

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall on Monday, 14th November 2005, at 7pm

Present: Mr I Gill, Mr B Weir, Mrs B Darling (Chairman), Mrs F Renton, Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mr A Macmillan, Mrs J Seed, Mrs J O'Kane (Secretary), Mrs C Taylor (from 7.30)
2 representatives of Lothian & Borders Police

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Paterson and Mr N Humphry
2. The police reported that enquiries were ongoing into the recent spate of burglaries in the Duns area. Mrs Darling reported that some of the stolen road signs had now been replaced. It was also mentioned that a local farmer has had a gate stolen.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2005 were approved.
4. Matters arising:
 - Stolen road signs at Middlefield bridge and Langton Ford: see item 2.
 - Sewage overflow at The Glebe: Euan Robson MSP has been informed of the number of vehicles claiming £10 each for cleaning. This issue was also recently raised at the Berwickshire Area Committee.
 - Bus 60 into Gavinton: SBC has assessed the bus coming into Gavinton rather than dropping at the end of Red Brae as a health and safety risk. Mrs Darling will pursue this with SBC.
 - Training evening at SBC on 23rd November on accounting procedure and funding applications: Mrs Darling, Mrs Bishop and Barry Phethean will be attending.
 - Grueldykes right of way: this is still not useable, and it was suggested that SBLocal could tackle clearing it. Mrs Darling will contact Cllr. Elliot, in whose area this is.
5. Planning applications:
 - Langton Estate, erection of 2 dwellinghouses east of farm steading: Mrs Seed declared an interest. Mrs Darling queried the rise from 6 to 8 houses, and suggested that the proposed cream exterior was not appropriate.
 - Waulk Mill, conversion of old steading to 6 dwellinghouses and 1 new build: this has just been received and would be circulated.
 - Polwarth, application for 10 dwellinghouses: this had also only just been received, and Mrs Darling has notified SBC of some plans being missing. The houses are very large, 4-5 bedrooms with 3-4 bathrooms. There is a lot of concern in Polwarth, and it was agreed that a public meeting would be held on Monday 28th November. Mrs Darling has requested an extension of time to respond.
6. John Hunter footbridge: Mrs Renton and Mrs Chernoff went to a Neighbourhood Awards ceremony in Edinburgh and received a certificate of merit. It was also noted that despite the recent heavy rains, the path has survived.
7. SBCCN seminar, 8th October at SBC: reported on by Mrs Renton and Mrs Taylor.
8. Website: it has been requested that out of date information be deleted.
9. Treasurer's report and discussion about use of money on deposit that becomes available on 15th December: There is £1531 in the normal account and £1697 in the extraordinary account, of which approximately £1000 is 'dump the dump' money. It was agreed to defer discussion on how to spend it until the next meeting.
10. Rats in Fogo: SBC has been notified.
11. Mud on road between Fogo and the Smiddy and at corner past Keepers Cottage: complaints have been received about this, which is due to heavy rain rather than farm traffic. SBC will be notified; it was agreed that this sort of thing could be dealt with by SBLocal when that service starts.
12. Correspondence received:
 - Borders Small Schools Network
 - Scottish Health Council East Scotland, 22nd November, Hibernian Football Stadium, Edinburgh

- SEPA View Issue 26
- Transport Forum Seminar 3rd September: report
- SBC Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance for policy on developer contributions: reply by 9th December
- Vibrant Communities Awards 2005: Best practice handbook
- Borders Forum of Councils for Voluntary Service
- Scottish Executive discussion paper: 'What can we do to help Community Councils fulfil their role?'. It was agreed that this is an important subject, and a meeting is being set up at SBC to consult on it.
- Notification of SBLocal starting on 28th November
- Letter from Michael Moore, MP, on the digital switchover
- Leaflet from SBC about the role of Community Councils. Mrs Darling has worked with Clare Malster on this, and its aim is to increase interest in what CCs do.

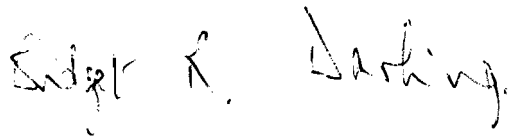
13. AOCB

- There is a vacancy for a person to represent Gavinton on the CC.
- Mrs O'Kane reported on her difficulty in obtaining broadband, and other CC members reported difficulties with slow speeds. Mrs Darling recommended anyone with real problems should inform Euan Robson, MSP.
- SBC now offers a Home Energy Adviser.
- A report has been prepared by the group working on the future use of Polwarth Kirk.
- Mr Gill reported that tickets for the pantomime were selling well.

14. Dates of future meetings:

Monday 19th December 2005

Monday 30th January 2006



Bridget Darling
Chairman