



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 15 February 2017 at 7:45pm.

Present: Cllrs F Benbow (Chairman), B East, Ms N Henry, M Huxtable, A Kellaway, Mrs P Kellaway, M Prowse and G Tribe,

In attendance: 20 parishioners, Parish Clerk.

131. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Shapland and Cllr R Edgell (DCC).

132. Presentation by Eagle Community

The work of the Eagle Community, based at Ovis Farm, was explained by the Community Manager. There were currently six residents with various backgrounds at the Centre, with the aim being to get them back into society. They currently worked on the farm, but were looking for more varied work, perhaps in the community. The Chairman explained that parish councils were looking to take on work once done by DCC Highways. He was hopeful that there could be the opportunity here to employ some of those at the Centre.

133. Public Participation

1. A pothole opposite Haxton Lane was reported.
2. A suggestion was put forward that the residents at the Eagle Centre could be employed planting native shrubs in the Community Woodland.
3. It was reported that the pond on the community Woodland was becoming choked. Devon Wildlife Trust were sending a list of suitable pond plants.
4. Concern was expressed over the planning application for the White Hart. It was considered that the proposed reconfiguration of the interior would render the White Hart unviable. All the existing bar area would be needed if the pub were to be able to reopen. The comparison to other unsuccessful public houses in the area submitted as part of the planning application was based on very different establishments. Other public houses in rural and isolated areas were viable, even with a smaller population than Bratton Fleming.
A summary was presented of the work of the Community Group, and their meetings with the owner.

134. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Ms Henry, Benbow and Prowse declared a personal interest in planning application 62455. Cllr Prowse declared a personal interest in item 12.1.

135. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 15 January 2017

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

136. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 15 January 2017

None.

137. Planning

1. Applications:

62455 Erection of four dwellings together with alterations to & refurbishment of existing building the White Hart Bratton Fleming

One letter of objection had been received and circulated to councilors.

It was considered that four dwellings were too many for a small site in a busy area in the centre of the village. Concern was raised over the closeness of the proposed dwelling to the White Hart.

It was also considered that an insufficient number of parking spaces had been allocated to the dwellings as it was likely that each would have a minimum of two vehicles. This could result in vehicles being parked in the vicinity of church/village hall/school causing unacceptable congestion. Councillors supported the objections raised by members of the public during Public Participation.

It was unanimously agreed to recommend that the application be refused.

Neighbouring Parish Applications (amended plans - Exmoor National Park):

62/50/16/001 Reinstatement of railway line and ancillary development, land between Killington Lane and Blackmoor Gate, Parracombe

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

62/50/16/002 Erection of enging shed, formation of railway sidings and change of use, Rowley Moor Farm, Kentisbury

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

62/50/16/003 Change of use of site of former hotel to railway car park with 162 car parking spaces and pedestrian underpass to station. Site of former Blackmoor Gate Hotel, blackmoor Gate.

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

62/50/16/004 Demolition of public toilets and shelter, relocation of public car park, erection of new toilets and interpretation building and change of use of land from agricultural to public amenity space, site of current car park, Blackmoor Gate.

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

62/50/17/002 Proposed temporary use of part of existing highways depot as Materials Recycling Centre in connection with reinstatement of phase 11A of the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway.

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

65/50/17/001 Proposed new system for disposal of agricultural waste from livestock market. Exmoor Farmers Market, Blackmoor Gate

It was resolved to recommend approval of the application in principle.

