

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall On Monday, 30th May 2005, at 7pm

PRESENT: : Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mrs F Renton, Mrs C Taylor, Mr D Paterson, Mr A MacMillan, Mr N Humphry, Mrs J Seed, Mrs J O'Kane (Minutes Secretary), and Cllr Mrs M McCrave. A representative of Lothian & Borders Police attended briefly at the start of the meeting

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr I Gill.

2. Police Input

The police reported that the enquiry into the theft of heavy machinery in the area is still ongoing, and that these thefts continue, often taking place not at night but at 8am or 4pm.

There was a general discussion on road and motoring safety in the area, and the WPC agreed to investigate how this can be improved. She also agreed to look into the road signs that have been stolen near Langton Ford and Middlefield bridge.

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 18th April 2005

Agreed and signed.

4. Matters Arising

• Power cuts

These continue, and Scottish Power have not yet responded to Euan Robson's letter.

• Wildflower planting scheme

It was agreed to discuss this again towards the end of the year.

• Keep Berwickshire Tidy award

Leitholm won this year, while GFP was 4th. Thanks were expressed to those who made the effort to tidy the area.

• Fogo footbridge footpath

This has been cut back. SBC has agreed to cut it a further 2-3 times this year and 4 times in 2006. It was also agreed to apply for the grant, up to £300, available from SBC towards clearing public access paths.

• Red Brae

Mrs Darling has requested a bollard to stop SBC vans driving up this now it has been tarmaced.

5. Treasurer's report

The meeting was referred to the report given previously in the AGM.

6. Planning applications

Mrs Darling confirmed that permission has now been given for building one dwelling on land west of The Bungalow, Duns Mill Farm, subject to a Section 75 agreement.

The St Leonards application has been agreed subject to 8 conditions.

Cllr. McCrave told the meeting that the application for the extension of Caldra North Lodge had gone straight to her under delegated powers. However, in the light of the objection received and the size of the proposed extension, it was agreed that she would notify SBC of the CC's wish to consider this application fully.

7. Planning Aid Scotland

Mrs Taylor reported on the seminar she had attended at Peebles, saying it was very informative. The meeting agreed that the idea of a 'tick list' to help in assessing planning applications was a good one. It was agreed not to join Planning Aid Scotland.

8. Parking Strategy for the Scottish Borders

Mrs Darling reported on the meeting held on 3rd May in Eyemouth.

9. Awards

It was agreed to apply for the Scotland's Floral Gateway Competition 2005 and also put forward the Fogo Bridge project to the new Neighbourhood Awards, the Calor Gas awards and New Ways Awards.

10. Developing a Small Schools Policy for the Borders

Mrs Darling confirmed that a response to the first stage of the consultation had been received.

11. Consultation of Sport & Physical Activity in the Borders

Mrs Darling confirmed that she has formally complained to SBC about the insufficient notice given about this meeting, and it was agreed that no one from the CC would attend.

12. Correspondence received:

- Water Customer Panels – Thursday 9th June, 10.30am, Barniken House Hotel, Duns
- SBC – Kerbside recycling scheme
- Southern Upland Partnership AGM, 8 June, Symington
- Scottish Borders Elder Voice, membership request, Vol. 2, Issue 2, April 2005, AGM 24th May, Galashiels
- Berwickshire Housing Association Bulletin, Spring 2005
- BAVS Newsletter, Spring 2005
- Forestry Commission, Scotland, Corporate Plan
- Berwickshire Community Safety Panel – cycle marking
- Home Visiting Advice Service for people aged 60+
- Glasdon - catalogue

13. Any other competent business

- Cllr McCrave confirmed that the answer from SBC to a member of the public requesting a salt/grit bin for treating her road in Polwarth Rhodes was 'no', and advised that she should write to Daren Silcott at SBC if she wished to take this further.
- GFP will get none of the 136 hanging baskets issued to Berwickshire, but will receive £60 towards environmental enhancements.
Mrs Darling informed the meeting of a consultation document she had received concerning Berwickshire Housing Association's plans to develop the Borders College site, and she and Mrs Renton will respond on behalf of the CC.
- SBC has replied to the enquiry about manpower on the Station Road works; it will be circulated.
- Mr Macmillan raised the matter of hedge-cutting on the Fogo to Bogend road being badly needed.
- Thanks were expressed to Mr Allman for grasscutting in Fogo.

