

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at Fogo Community Hall on Monday, 22nd August 2005, at 7pm

Present: Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mrs C Taylor, Mrs F Renton, Mrs C Allman, Mrs J Seed, Mrs J O'Kane (Minutes Secretary), and Cllr Mrs M McCrave. PC Scott attended at the start of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Bishop, Mr I Gill, Mr A MacMillan, Mr B Weir, Mr N Humphrey, Mr D Patterson
2. PC Scott reported there were no local incidents recorded. He advised the meeting that the issue of hedge cutting for road safety was a matter to be taken up with SBC and the appropriate landowners. Mrs Seed raised the concerns about safety at the exit from Gavinton onto the Greenlaw to Duns road. PC Scott was reminded that his colleague had promised at the May meeting to look into the stolen road signs.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th July 2005 were agreed and signed.
4. Matters arising:
 - Power cuts – Mrs Darling reported that work has started on upgrading the local system following many complaints about power outages. It will be February/March next year before all the work is complete. There will be compensation for those who have suffered repeated outages.
 - Hanging baskets – Cllr. McCrave will chase up the £60, which has still not been received from SBC.
 - BT rural phone boxes - Fogo and Polwarth to be cashless but will be retained. Congratulations and thanks to all who got involved with this issue.
 - Stolen road signs at Middlefield bridge and Langton ford – see point 2.
 - Local Plan – Mrs Seed asked if the CC had made a response to the Local Plan Stage Two Consultation, but it had not. A notice had been displayed for more than five weeks, and local residents had been able to make their comments. Mrs Seed reported that several residents of Crimson Hill had complained to her about the plan for Gavinton.
5. Planning applications previously circulated
 - a) Fogo Nursery School – the CC has requested that the stones be removed from beside the hall, but had no objections.
 - b) Polwarth Plot 31 – to be continued to the Berwickshire Area Committee meeting of 23rd August.
6. Berwickshire Community Councils Forum & Environmental Group: Meeting 19th September 2005 in Duns Council Chambers – presentation by NHS Borders on *In-patient Redesign – The Impact on Berwickshire*. Anyone wishing to attend may do so.
7. SBCCN, Annual Seminar, 8th October at SBC – Mrs Renton and Mrs Taylor are going to attend, and anyone else wishing to do so can.
8. Polwarth Kirk – Meeting to discuss its future, Monday 5th September, 7.30 at the Kirk. Mrs Seed will circulate the details of this meeting to Polwarth residents.
9. Special meeting of SBC Development and Building Control to consider applications for wind farm developments, Wednesday 31st August after lunch (paper to follow). All are free to attend.
10. SBRP seminar to consider establishing a Transport Forum, Saturday 3rd September, 9.30 to 3.30 at Langlee Complex, Galashiels. All are free to attend.
11. Website update – nothing to report.
12. Treasurer's report - £97.50 has been received in repayment of rent for meetings. This leaves a balance of £1546.32 in one account and £1693.33 in the other.
13. Correspondence received:
 - Scottish Borders Children's Panel Advisory Committee, closing date 15th August
 - Policing Scotland paperback, cost £17.99
 - SBC Home composting programme – it was agreed that a demonstration of home composting would be a good idea on a Saturday after the composters have been

issued to local residents. Mrs O'Kane volunteered to speak with Mr Allan to arrange this.

- Seed & Co information
- John Marjoribanks, letter re Draft Local Plan
- Network Orange, spring 2005 edition
- Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland: Consultation on Review of Electoral Arrangements – there are to be changes to local boundaries, and Cllr. McCrave explained how this may affect local government. Some concern was expressed about this issue; details and maps showing the exact effects are available on the website www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk.
- Scottish Executive: Modernising the Planning System
- SBC: Standards and Quality, our progress 2003/04
- Scottish Parliament Communities Committee: Civic Participation event at Holyrood, 29th October 2005. All are welcome to attend, but need to notify the organisers in advance.
- Scottish Borders Elder Voice, August 2005
- Notification from SBC of a training programme for Community Councils, the first session being on Weds 23rd November, 7 to 9pm. This will be discussed in greater detail at the next meeting.

14. AOCB

- A Planning Aid day has been booked for Feb. 2006 at Allanton
- Mrs Darling told the meeting about the incident of raw sewage on the streets in Gavinton, and how this was not classed as an emergency by the Scottish Executive. She has sent a letter of complaint to Scottish Water, and will be raising this at the Area Committee.
- Mrs Renton said there was a church session meeting at Fogo that night, where the church noticeboard will be discussed.
- Mrs Renton told the meeting that following the application to the Neighbourhood Awards, she has received a cheque for £50, before judging has even taken place.
- Mrs Renton reported that properties at Bogend have been without their telephone connections since 8th August when an SBC verge cutting contractor cut the wire. BT requires traffic lights for safety before the work can be done, and these are not available until 1st September. The road is currently closed for resurfacing work, but SBC have apparently not agreed to BT taking advantage of this and doing the work now. Cllr. McCrave agreed to investigate.
- Mrs Taylor asked when the promised resurfacing work is due to take place in Gavinton. Cllr. McCrave is trying to find out.
- It was agreed that Fogo Nursery School should be sent £10 for the use of the hall for this meeting.

15. Dates of future meetings:

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

Monday 14th November 2005, Gavinton Church Hall, 7pm

The meeting ended at 9pm.

Janet O'Kane
Minutes Secretary

J.P. Darling
3/2/05