



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 20 July 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.

**39. Apologies**

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

**40. Public Participation**

1. It was reported that since the hide on the Woodland had been left unlocked, the only damage sustained had been that a bird identification guide had been burnt.
2. Dis-satisfaction was expressed over the handling of the recent road closure by DCC. It was considered that steel plates could have been placed across the trench to have enabled the road to have been opened at night.  
It appeared that DCC in Exeter was poorly organised and that more should have been done to inform the public of the closure. The public was being very poorly served by the Highways department.
3. A parishioner reminded the council that it had a duty to promote biodiversity in the parish, and requested a wildlife pond on the Millennium Green. He believed that this would benefit wildlife and be attractive to children.

**41. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**42. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 15 & 20 June and 14 July 2016**

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

**43. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- Min. 17. One offer of help had been received to clear the pond.
- Min. 20. The Devon Air Ambulance team had visited the village to inspect the various offers of a night-time landing site. The Millennium Green had been selected as the most suitable site, being in the middle of the village and a level site of suitable size.  
The cost of lighting for the site was still awaited.
- Min. 37. Cllr Prowse reported that Highways would be inspecting the road junction. It was likely that the application would be considered by the Planning Committee.  
He had received assurances that no formal agreement had been made between the applicant and NDC. He was disappointed that, as ward member, he had not been advised of the discussions.

**44. Planning**

**1. Application:**

61445 Extension to dwelling The Nook Bratton Fleming

Cllr Shapland proposed that the application be recommended for approval.  
Seconded by Cllr East. All in agreement.

**2. Decisions - Approval:**

- 61157 Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to one dwellinghouse (class q (a) & (b)) at Oxenpark Bratton Fleming
- 60946 Conversion of barn to form one unit of holiday accommodation at Rye Park House Rye Park Bratton Fleming
- 61261 Erection of one temporary agricultural workers dwelling together with erection of one agricultural building at Beara Down Farm Bratton Fleming

**45. Correspondence**

1. Response from Devon Air Ambulance. Covered earlier in the meeting.
2. The owner of the Solar Park at Four Cross Way had advised that it would be submitting a planning application to extend the period of operation from 22 to 30 years.
3. The agenda for the next Parish Forum on 9 August had been received, and circulated to councillors.
4. Details of proposed improvements to the A361 had been received. The public consultation would run until the end of July.
5. DALC Newsletter – July 2016. Noted.

**46. Skate Park**

Deferred until the next meeting.

**47. Wildlife**

It was agreed that the request for a pond on the Millennium Green would need to be considered at a future meeting, when the outcome of the proposal for Air Ambulance landing site was known.

**48. Highways**

1. It was reported that the logging company had attempted to stop the water flowing across the road at Riversmead, but had been unsuccessful. It would be necessary to resolve this problem before the winter weather. The clerk confirmed that he had written to the company involved with the logging.
2. It was reported that the seat at Furze Park Road had become overgrown and was unusable. Letter to be sent to the householder requesting attention.
3. It was agreed that the public needs to be better informed of forthcoming road closures. The Chairman had offered to meet Highways, but the offer had not been taken up. It was agreed to write to Highways requesting that the procedure of applying for road closures should include details of consultations with affected parishes, not just the parish where the work is proposed. A great number of people had been affected by the recent road closure from as far away as Lynton and Lynmouth. No advance signage had been erected at Blackmoor Gate or Four Cross Way. The official diversion route had been via Goodleigh, Bryford and Aller Cross. Bus passengers had not been made aware that the bus service had been cancelled. It was noted that road closures had become the norm, apparently without considering the implications. It was agreed to write a letter of complaint to David Black and David Whitton at Highways.

**47. Reports**

**1. District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Prowse reported that the waste and recycling collection service was being reviewed. He favoured discontinuing the green bin collection and provide funding for composting schemes.

He was concerned that the proposed devolution for Devon and Somerset would favour the urban areas of Taunton and Exeter.

No news had been received since the Local Plan was submitted. It was hoped tht this meant that there were no problems.

There were concerns over the future of the shop in the village. There was a need to do something quickly in order to secure its future. To be considered at the next meeting.

**2. County Councillor's Report**

Cllr Edgell reported on the Public Consultation on the proposed improvements to the A361 Link Rod. These involved the improvements of the road junctions between South Molton and Bideford, together with three-lane sections. This stretch of the road had been identified as being the busiest section. It was hoped that the improvements would increase the average speed of traffic above the present 47mph.

**3. Composting Group**

Cllr Shapland reported that payments received had been £120 from Combe posters for the use of the machine; £803.98 from NDC for 14.85 tonnes material taken in May, and £799.11 for 14.76 tonnes material taken during June.

Payments made: £33.00 for 60l diesel; £1133.40 for manufacture and fixing of three tree guards on the Millennium Green; £62.10 for 4 safety helmets; £100 to Mr Symons for taking the machine to Combe Martin; £162 to Bratton Fleming Festival for a Candy Floss machine; £400 Bratton Fleming Sports Club for fireworks; £91.88 for 12 pr gloves. The balance stood at £11756.30.

#### 4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland reported that the new bridge was in place, and the fence around the allotments had been repaired. The area around the hide had been hardened.

#### 5. Chairman's Report

1. A dangerous tree had been reported in Old Rectory Drive. Millennium Green Trustees to investigate.
2. It had been reported that a child had sustained cuts on broken glass in the play area.
3. A submission for grant funding had been made for costs relating to the Neighbourhood Plan. In the Sports Club Membership Survey 69 responses had been received – 52% from Bratton Fleming. 84% considered the Club to be an important asset with a good range of facilities. Grateful thanks were extended to all who had taken part in the survey.  
Work was continuing to improve the condition of the pitches, which were very expensive to maintain.  
Consultation with community groups was proving difficult, but a meeting with businesses was planned. An Open Day was being planned.
4. The Brat Fest had been very successful, and well attended. Thanks were extended to all the sponsors.
5. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to the Festival Committee for all their work in organising another successful Festival.

#### 48. Finance

##### 1. Payments:

1. Ms N Henry - reimbursement	£130.58	Cheque No. 995
2. Bratton Fleming Village Hall	£ 32.50	Cheque No. 996
3. Mr S Shapland – grass cutting	£ 96.00	Cheque No. 997
4. Mr G Bayard – audit	£ 25.00	Cheque No. 998
5. Parish Clerk's salary & expenses	£115.08	Cheque No. 999

The five accounts were agreed for payment.

#### 49. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Skate Park; Village Shop.

50. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 21 September 2016, unless planning applications were received, in which case a meeting would be held on Wednesday 17 August.

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

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....