



A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Bratton Fleming Village Hall on Wednesday 18 March 2026 at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs A Bell (Chairman), F Benbow, R Bond, Mrs N Catmore, T Ellis, Mrs P Kellaway, J Pitkeathly and E Prouse.

Cllr Bond, who had been unable to attend the last meeting, was welcomed as a newly co-opted councillor.

**In attendance:** 6 parishioners, Cllr Mrs Davis (DCC), Parish Clerk

**115. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs P Huxtable and M Prowse.

**116. Public Participation**

1. A query was raised about a large opening that had been made in the hedge almost opposite Summerland. It was confirmed that no planning application had been submitted, although it was thought that there may have been a gateway there previously. Cllr Mrs Bell said that she would contact Planning Enforcement at NDC to make enquiries.
2. It was noted that the two rubbish bins in the village had been replaced with new ones. It was agreed to contact NDC to enquire why this had been done, and to request one for the top of the Millennium Green.
3. A report of flytipping was reported on the grass verge at the top of the village, near Four Cross Way. This was found to be domestic refuse from the homeowner that had not been collected.
4. It was reported that there appeared to someone else living at the White Hart, who was thought to be a relative of the existing occupant.

**117. Declaration of Interests**

None.

**118. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 18 February 2026**

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

**119. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 18 February 2026**

The Chairman was congratulated for her comprehensive response to the Beara Down Farm planning application which had been considered at the last meeting.

**120. Planning Applications:**

No new applications had been received.

**121. Highways**

It was reported that the A399 was in a poor state across Bratton Down.

Cllr Mrs Davis stated that the poor condition of Devon's roads were due to many years of under-investment, together with wetter weather, an increase in traffic, especially in heavier vehicles.

Work was due to commence on the A399 through the Bray Valley.

It was agreed to write a formal letter of complaint to DCC regarding the non reinstatement of all of the white lines between Bratton Fleming and Barnstaple. The road had been inspected by the DCC Highways Officer who had measured the road and found the width adequate for a white line. This was being disputed by the contractor, although in places the previous white lines could still be seen.

**122. Traffic Speed through the Village**

Concern had been expressed by several parishioners over the speed of traffic through the village.

The Chairman explained that this was an ongoing concern, although when an appeal had been made for volunteers to form a Community Speedwatch group, there had been an insufficient interest. She was pleased to say that had now changed, with three people expressing an interest. She offered to make more enquiries before the next meeting.

**123. Correspondence**

1. DALC Newsletter. Noted.
2. Play Area Inspection Reports. The reports had been circulated to councillors. It was noted that no serious defects that needed immediate attention had been identified.
3. NDC - Climate and Environment Grants. A further round of grants were available for environmental projects, with a deadline of 31 August.

Cllr Mrs Catmore left the meeting.

**124. Reports**

**1. District Councillor's Report**

No report received.

**2. County Councillor's Report**

A report had been received from Cllr Mrs Davis, which had been circulated to councillors and uploaded onto the parish council website.

**3. Composting Group**

There was no update on the CCTV cameras.

**4. Woodland Group**

It was noted that some minor work had been carried out.

**5. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Prouse was thanked for his company's donation of an additional three trees for the community orchard, which had been planted.

**125. Finance**

**1. Payments:**

Bratton Fleming Village Hall – hire	£ 13.50
Mr A Kellaway - grass cutting & flower boxes	£218.00
Mr T Squire – Salary	£117.50
HMRC – PAYE	£ 20.00

The four accounts were agreed for payment.

**126. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.**

Traffic Speed in the Village

**127. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 15 April 2026

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.21pm.