

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall on Monday, 5 January 1998, at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Mrs B Darling (Chairman), Mr A Macmillan (Treasurer), Mrs C Allman, Mrs F Renton, Mrs U Robinson, Mr F Seed, Mr R Sinclair, Mrs S M Weir.
Mrs J Wheadon (Committee Secretary)
4 members of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor L Forrest and Mr N Humphry.

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 1997

The Minutes, which had previously been circulated, were signed as a correct copy by the Chairman.

3 MATTERS ARISING

3,11(d) Railings, Fogo School - No progress. To be kept on Agenda until work completed.

5 Church Gates on the Red Brae - The centre pole was very loose and therefore removed, and it and the gates put by the hedge. Ideally the gates should be re-hung and the wicket gate cut in half and each half attached to one of the larger gates so that these could be closed if required. Discussion took place as to whether this was a Church matter. Mr Macmillan to see Mr Raymond Allan of SBC and Mrs Darling to speak to Mr Whitelaw, Session Clerk of Langton Church.

6 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme - A Public Meeting arranged for Monday, 12 January 1998 at 7 pm in the Village Hall when the Police would make a presentation. The Secretary would prepare notices for each household which Mrs Darling and Mrs Weir would distribute. The suggested area which the scheme could cover would be from Nesbit Rhodes at the East and The Old Church at the West.

7 Maitland Row - Mr Brown of SBC had examined the pavement but said there was not a problem. However after discussing the matter with Mr Wheadon of Butterwell he said he would try to seal the pavement but no funds were available for renewing it.

9 Fogo - Consideration to become a Conservation Area - Mr Macmillan had pursued this but it was not possible. He was thanked for his efforts.

12(a) Gavinton Play Area - Mr Oliver had a site meeting with Mrs Darling and Mrs Weir on 17 December at which he produced a plan. This was displayed to the members. The position of the equipment was acceptable but SBC recommended that the safety area be covered with bark which they said they would rake and maintain fortnightly. The Play Area committee favoured rubber

tiles but these would cost another £6,000. However, Mrs Weir said that Mr Oliver said there might be some second hand tiles and he would contact her in the week beginning 12 January. The equipment had been ordered.

4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) The Coach House, Fogo Mains, erection of garage and formation of access and drive - granted on 18 December 1997 by SBC Planning Department.

5 SCOTTISH BORDERS RURAL PARTNERSHIP REPORT BY MR SINCLAIR ON WORKSHOP HELD IN SWINTON ON 2 DECEMBER

Mr Sinclair said there had been a display of photographs of what could be done in a village and an overwhelming amount of information. However it was felt that the Community Council was already very active and it was pointed out that if any project was undertaken then it had to be carried out by community volunteers. Mr Sinclair was thanked for his report.

6 COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

The Community Council had proposed changing para 4.2(b) to allow the number of co-opted members with full voting rights not at any time exceeding one half of the maximum number of elected members. This was not to be permitted but to remain at one quarter. Mrs Darling to write to Mr Winchester explaining that this was requested for the term of this Community Council only because SBC did not advertise well enough the closing date for nominations. After this term, in 3 years time, the number would revert to one quarter.

Mrs Darling would also explain that the reason for having 8 Seats on the Council from Gavinton and 3 from Fogo was the growth in Gavinton population since 1976 when the Seats were fixed and the difficulty in getting anyone else to represent the static population of Fogo.

7 TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr Macmillan produced the Income and Expenditure Account from 1 April 1997 to 30 November 1997 which had been certified as correct by the Honorary Auditor Mr Jim McDevitt. Mrs Darling to send this to SBC pointing out that the Community Council felt it most unsatisfactory that the financial year should end in the middle of the Council's year. Mrs McLelland had returned £99.45 left over from production of Gavinton Village leaflets.

8 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) SBC Community Councils, National Code of Conduct and Access to Information.
Referring to the above Mrs Darling said that in future the Notice of Meeting would state that members of the public were welcome at meetings and that the number attending meetings would be minuted.
- (b) Scottish Borders Road Safety Plan, 1998. "Take Your Time"

- (c) **Scottish Borders Digest of Meetings.** Mrs Darling said this would be issued monthly and she would draw attention to any items which were particularly relevant to the Community Council.

In future correspondence would be tabled before the beginning of the meeting for members to see.

9 SIGNS TO POLWARTH THORN

Mr Seed had inspected the signs and although one was sited correctly the other was not and should be sited on the triangle of grass at Polwarth. Mr Seed said he appreciated the work done by Mr Mackie's group and he liked the logo. He would pursue the matter.

10 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- (a) Scotland in Bloom - to be put on next Agenda.
- (b) National Spring Clean - the month of April.
- (c) Hall heating - the Treasurer to pay.
- (d) Sewage - In reply to a question from Mr Seed, Mrs Darling said that the modifications at the sewage plant were to enable all sewage from Gavinton to be pumped to the Duns plant which had over-capacity.
- (e) Knoll Hospital, closing of beds - Mrs Darling said that a public meeting was to be held by the Chief Executive of Borders Health Board in the new year but in the meantime it was proposed by Mr Seed and seconded by Mr Sinclair that a letter should be sent stating our concern and dismay at this proposal.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 16 February 1998 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Gavinton.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Chairman B.R. Darling

Date 16.2.98