

GAVINTON, FOGO AND POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held on 19 August 1985 at 7.30 pm in Gavinton Village Hall.

Present:- Mr D McNiven (Chairman) Mr R Markby  
Mr I Aitchson Mr T Reid  
Mr R Baillie Mr J Robinson  
Dr A Brown Mrs B Sheldon  
Mrs B Darling Mrs J Wheadon (Secretary)

Miss M Burns-Greig (District Councillor)

2 members of public

1 Apologies for absence

Apology received from Mr A Macmillan.

2 Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of meeting held on 27 May 1985 were circulated. Mrs Sheldon said she had been present at that meeting. The minutes were accepted.

3 Matters arising

Mr Baillie apologised for not having the synopsis of the Lothian and Borders Police report ready.

4 Middlefield grain dryer

Mr McNiven said a new application for change of use of the Middlefield grain dryer from agricultural to commercial use had been made by Philip Wilson (Corn Factors) Ltd, which is due to be considered at the Regional Planning Meeting on 17 September 1985. However Philip Wilson have written to the Region asking for permission to continue using the dryer before the application is heard and this will be put before the Regional Planning Committee on Tuesday 20 August.

The situation was now very complicated therefore the Community Council had hired the services of Mr I Hope, a planning consultant from Edinburgh, to advise them, and he would attend the meetings at Region on our behalf.

The matter was discussed at great length and the following points made:

- (a) Philip Wilson had done nothing since last application was refused until now, despite 5 letters from Region asking them their intentions.
- (b) Only now were Philip Wilson telling farmers contracted to them for drying that they could not dry grain - thus causing farmers to put pressure on Region.
- (c) If grain drying were to commence in August grain lorries going via Nisbet Rhodes must not be seen as a soft option. Road realignment there would have to be at Philip Wilson expense.
- (d) Lt Col Swan had visited the site on Sunday 18 August and a letter had subsequently been sent to him stating that the only basis for further discussion were road realignment at Nisbet Rhodes and provision of Dykes Act for Gavinton village.
- (e) Philip Wilson had been granted permission to erect a dryer at Craigswalls. in March 1984 but had not done so.

Mr Baillie proposed that failing all else and with extreme reluctance if the Authority is so unwise to grant this tomorrow we allow the Chairman to proceed with the arrangements for interdict on our behalf; seconded by Dr Brown. Following further discussion and clarification of the legal aspects this was passed nem con by 8 votes.

The meeting then went on to consider what should be done in preparation for the Planning Committee meeting on 17 September. The Chairman said that in the unlikely event of planning permission being granted Section 50 would be included which meant certain conditions, agreed by lawyers for ourselves and Philip Wilson, would be enforced. For our part these would include provision of the Dykes Act for Gavinton village and realignment of the road at Nisbet Rhodes.

It was considered that the rest of the community should be kept informed of the position to date and their commitment to this struggle reaffirmed. After much discussion it was decided that a statement should be prepared briefly stating the current position and asking for signatures to allow the Community Council to continue. Members of the Community Council would visit all members of the community with these.

#### 5 Christian Heritage competition

The Chairman read a letter from Christian Heritage thanking us for our participation, a copy of which is to be given to Mr Cleat to whom we are very grateful for his efforts.

#### 6 Realignment of burn at Langton Lodge

Mr Markby said he understood it would not be made into a culvert, but after drainage work the haugh would be re-seeded with grass.

#### 7 Any other competent business

Sweeping of Red Brae to be looked into.

#### 8 Date of next meeting

To be advised.