2. Decisions

1. Approval:

62139 Outline application for the erection of one dwelling with associated parking (all matters reserved) 11 South View Bratton Fleming

62063 Sub-division of one dwelling to form two dwellings at Landview Bratton Fleming

2. Refusal:

61489 Outline application for the erection of 8 detached dwellings and associated infrastructure (all matters reserved) (amended plans) at land off Grange Hill/ Benton Road Bratton Fleming

138. Correspondence

1. NDC had advised that they wished to hold a public meeting in March/April to explain the Recycle More scheme, and wished to know if the parish council would make the arrangements. It was agreed that NDC should make the arrangements and handle the publicity themselves.
Cllr Prowse explained that, although the trial area covered most of his ward, he had not been made aware of the arrangements until it was leaked to the press. He considered that the parish should receive some benefits from the scheme. This was agreed.
2. DCC advised that the road between Distant Point and Bratton Cross would be closed 23-24 February.
3. A request had been received from Mr Laurie for reimbursement of the fee for hosting the parish website. This was agreed.
He had advised that he wished to be relieved from maintaining the website, giving 12 notice. It was noted that a new website would be designed. Mr Laurie to be thanked for all his work.
4. NDC had advised that there had been no requests for an election to fill the vacancy on the council, and that the council should make the necessary arrangements to fill the vacancy by co-option.

139. Air Ambulance Landing Site

Cllr East reported that most of the funding for the lighting column had been secured. This included £1000 DCC Locality Grant from Cllr Edgell, £600 NDC Community Grant from Cllr Prowse, £200 from Loxhore, £600 from Tesco. An application to the TAP Fund for a further £1072 in conjunction with Stoke Rivers had been submitted.

Devon Air Ambulance had received a grant of £1m from government, which it was using to pay the labour costs of installing the lighting.

A planning application for the column would now be submitted.

140. Highways

It was reported that a drain was blocked just below Furze Park Road. Potholes were reported at the top of Barn Hill and on the Knightacott road.

All to be reported to Highways.

141. Lengthsman

Cllr Benbow explained that Eagle Community had offered to do carry out gully and drain clearing etc. DCC were currently paying the training costs for volunteers to gain Chapter 8 qualification to enable them to carry out a range of work including drain clearing. He proposed to hold a meeting with Eagle Community and DCC to determine what work could be undertaken.

This was agreed.

142. Reports

1. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Prowse reported that the Wain Homes application in Goodleigh Road was likely to be called to committee. This would give the opportunity for objections to a further road closure be heard.

The reduction of 50% in Composting Credits may be delayed, or phased in.

NDC would be setting its budget shortly. The Parish Grant and Community Grant was being retained for the next financial year. NDC would shortly be relying on Council Tax to fund local services.

The closing of the theatres had been the result on both sides. The administrator believed that two theatres in North Devon was unviable without public subsidies. The council was looking to purchase fittings owned by the Theatres Trust.

It should be possible for the services to the proposed shop to be made soon. The costs were as follows:

SWW: Water connection £227.00; Sewer connection insp fee £262.00+vat; Water infrastructure cost £356.00; Sewerage infrastructure cost £356.00;

Electricity: Full cost £593.12+vat. This could be reduced significantly if trenching is carried out by local volunteers.

Notts Contractors: To make connection 4m pipework together with a new manhole to connect to £3361.00+vat.

Quotes for a used Portakabin building had been obtained - £12k or £13k + vat and + transport. Probably about £15k in total. This could be re-sold if it became unwanted.

2. County Councillor's Report

No report received.

3. Composting Group

Cllr Prowse reported that all outstanding credits had been received.

4. Woodland Group

No report received.

5. Chairman's Report

Cllr Benbow reported that there would be a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan the following week. It was agreed to instruct the consultant to carry out phase 1 of the quotation.

143. Finance

1. Request for Grant

A request for a grant had been received from the Bratton Fleming Millennium Green. It was agreed to make a grant of £1500, which had been allocated in the budget.

2. Payments:

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|--|---------|-----------------|
| 1. Mr P Laurie – website hosting (reimbursement) | £ 62.00 | Cheque No.1022 |
| 2. Business Think Ltd – Neighbourhood Plan | £378.56 | Cheque No.1023 |
| 3. Clerk’s Salary & Expenses | £115.08 | Cheque No. 1024 |

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

143. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Display of Minutes.

144. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15 March 2017

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:50pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date