

173. Planning

1. Applications:

- 60545 Extension to dwelling (amended plans) at Bay Tree House, Bratton Fleming
It was resolved to recommend approval.
- 60885 Erection of timber framed agricultural building for storage & machinery Mockham Down Bratton Fleming
The Clerk reported that this application had originally been registered as being in Bratton Fleming, but the planning department had confirmed that it was in Brayford parish.

2. Decisions: Approval:

60425 Temporary siting of two mobile homes to be used as a single unit of accommodation for farm manager (amended description) at Chelfham Barton, Chelfham

60770 Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to dwelling (class qa&b) at barn at Hilltop Bratton Fleming

60839 Retrospective application for erection of one composting toilet at Bratton Fleming Solar Farm land adjacent to Four Cross Way Bratton Fleming

3. Withdrawn:

60567 Alterations to access to include repositioning of gate at Summerland Bratton Fleming

60222 Outline application for erection of up to 40 dwellings (all matters reserved except access) (amended transport statement) at Beara Down Farm Grange Hill Bratton Fleming.

4. Appeal Decision - Dismissed

58895 Solar array at Knightcott Cross

174. Correspondence

1. Complaint of abandoned cars in Homer Close car park. It was agreed to report the matter to North Devon Council.
2. The Devon Air Ambulance were requesting possible sites in rural communities that could be used for night-time landings. It was agreed to suggest the Millennium Green and Sports Club.
3. Letter of thanks for donation – Poppy Appeal
4. CPRE Devon 'Our Outdoors' Competition 2016. Passed to Cllr Freeman.
5. DALC Newsletter. Noted.
6. Healthwatch Voices magazine. Noted
7. Details of the Devon Hedge Tree competition. Noted.

175. Highways

It was noted that no restriction could be placed on the Barnstaple road regarding maximum weight of vehicles. One of the problems was that some of the hedges had not been cut, forcing large vehicles further into the road. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the Rural Alliance to discuss.

Parishioners had expressed concern of a possible road closure at Crookmans Corner in Barnstaple. It was noted that this had been a mistake, as no application had been made for a Temporary Road Closure Order. It was agreed to request notification from DCC when an application was made. A closure would have serious impacts on public/school transport, and on the emergency services. It was agreed that councillors should view the new signs at the Grange Hill Industrial Units before the next meeting.

176. Emergency Plan – Update

The draft Plan had been passed to Cllr East to study.

Cllr Freeman would be attending the next meeting of the Devon Community Resilience Forum.

177. White Hart Garage

A letter had been received from the owner requesting permission to form the parish council for a new entrance at the side of the site. It was noted that the road was unadopted.

It was agreed that it was necessary to seek professional advice before responding.

178. Neighbourhood Plan - Update

Four responses had been received from parishioners interested in joining the steering group. More members were still needed, especially from someone to provide a young person's perspective.

It was hoped to complete a questionnaire within the next few weeks.

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

Cllr Prowse reported that the working party had resolved to remove the section in the Local Plan referring to the whole area being suitable for wind turbine development. The revised Plan would be considered by Executive on 18 May.

The House of Lords had defeated the bill on Starter Homes. The Bill would now return to the House of Commons.

Cllr Butt had passed away the previous week, and would be greatly missed in North Devon. During his time on the district council he had been involved in many developments, as well as serving on many other organisations.

2. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported on the recent HATOC meeting. DCC had allocated £1m to investigate possible improvements to the A361. The government had provided a further £1.5m in order to prepare schemes. The justification needed to demonstrate economic benefit to the area. The busiest section of the road was the section between South Molton and Bideford.

The council was able to bid for funding through the Major Benefits Fund which was available for major highway improvements. Two schemes in other parts of the country had already qualified.

DCC was being encouraged not to ignore smaller schemes which would benefit local communities.

3. Composting Group

Cllr Shapland reported that the chipper had been overhauled.

No payments from NDC had been received.

Payments out had been £25.7 for a new lock and keys, £936 for the hire of JCB and lorry for site visits and the removal of the large pile

The balance stood at £8611.10.

4. Woodland Group

Nothing to report.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing further to report.

180. Finance

1. Bratton Fleming Village Hall – hire	£ 26.00	Cheque No. 980
2. North Devon Council – rent of allotments	£ 10.00	Cheque No. 981
3. DALC – Subscription	£ 218.14	Cheque No. 982
4. Barnstaple Town Council – course attended by Cllr Freeman	£ 15.00	Cheque No. 983
5. Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£ 115.71	Cheque No. 984
6. B Thorne & Son	£1651.63	Cheque No. 985

The six accounts were agreed for payment.

181. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Recreation Field gate.

182. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18 May 2016

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.