



GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Fogo Hall on Monday 13 August 2007 at 7pm

Present were Mrs M Bishop (Chair), Mr G MacLeod, Mr N Whyte, Mrs C Allman, Mrs J Seed, Ms K Renton, Mrs J O'Kane (secretary). Also in attendance was PC Flockhart of Lothian & Borders Police (for item 2), Cllr T Jones, Cllr F Renton (to item 4) and 1 member of the public. Apologies were received from Mr J Weir, Mr P Gibbens, and Cllr D Moffat

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Police input:
 - The Community Safety Dept. is based in Hawick, with no specific officer in Duns, so we should contact Hawick re Neighbourhood Watch issues
 - There have been further thefts locally of equipment and metal for its scrap value; East Lothian is suffering from this also
3. Minutes of the meeting of 2 July 2007 were approved and signed
4. Matters arising
 - CC insurance coverage from SBC to be adjusted: Mrs O'Kane to action
 - Cllr Renton reported that she is to attend the Jim Clark Rally debrief meeting on 7 September and will report back
 - Cllr Jones reported that he has spoken to Technical Services about the hazardous road junction; no capital expenditure is planned. He is meeting 12 August on-site with a specialist on road signage to discuss what signs are available that may help. Mrs Bishop has also raised this issue with M Moore, MP. There have been 2 more incidents since the July meeting.
 - Cllr Jones asked Technical Services to appraise the state of the road to Marchmont Station, and this having been done, it was agreed the road is in a poor state. However, CC members agreed that short term patching were not sufficient, due to part of the road having collapsed and being in a dangerous state.
5. Appointment of Planning Officer: Mrs Bishop proposed Mr MacLeod, seconded by Mr Whyte. Mr MacLeod will become the CC's expert on planning matters and will scrutinise responses to planning applications.
6. Planning applications: none received
7. Jim Clark Rally 2008: Mrs Bishop told the meeting that the Village Hall Committee does not wish to get involved, due to the ill-feeling charging for parking may generate. It was agreed that as there was no convenient field available for parking anyway, this idea was a non-starter. Cllr Jones suggested finding out from the police what can be done about parking for residents during the Rally – can visitors be rerouted elsewhere?
8. Coat of Arms: Mrs Bishop confirmed that the Village Hall committee would meet half the cost, but the CC has to poll residents on whether they want it. CC members were not convinced a coat of arms would be appropriate or useful for the community, but agreed to letterbox residents.
9. State of road to Marchmont Station: See item 4
10. Treasurer's report: Current account - £963; website account - £420.24. £60 has been received from SBC for environmental enhancements (in lieu of hanging baskets).
11. Update on Gavinton.net website: Mr MacLeod reported that there have been 61 hits this month, and the war memorials would be added next week
12. Windfarm benefit: There has been no further progress, as it was agreed to speak with Duns CC before going back to the other CCs involved. Duns is going through the election process, so will not now meet until 4 Sept if an election is not required, or 25 Sept if one is.
13. Correspondence received:
 - Introductory letter from John Lamont MSP; visit to CC on 17 December
 - Digital Forum: Letter from Michael Moore MP, who wants to know about people's experience of the digital switchover. It was agreed that Mrs O'Kane would contact John Askew of Digital UK to do a presentation to the community about the switchover.
 - Lothian & Borders Police: Policing in Berwickshire

- NHS Borders: Application for inclusion in the Pharmaceutical List: Chimside Pharmacy Ltd, Windram Road, Chirnside (respond by 30 August)
- Sepa View: Issue 36, Summer 2007
- Sepa: Consultation on the proposed alteration to the Lothian & Borders Area Waste Plan (respond by 22 August)
- Association of Scottish Community Councils: National member survey 2007
- SBC: Invitation to attend Planning & Building Standards Focus Group meeting, 5pm, 22 August, Newtown St Boswells
- Scottish Executive: Invitation to Q & A evening with Richard Lochhead, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs & the Environment, 6.30, 20 August 2007, Tweed Horizons – Mrs Bishop, Mrs O’Kane and Mr MacLeod to attend
- Scottish Water: Introduction of new Regional Community Manager
- Core Path Planning Consultation, will be circulated for comments

14. AOCB

- Cllr Jones mentioned the poor edging to the Red Brae, and has asked SBLocal to deal with it
- The SBC CC consultation is still being circulated. Mrs O’Kane recommended that representatives of the CC attend the 19 Sept meeting of the Berwickshire Community Councils Forum, when Clare Malster, SBC and Vincent Walters, Association of Scottish CCs are speaking. This will help inform responses to the consultation.
- Mrs Bishop recommended that members try to attend the SBCCN day on 6 October.
- Mrs Bishop will email SBLocal about the state of the road in South St, Gavinton
- The damage coming up from the ford caused during the Jim Clark Rally has still not been sorted out. Mrs Seed explained that damage to fields/fences is given priority.
- Mrs Bishop complimented SBC on its swift action following her slipping accident on the bridge across the ford.
- Mrs Allman asked if the verges could be cut on the Bogend-Fogo road, and the weeks/grass be cut adjacent to the nursery as it reopens next week
- Mrs O’Kane asked if a bin could be installed at the pull-in at Langton Ford, as there is a lot of rubbish dropped there

15. Dates of future meetings:

Monday 24 September 2007 at Gavinton Church Hall

Monday 5 November 2007 at Gavinton Church Hall

Monday 17 December 2007 at Gavinton Church Hall

Monday 28 January 2008 at Gavinton Church Hall

Janet O’Kane, Minutes Secretary

M Bishop
20th Sept 2007