

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall On Monday, 13th December 2004 at 7pm

PRESENT: Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mr B Weir, Mr A Macmillan, Mrs C Allman, Mr I Gill, Mr D Paterson, Mrs M Bishop, Cllr Mrs M McCrave, Mrs J O'Kane (acting secretary), PC Scott and Sergeant McLean (part attendance) and two members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs C Taylor, Mr N Humphrey, Mrs J Seed, Mrs F Renton, and Mrs J Wheadon.

2. Police Input

Sgt McLean warned against bogus visitors trying to gain access into people's homes. He confirmed that PC Scott would be attending future meetings. DP raised the potential dangers of schoolchildren waiting for the school bus at the top of the Fogo road in Gavinton. Previously, the Robertsons bus had turned right, so they were picked up outside the church, but now the bus turns left, and the children wait opposite the church. Mr D Seed (observing) suggested that Laura Gaine at SBC could help. Sgt McLean agreed to take this matter up with the School and Robertsons.

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November

Agreed and signed. BD apologised that due to her unfamiliarity with email, the local press was sent the complete minutes prior to them being agreed.

4. Matters Arising

4.3 Minutes of September meeting

NH withdrew his request to change the wording concerning his comments on the Local Plan in the minutes of the September meeting. BD confirmed that minutes cannot be amended after signing off. It is necessary to raise such matters with the chair in advance of the meeting at which the minutes are to be signed. BD confirmed that Mrs Trotter has written to thank members for her input to the meeting, and saying that she has reported back to the Trustees on the matters raised and written to the Care Commission concerning the 20mph signs and the possible removal of the telephone box.

4.4 Right of Way, Langton Ford

The new SBC Access Officer has confirmed that there are two ways in which the problem of the nettles can be sorted out: to have Langton Way added to the list of paths maintained by SBC's wardens, or for SBC to give the CC funds to pay someone to do the work. The meeting agreed that SBC should be asked to maintain the Langton Ford and Fogo rights of way.

4.6 Noticeboard in Fogo

To await attendance of F Renton, who was dealing with this. AM confirmed that CC funds could cover the cost.

4.7

4.8 Request for 20mph limit for Fogo

Response from SBC is that this has been passed to the traffic section for comment.

4.10 Red Brae, Gavinton

Still no progress with the moss problem, although the light has been repaired.

4.11 Balance beams on Gavinton village green

J Hogg of SBC has confirmed they are safe, and can be repainted or removed as required. It was agreed to request a repaint in bright colours.

4.12 Junction from Gavinton onto A6105

SBC have confirmed that the 'slow' markings will be repainted, and are considering rumble strips.

4.16 Boundaries Commission response to consultation

At the request of the Berwickshire Area Committee, BD issued 16 letters to households which may be affected by boundary changes, but has received only two responses both wishing to stay within the Gavinton, Fogo & Polwarth CC area.

4.17 Social Work Seminar

To await report from F Renton.

4.18.3 Damage to gravestone in Fogo churchyard

The family has dealt with this themselves.

4.18.7 State of roads in Gavinton

SBC has replied that this will be considered along with other proposed schemes for the 2005/6 financial year.

5. Planning Applications

Myrtle Cottage – a retrospective application. It is not clear if all the windows are included. No objections in principle as long as the windows policy is adhered to.

Cothill – no objections, but passing places would be required on the existing single track road.

St Leonards – as with the previous application, objections have been made under Policy 63.

6. Proposed Woodside project

BW asked members for their views on the proposed Woodside project. BD declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter. Mr D Seed (observing) asked to be able to make a contribution to this discussion, but was not permitted to by BD who stressed that members of the public attended CC meetings as observers only. A discussion followed, during which Cllr McCrave confirmed that the consultation period for the Local Plan was now over, with its publication planned for Feb-April 2005. However, CC members were unclear what the results of the Local Plan would be, as the draft specifies no development at all in the area. Members felt that community wishes should be considered in planning matters. Further discussion will not take place until the Local Plan is published. MB asked if the new Local Plan can then be commented upon. BD said this would require a local public enquiry.

DP raised the issue of funding for the village hall. MB reported that the Committee has decided to go for refurbishment not new build. The villagers

want to keep it next to the village green and try for Lottery funding. This matter cannot wait for a contribution from the Woodside proposal, as it was not definite and there is no timescale to it.

7. Correspondence received

- Euan Robson, MSP, on Energy Awareness Services, Pensions Surgery, Energywatch
- Scottish Water, launch of their Winter Warmer campaign
- Borders Environmental Challenge – invitation for communities to develop an 'environmental vision'. BD suggested this be added to the agenda for early 2005.
- NHS Borders – National Framework for Service Change
- Scottish Borders Outdoor Access Strategy summary leaflet
- Lothian & Borders Police information on Communications Centre at Bilston
- Trading Standards matters issue 3
- LibDem calendars
- Shop Local stickers
- New Traffic arrangements for Duns
- Refuse collection for the holiday period. To go up in Post Office.
- Southern Upland Partnership Issue 17
- Borders Elder Voice Christmas edition

8. Treasurer's Report

AM reported that there is £998 in the ordinary account, and £1682 in the extraordinary account, of which £490 is for the village computer/website.

9. Any other competent business

- 9.1 BD suggested sending a letter of congratulations to Kirsty Walker for the swimming award she recently won.
- 9.2 MB reported that the salt box between St Fillans and Coonanglebah has not been returned.
- 9.3 MB reported that despite her attendance at a recent computer course, she is still unable to gain access to the village website. David Roberts of the Old Schoolhouse has offered to help. This matter was discussed and the following was agreed: a message should be put on the website that it was being updated, so that visitors knew that it was still live, and BD will contact Peter Nisbet, ICT Trainer, Borders Forum of Councils for Voluntary Services for advice.
- 9.4 AM referred to the request made at the last meeting for BD to bring all correspondence to meetings. BD had brought correspondence since the last meeting, but pointed out that she also sends and receives emails and makes phone calls on behalf of the CC.
- 9.5 BW asked why members had been sent a copy of the CC response to the draft Local Plan by email from BD. BD explained that J Seed had asked for this.
- 9.6 I Gill thanked for the 100th birthday card sent to his mother.

10. Future Meetings

Monday 24th January 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

Monday 7th March 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Chairman S.P. Dorking Date 24/1/05