14. Future Meetings

Monday 11th July 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

Monday 22nd August, Fogo Nursery School, 7pm

Monday 3rd October 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

The meeting closed at 9pm

Chairman *S. J. Darling* Date *11/7/05*

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall On Monday, 11th July 2005, at 7pm

PRESENT: : Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mrs M Bishop, Mrs F Renton, Mr I Gill, Mrs C Taylor, Mr A MacMillan, Mr B Weir, Mrs J O'Kane (Minutes Secretary), and Cllr Mrs M McCrave.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs C Allman, Mr N Humphry, Mr D Paterson, Mrs J Seed and Lothian & Borders Police
2. There was no police input, but Mrs Darling informed the meeting that they had been alerted to a young Polish girl who was trying to sell door-to-door in the area.
3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 30th May 2005 were approved.
4. Matters arising:
 - Power cuts. Coincidentally, the entire CC area was without power at the time of this meeting, and members discussed the frequency of power cuts and the problems they were experiencing with ScottishPower in reporting them and finding out what was happening. Feelings were running high, and it was agreed that Mr Paterson would be asked to follow this up with Euan Robson.
 - Red Brae: a bollard has been requested
 - Hanging baskets: £60 has been requested in lieu from SBC but not yet received
 - Development of a Parking Strategy for Scottish Borders: summary of strategy and meeting Tuesday 19th July, 6.30pm, Kelso. It was agreed that Mrs Darling would attend.
 - Judging of Gavinton for Scottish Borders Floral Gateway, 6th July. Unfortunately the day was wet so the village didn't look its best, but Mrs Darling thanked all the householders who had made an effort, the children who helped her tidy around, and the Post Office for its window.
 - John Hunter footbridge and footpath maintenance. SBC has cut the grass and will return to do this again. They also suggested that the CC buy tar planings to put on the path, but Mrs Renton reported that this would require an exemption certificate from SEPA and could cause seepage into the water. The preferred option was to buy 20 tons of stone for £200 for the purpose, but the meeting agreed to wait to see if the grass would bind the path together.
 - Entries to the New Ways Awards, Calor Gas Awards and Neighbourhood Awards have been submitted.
 - Stolen road signs at Middlefield bridge and Langton ford: one sign has been replaced.
5. Planning applications previously circulated:
 - a) Benachie, Gavinton: extension to dwelling house – no objections
 - b) Land west of The Bungalow, Duns Mill: dwelling house and double garage – there has been a hold-up due to an SBC error
 - c) Caldra North Lodge: extension to dwelling house and double garage – no objections, but a condition requested that the beech hedge should not be tampered with
6. Community Council Special Project Funds for 2005/06: a maximum grant of £500 is available, needing 50% match funding.
7. Website update: David Roberts is still experiencing problems, but has some lovely photos to put on it.
8. New Ways Scottish Borders Compact has been launched.
9. BT rural phone boxes: a decision has been made to remove only one box, in Galashiels. 22 will be made cashless, but free calls to the emergency services will still be possible.
10. SBC Roads Dept has allocated £6000 to resurface Gavinton Main Street, and although the CC welcomed this, some concern was expressed that this was not sufficient money for a good job to be done.
11. Scottish Borders Local Plan. The key outcomes of the Consultative Draft stage have been published. Gavinton has been allocated 10 or 12 houses on Crimson Hill.
12. SBC Consultation/Engagement Strategy questionnaire has been received, and Mrs Darling will respond to it.

13. Scottish Borders Rural Partnership seminar on Scottish Borders Transport Forum, 3rd September, 10am, Langlee, Galashiels. Mrs Darling will attend and invited anyone else wishing to to let her know.
14. Congratulations were extended to local residents:
- Mrs Julia Trotter: MBE for services to children with dyslexia in Scotland
 - Lynne Blaikie: appointment as Head Girl of Berwickshire High School
 - Kirsten Walker: Scottish Junior Swimming Champion
15. Treasurer's report: £1450 in the ordinary account and £1692 in the other account. The December meeting will discuss how this latter should be spent.
16. Correspondence received:
- Letter of thanks from Mrs Wheadon
 - SBCCN: minutes of AGM, 25th May 2005
 - Scottish Health Council role
 - Borders Carers Centre Newsletter No. 25
 - SEPA View, Issue 24
 - Postwatch Scotland, Summer 2005
 - Scottish Borders Elder Voice, June 2005
 - Forestry Commission Scotland: Review of Strategy
 - Berwickshire Housing Association Summer newsletter and notification of AGM on 13th September
 - SBC Home Energy Efficiency publication
 - Shaw's Records for Local Councils (catalogue)
17. AOCB
- Mrs Darling reported that the Registrars' offices are to keep their local names
 - Mr Macmillan corrected the location of the next meeting, which should be called Fogo Community Hall. He also requested that the area around the hall be tidied by the Charterhall estate, and the hedge between Fogo and Bogend to be cut back for road safety, and requested that the CC write to Mr Trotter about this.
 - Mr Macmillan reported that Fogo Nursery School has applied for planning permission for a fence, but the plans were not yet available.
 - Mrs O'Kane will issue the minutes of the recent AGM with the minutes of this meeting.
18. Dates of future meetings:
- Monday 22nd August 2005, Fogo Community Hall, 7pm
Monday 3rd October 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman *S. J. Darling* Date *22/ 8/ 05*