

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 19 October 2009

Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), David Seed, John Marjoribanks, Jane Jeffrey, Pete Gibbens, Janet O'Kane (secretary), Councillor Frances Renton and 3 members of the public. Apologies were received from: Kerry Renton, Cathy Allman, Ellen Curran, Terry O'Gorman, Councillor Trevor Jones.

1. Police input: no representative was in attendance
2. Presentation by Keith Taylor, Senior SB Warden: Mr Taylor outlined the SB Wardens' responsibilities, then a discussion took place mainly concerning the issue of dog fouling. Mr Taylor confirmed that there have to be 2 public witnesses or 1 SB Warden witness for prosecution. There are 2 Wardens covering the whole of Berwickshire, and he offered to patrol the Gavinton area now he is aware of a problem. He will also put up more notices. Cllr. Renton will request more 'no dogs' signs for the playing field. Information leaflets will be supplied for the CC to letterbox around the village.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 7 September 2009 were agreed and signed.
4. Matters arising
 - Mrs Darling gave an update on the windfarm benefit issue. The four directors met on 30 September to sign the revised documents from RES to meet OSCR's (the charity regulator) requirements. There has been a change of representative for Duns. They have still not received copies of the documents requested from RES, and no funds have been transferred into the account. The directors next meet on 28 October and hope to finalise the grant application forms, monitoring forms and arrange publicity.
 - Mr Marjoribanks gave an update on the coat of arms. There was a discussion about the purchase of commemorative items. Mr Marjoribanks will produce bookmarks to give away to attendees at the ceremony on 21 November. There is enough money in the fund for a flag, and Mr Marjoribanks has obtained a flagpole for erection where the Gavinton Christmas tree goes for the ceremony. Mrs Bishop confirmed the catering arrangements for 21 November. The following was agreed:
 - to hold off buying commemorative items at present
 - to purchase the flag (£70)
 - the presentation document will be framed
 - Mrs O'Kane will issue a press release nearer the time
 - CC members will deliver invitations which Mr Marjoribanks gave out
 - 'Gavinton Futures – A Year in the Life of' project update. Jane Jeffrey reported that she has submitted an expression of interest to the Climate Challenge Fund, and has been invited to make a formal application. An approach has also been made to the Arts Council. The group will meet to take these further.
5. Planning applications: Mr Marjoribanks has circulated a planning summary. One application was considered over the course of the meeting. Also:
 - The Nisbet Stables application has been amended, but it was agreed as this is outwith the CC area further comment will not be submitted.
 - Mr Marjoribanks reported on recent consideration at SBC of the proposed development at West Gavinton. Many of the CC's comments have been incorporated into the planning brief. The actual location of the development was queried by two SBC councillors (not Berwickshire representatives) and an undertaking was given to investigate further.
 - Graeme MacLeod had requested that the CC ask why some planning applications are considered in closed session. Cllr. Renton agreed to investigate and respond.
6. Treasurer's report: the CC account has £1740, as all grants have now been received for the year.
7. Broadband funding: a letter from John Lamont MSP was read out concerning improvements to broadband infrastructure.

8. Report on Scottish Borders Community Councils Network AGM: Mrs Bishop confirmed this had been better attended than the previous meeting and included a presentation by David Parker, the SBC Leader on plans to change the Area Committees.
9. Correspondence received:
 - SBC – Who's at the Door campaign and invitation to event on 17 October: Cllr Renton reported that this had been poorly attended. Mrs Bishop suggested that this sort of advice could be delivered at a more local level, e.g. Gavinton coffee mornings
 - Scottish Borders Elder Voice – October 2009 newsletter
 - Scottish Government – Changes in the Scottish Planning System
 - SBC – Finalised amendment to Local Plan
 - SBC – The Future of Area Committees
 - SEPAView Autumn 09
 - Scottish Trades Union Congress – Rebuilding Collective Prosperity campaign
 - SBC – Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Gardens and Designed Landscapes
 - EBDA Award 2009 nominations sought
 - Scottish Government – Education (Additional Support for Learning) consultation (already circulated electronically)
 - Association of Scottish Community Councils – letter re non-membership
 - SBC/NHS – Consultation on Disability Equality Schemes
10. AOCB
 - Mr Seed regretted he could not attend the forthcoming Jim Clark Rally meeting. Cllr Renton, who is chairing the meeting, asked CC members to feel comments through to her and she will pass them on and report back to the CC.
 - Mr Gibbons raised the subject of the Charterhall corner which has been the site of another accident. Cllr. Renton was asked to recommend an SBC officer who could meet Mr Gibbons at the site to discuss what could be done to improve safety.
11. Dates of future meetings (all at 7pm in Gavinton village hall unless otherwise stated):
 - 30 November
 - 11 January 2010
 - 22 February
 - 5 April

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary