

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall
on Monday, 15 April 2002, at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Mrs B Darling (Chairman), Mrs C Allman, Mr S Brodie, Mr I Gill, Mr N Humphry,
Mr A Macmillan, Mr D Paterson, Mrs F Renton, Mr F Seed, Mr B Weir.
Councillor W L Forrest.
Mrs J Wheadon (Committee Secretary).
5 members of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

2 MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2001

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

3 TREASURER'S REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mr Macmillan circulated an Income and Expenditure Account which showed an opening balance on 6 April 2001 of £1098.22 and a closing balance on 5 April 2002 of £54.57, this was due to transferring the balance of the Fighting Fund to a new account. The income included £62 rent rebate from SBC. A Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account was also circulated showing a balance on 5 April 2002 of £2252.86 which included money from the Fighting Fund and also the £1000 award from winning a Calor Gas competition. Only the Income and Expenditure Account will be presented to SBC. Thanks were expressed to Mr Macmillan for presenting the accounts.

4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs Darling said:

This has been the fifth and final year to complete the term of office of current councillors who are, however, eligible for re-election. There have only been 2 changes with 2 resignations and a co-option. I thank members for their commitment to community affairs. With meetings held every 6 weeks, there have been 10, attendance has been excellent. Our Minute Secretary, Joan Wheadon, is owed a big thank you for her very efficient paperwork and attention to detail. Councillor Logan Forrest has been unable to attend some meetings due to his increased area of responsibility but has been supportive when the need arose. Thank you to Angus Macmillan for his duties as Treasurer.

The Agenda items have covered many facets, with consideration given to 12 Planning Applications. The Wind Farm on the Black Hill at Duns has received the go ahead, but the possible transmission of the electricity produced going overland to Eccles will not be supported. There has been no further information on a housing development at Polwarth.

Foot and Mouth hit our area 3 times for contiguous culls with one infected premises. We supported Archie Kirkwood, MP, in his request for a Public Enquiry (which was not granted). Your Chairman was invited to represent Scottish Borders Communities at the "Lessons to be Learned" inquiry held in Dunmfries in March. It has been pleasing to see stock back in our surrounding fields and it is the fervent wish of everyone never to see the horrors repeated.

Speeding through Gavinton continues to be a problem and access onto the A6105 at The Auld Kirk continues to be hazardous, although the police take a different view. The police have

attended 2 of our meetings and monitored the traffic once. SBC laid red strips at the east and west ends of the village last July but not much benefit has been seen. Potholes in the village have been filled recently but generally the roads system is in a very poor state of repair. Street names in Gavinton have been requested, but no SBC funding is available.

There was an electricity disruption in March lasting 2 days due to gales but no compensation is being paid. Surges to the power supply in Gavinton are being monitored, and upgrading is in the pipe line.

Fogo was in the spotlight on 6 November when The Duke of Kent came to unveil the Richard Hillary Memorial. This council was invited to arrange the lunch in Fogo School for some 70 people and members of the Hillary and Fison families visited the crash site on Crunklaw.

Peter Dale generously had a stone flower bed built at the west end of Fogo and volunteer effort funded by this council has kept a colourful display.

Success and publicity came to the community via Scott Brodie whose IT skills with the gavinton.net website won the Calor Gas Best Community Website in Scotland. The £1000 award is being spent on a digital camera and scanner and future running costs. Worldwide hits number several thousand; local history; as well as local events feature, and items for inclusion are always welcome.

Scott's input, together with a questionnaire to Gavinton residents, has acquired the "free" computer allocated to small rural communities. Installation in the Village Hall is currently being processed.

Gavinton retained the trophy for Scottish Borders Floral Gateway, thanks are due to the volunteers who planted and maintained the public flower beds.

Planting of daffodil bulbs last October at Gavinton and Fogo has reaped the reward of a tremendous show this month. Again, special thanks to Isobel Paterson and Laurie Cleat for funding from the proceeds of their book "Life at Langton", which has also paid for refurbishment of the Ann Smith Memorial.

A grant was received from the Community Fund to enhance a derelict corner of The Glebe with trees and shrubs provided by The Jim Smail Fund. The residents are pleased with the result.

Wider interests have seen attendance by representatives at the Community Councils seminar, also SBC Seminars on Transport and Community Planning.

It has been a busy and successful year.

Chairman.....

S. J. Doherty

Date.....

26 May 2003