

GAVINTON, FOGO, AND POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on ~~Thursday~~ ^{Wednesday 3rd} 13th October 1990 in the village hall, Gavinton.

Present: Mr. A.D. Mitchell (Chairman), Mr. G.A. Aitchison, Mr. R.J. Markby, Mrs. C. Martin, Mr. A.W. Frame, Mrs. M.G. Mowat, Mr. J.L. Humphreys, Capt. R.M. Sinclair, Mr. P. Turner, Mr. D.F. Moffat, Mr. A.L. Wood (Regional Councillor) and Mr. J.B. Elliot (District Councillor). One member of the public was also present.

The Chairman welcomed the Regional and District Councillors.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** These had been received from Mr. A. Macmillan and Mr. R.I. McCowen.
2. **Minutes of the last Meeting.** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st August 1990 having been previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters arising**
 - a. **Rights of Way.** The question of the right of way in Fogo was discussed. It was not thought justifiable to press for the replacement of the bridge as there would probably be little use of it, but Mr. Moffat would speak to the Countryside Officer about the matter.
 - b. **Conservation area enhancement scheme.** The secretary reported that the construction of the flower beds would start shortly, as approval had now been received for the work. The Chairman and secretary had visited the foundry in Edinburgh to confer about the village signs. It was agreed that the signs should simply bear the name "Gavinton", and have white letters on a green background.
 - c. **Footbridge at Langton Ford.** The secretary had spoken to the Roads Department in Duns about the subsidence north of the bridge and this had been promptly repaired.
 - d. **Scotland in Bloom Competition.** The secretary had telephoned the organisers in Dunblane to ask for notification of the results of this competition and had been assured that the Council would be informed shortly and that Gavinton would also receive a certificate of commendation.
 - e. **Keep Berwickshire Tidy Campaign.** The secretary was asked to write to the organisers about the reported "blackspot" at Cairns Mill, and explain the situation regarding this.
 - f. **TA exercise.** The Chairman had received no reports of any damage or inconvenience but one member complained of potentially dangerous parking of military vehicles. There had been three accidents elsewhere, it was reported.
 - g. **Dangerous road junction.** The secretary reported that he had written to the Roads Department about this and had been told in reply that measures would be undertaken to improve the line of sight of drivers. The bank on the north side of the A6105 near the Gavinton corner had now been cut back. It was thought that this was a help to drivers on the main road, but not to those emerging from Gavinton. The secretary was asked to

write again to suggest that an additional double bend sign and/or a SLOW sign on the main road might help to reduce the danger.

4. Other Business.

- a. Theft from Churches. A letter from the Lothian and Borders Police about this was read to the Council and noted.
- b. Consumer and Trading Standards. A letter from the Chief Trading Standards Officer at the Borders Regional Council was read and noted. It was thought that the local branch of the Women's Rural Institute might be interested in this and the letter would be passed to them.
- c. Tree Planting. There was discussion of possible use of a grant under the Borders tree planting scheme to plant trees in the Council's area. It was suggested that a line of trees on the verges of the Fogo and eastern approaches to Gavinton might be worth considering. Otherwise it was the replacement of individual trees which had died or the planting of some new individual trees elsewhere in Gavinton which was needed. The matter would be investigated further.
- d. Publication of a local newsletter. The possibility of the production of a local newsletter was discussed. Members agreed that it would be a worthwhile project if someone could be found to take charge of it. The Chairman would initially put up a notice in the Gavinton shop and ask for anyone interested to contact him.
- e. Telephone charges. The Chairman pointed out that ^{at} calls from Duns to Berwick were not charged as local calls, and that there are many anomalies in telephone charges locally. It was agreed that he should write to British Telecom outlining his findings, and requesting that calls to Berwick be charged at local call rates.
- f. Outline Planning Application. Some residents had received notice of a request for outline planning permission for a dwelling near the green in Gavinton. The Council had not yet had a request for its views, but would discuss this at an extra meeting if necessary. Mr Markby asked that the Council's policy on further development in Gavinton be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
- g. Trestle Tables outside the Hall, Gavinton. The reason for their presence was asked and Mr Aitchison said he would speak to someone about their removal.
- h. Dumping of Rubbish by the Langton Ford. The secretary was asked to write to the Tweed River Purification Board about possible pollution from this and the practice of washing vehicles in the burn.

5. Date of next meeting. This would be on either 22nd or 29th November depending upon which day the hall would be free. The secretary would inform members when this had been ascertained.



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