

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall On Monday, 7th March 2005, at 7pm

PRESENT: Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mr A Macmillan, Mr D Paterson, Mr N Humphry, Mrs J Seed, Mrs C Taylor, Mrs J O'Kane (acting secretary), PC Smith

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs F Renton and Cllr Mrs M McCrave.

2. Police Input

PC Smith reported that investigations into the recent heavy plant thefts are ongoing. He also warned that there have been thefts of 4x4 vehicles, either to order or for use in subsequent crimes.

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 24th January 2005

Agreed and signed.

4. Matters Arising

4.6 Noticeboard in Fogo

This is not yet up.

4.7 Request for 20mph limit for Fogo

A letter has been received from SBC saying that this request will be considered at the next review.

4.8 Fogo church noticeboard

This has been referred to the Minister.

5. Coat of arms

Mrs Darling will ask the Trotters if part of their coat of arms could be incorporated. A copy of the proposed design will be put up in the post office and noticeboards at Gavinton and Fogo. CC members are to ask around their communities to find out if local people want a coat of arms, and an article could go in the Berwickshire News. A decision will be made at the April meeting. Mrs O'Kane will find out how Ayton funded their coat of arms.

6. Websites

- a) Still no progress on the Gavinton website, as Peter Nesbit has not been touch.
- b) Information on the Local Channel, which provides free websites for CCs, was passed to Mrs Bishop
- c) Mrs Darling will report on the BCCF website after the meeting next week

7. Treasurer's report

A payment will be made direct to the church for hall hire for CC meetings, which can then be reclaimed from SBC. Funds stand at £1112 in the normal account and £1680 in the special account.

8. Fogo footbridge project

Mrs Darling reported that the Heritage Lottery Fund were so impressed with the organisation and paperwork for this project that it is to be featured on their website. Lisa Chernoff and Frances Renton were congratulated.

9. Membership of the Planning Sub-committee

Mrs Darling confirmed the membership of the planning sub-committee, which was appointed to consider some minor planning applications. It was agreed that Mrs Seed would join the sub-committee.

Mrs Darling pointed out that occasionally the timing of the receipt of planning applications does not coincide with CC meetings.

10. Planning applications

The application for an extension to the Old Schoolhouse, Polwarth, was circulated. Mrs Darling confirmed that an application had also been received about a proposed development on land to the west of the bungalow at Duns Mill, and would be circulated. A further local planning application is on the weekly list from SBC but Mrs Darling has not received the paperwork. She will chase this up.

11. Membership of the Southern Upland Partnership

It was agreed to renew this.

12. Scottish Borders Rural Partnership – Borders Environmental Challenge

Mrs Darling confirmed that the SBRP has received all the applications it needs for 2005, but the CC could apply for 2006 if any project is thought of.

13. SBC New Ways Community Plan consultations

- a) Community Council Consultation seminar 19th March, 10 – 3pm – Mrs Darling to attend;
- b) Voluntary Sector Consultation seminar, 14th March 9.30 – 2pm – Mrs Taylor and Mrs Darling to attend.

14. NHS consultation

Mrs Darling reported that she and Ian Jarvie had attended this meeting on 17th February to discuss the future of the NHS in Scotland. For such an important meeting, which covered the whole of the south of Scotland, it was poorly attended, with only 42 people there. NHS24 service was not discussed, as it did not form part of this consultation.

15. Correspondence received:

- a) SBC – Public Performance Report 2003/4
- b) Scottish Executive – Review of Marches & Parades (2 documents)
- c) SBC – “Your Right to Know”
- d) Scottish Borders Elder Voice, Volume 2, Issue 1
- e) SBC – Rights of Way maintenance grants
- f) SEPAView – January 2005
- g) Postwatch Scotland Spring 2005; Your Mail Service
- h) Scottish Outdoor Access Code
- i) The Arbutnot Commission (possible changes to the voting system) – public meeting, Galashiels, 16th March
- j) Tweed Forum, Tweed Invasives report 2004
- k) Catalogue: Glasdon
- l) Notification of military flying activity 9 – 23 March in Charterhall area

m) Scottish Borders Woodlands Strategy

16. Draft Local Plan

Mrs Seed had asked for this matter to be raised, as she felt that the most recent vote by the CC on development in the area has not been reflected in the letter of acknowledgement received from SBC. Mrs Darling went through the chronology of discussions and votes.

It was agreed by the meeting that the vote in March 2003, naming Crimson Hill as the preferred development site, was taken before the Draft Local Plan. The most recent vote, taken in September 2004, was in response to the Draft Local Plan, and this was that a site for development should be unspecified. However, SBC has responded as though this most recent vote specified Crimson Hill. Mrs Seed wished that a letter be sent from the CC pointing this out, and read out some suggested wording. The meeting agreed to this.

17. Grueldykes Right of Way

This is still difficult to access. Mrs Darling reported that at a recent meeting about the proposed new High School, it had been mentioned that discussions are ongoing on the possibility of the footpath being resited. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the PPP team in support of this, copying in the landowner, SBC Footpaths Officer, Duns CC and Cllrs Elliot and McCrave

18. SBC Consultation Papers

a) Interim Housing Policy; b) Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Affordable Housing. Comments are invited by 1st April, and Mrs Darling has requested more copies from SBC but these have not yet arrived.

19. Any other competent business

Mrs Darling reported that all CCs of areas that feed into Duns High School are being consulted on the plans for the school. The current school and its environs are listed, and the building's structure is being surveyed with a view to identifying future uses. The proposed new school will be smaller than at present, but with a construction to allow for later expansion.

Mrs Taylor spoke about a recent report in *The Times* that claimed BT were planning to ignore OFCOM and go ahead with getting rid of all phone boxes. Mrs Allman reported that the Fogo box needs a new lightbulb.

Mr Humphry asked that following the recent tragic death of a young man from Gavinton just outside the village, the site of the road accident be made safer. Mrs Darling will write to SBC.

The area is still suffering from power cuts, and Mr Paterson has taken this up with Euan Robson. Mrs Taylor reported that the Federation of Small Businesses is also raising this matter with Scottish Power.

Mrs Darling confirmed that the CC's accounts close on 5th April, and asked that anything outstanding be dealt with before then.

20. Future Meetings

Monday 18th April 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

Monday 30th May 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm – AGM followed by regular meeting

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman *S.R. Darling* Date *18/4/05*