

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall on Monday 8 January 2007

Present: Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mr P Gibbens, Mr I Gill, Mrs J O'Kane (minutes secretary), Mr D Patterson, Mrs F Renton, Mrs J Seed, Mrs C Taylor. Also in attendance were Cllr. M McCrave, 1 member of the public and Sgt. Carol Reid of Lothian & Borders Police (for Item 2 only).

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr N Whyte and Mr B Weir
2. Police input: Sgt Reid had nothing to report, except that someone from outwith the area has been charged with the roadsigns thefts. Speeding through Gavinton was discussed; it is unclear if PC Glass has raised this with the Traffic Division after the last meeting, but Sgt Reid will try to find out and speak to Inspector Baird about increased patrolling.
3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 27 November 2006: Mrs Renton and Mrs Allman requested that under Item 6 it be noted that they had declared a non-pecuniary interest at the start of the discussions about the proposed development in Fogo. The minutes were accepted as a true record.
4. Matters arising:
 - Core paths: minutes of last meeting received not yet received and no news of a further meeting
 - Fogo footpath repair by SBLocal: it was agreed that the stones were definitely too big. Mrs Darling will also contact the Master of the Hunt about the damage caused by the recent hunt crossing at the bottom of the path.
 - Request to RES (windfarm on Black Hill) for Fogo: no reply received. Three members of the CC to attend the presentation to Duns CC Tuesday 9 January, 7pm
 - SBC Structure Plan alteration: Mrs Darling reported on meeting 29 November
5. Planning applications:

Mrs Darling made a strong plea that all planning applications be passed round quickly (ideally each member holding them for 24 hours only). There have recently been two instances of delays, and she has had to request an extension from SBC in one case.

 - Erection of farmhouse and farm buildings, land northeast of St Leonards, Polwarth: return by 16 January, still to be seen by some CC members
 - Change of use of land to form motocross track and ancillary buildings, land north of derelict cottages, Langtonlees: an extension has been granted. There was no business plan attached to this application. It has been welcomed by several people. Response from CC will be no objections, but several comments.
6. BCCF: meeting Tuesday 23 January, 7pm, Duns Council Chamber to discuss SBC consultation document on "Governance Framework for Community Benefit derived from Windfarms". Mrs Darling, Mrs Renton and Mrs Bishop will attend the meeting and reply on behalf of CC by 9 February. There is also to be a meeting of Berwickshire Community Councils Forum on 30 January to discuss this matter.
7. Planning Aid training day: change of date to Saturday 21 April at Selkirk High School. Grant from Gov4 will pay for this: thanks to Ian Jarvie who applied for grant

8. Website update: nothing to report; webmaster has had computer problems
9. Treasurer's report: £893.79 in normal account, £417.81 in computer fund. There is also £116.05 in the Fogo fund: the use of this will be discussed at the next meeting. It was agreed to ask Angus McMillan if he would audit the accounts.
10. Community-owned windfarms: Mrs Darling reported on seminar at Tweed Horizons, December 11. Next presentation 31 January, 4.30pm, by Alan Hobbett from Ghia
11. Community Councils Scheme Review: Mrs Darling gave a working group update. Questionnaire that had been circulated before the meeting was discussed.
12. SBC Budget 2007/8, 7pm Monday 29 January: Mrs Renton, Mrs Bishop and Mrs O'Kane to attend
13. Renewable Energy in the Scottish Borders: DRAFT supplementary planning guidance. Reply required by 16 February. This will be discussed after the BCCF meeting on 30 January (see Item 6)
14. Correspondence received:
 - 1 Scottish Health Council News, Issue 3, Autumn 2006
 - 2 Scottish Borders Elder Voice, Issue 12, December 2006
 - 3 Electoral Reform Society, request for volunteers
 - 4 Postwatch Scotland: response by 14 February on meeting 1 February in Edinburgh
 - 5 Berwickshire Housing Association Bulletin
 - 6 BAVS, Winter 2006
 - 7 SBC consultation: Affordable Housing Policy Requirements, reply by 6 March
 - 8 CC Training Seminar, 21 February, 7-9pm at SBC: Local Community Action Planning: Mrs Renton to attend
 - 9 SBC Draft Regional Transport Strategy, reply by 28 January: www.sestran.gov.uk
 - 10 SBCCN newsletter
 - 11 Trading Standards, Issue 7
 - 12 SEPA View, Issue 33
 - 13 Play Area catalogue
 - 14 Scottish Water: Winter Warmer campaign
15. AOCB
 - 15 Mrs Renton volunteered to be on the group looking at the proposed Berwickshire Dental Facility for NHS patients at Coldstream. She brought the planned layout for the old hospital building to the meeting. Concern was expressed about the lack of public transport to and from Coldstream. The first meeting of the group takes place 24 January
 - 16 Part of the road at Rashie Fogo has been resurfaced
 - 17 The problem with flickering lights have now been fixed by Scottish Power
16. Dates of future meetings:
 - Monday 19 February 2007
 - Monday 26 March (to be held at Fogo community hall; Mrs Renton to make sure the heating is turned on)
 - Monday 27 April 2007 (AGM)

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary

S. Darling
19/2/07