

## GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Hall on Monday 12 January 2009 at 7pm

Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), Pete Gibbons, David Seed, Kerry Renton, Graeme Macleod, John Marjoribanks, Cathy Allman, Cllr F Renton, Janet O'Kane (Secretary), Cllr F Renton  
Apologies had been received from: Terry O'Gorman, Ellen Curran, Cllr D Moffat, Cllr T Jones  
Also present were Mrs B Darling (see Matters arising) and Hazel Smith, Service Co-ordinator, Neighbourhood Links Project (see Point 2).

1. Police input: nothing to report locally; Duns and the surrounding area had been quiet over the holiday period. The police asked about the situation at the Gavinton road end, and the CC reported that since the improvements there had been no accidents.
2. Hazel Smith gave an overview of new Neighbourhood Links Project, which is the first project of its type in Scotland. The aim is to prevent people's needs from becoming critical, by the voluntary sector working with them on projects such as befriending, buddying, providing transport etc. It was agreed that the CC would keep in touch with Hazel to keep her informed of local events and needs, e.g. a lunch club.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 24 November 2008 were agreed and signed.
4. Matters arising:
  - Mrs Darling gave an update on the windfarm benefit company, which is currently awaiting the go-ahead from the charities regulator. A meeting has been held with the Scottish Community Foundation, which may be able to help with the running of the grant scheme.
  - Closure of Langton Ford footbridge: Cllr Renton reported that SBC does not have the money to repair the bridge, so she is investigating the possibility of its being added to SBLocal's small schemes. She was asked to establish (a) how damaged it is, and (b) what the estimated cost of repair actually is. Cllr Renton also agreed to try to put this work into the SBC budget for 2009/10.
  - SBC review of uses of redundant high school buildings: it was agreed to meet with SBC to discuss this on 2 February. Mrs O'Kane to communicate this to SBC.
5. Planning applications: Mr Macleod has circulated the latest report. An application for Sisterpath is currently being circulated. Mr Macleod agreed to find out the status of the application for a house to be built at Caldera Farm, as this application has been at a standstill for a considerable time.
6. Local Plan Amendment (email already circulated from Mr Macleod): Gavinton is not mentioned at all, so it is presumed that this document lists amendments only. Grueldykes is now a site for development, and Mr Macleod is trying to contact the residents to alert them to this. It was agreed that Mr Macleod would draft and circulate a response for comments.
7. Coat of Arms: Mrs Bishop said that Awards for All are tightening up applications for grants, so can this be got underway? Mr Marjoribanks reported that the date for completion is now given as January 2010, but agreed to find out if this could be brought forward to coincide with Gavinton's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary taking place this year (see AOCB).
8. Treasurer's report: account stands at £982.22
9. Cost of printing CC correspondence: Mrs Bishop reported that SBC says the reimbursement rate is up to individual CCs. It was agreed that those who wish to claim can do so at a rate of 5p/copy annually each February.
10. Update on Gavinton.net website: Mr Macleod reported that the village hall information would be up by the end of next week. The revised constitution was added as soon as it was agreed at the last meeting.
11. Cllr Renton recently attended a meeting with Scottish Water: nothing specific to report for this area.
12. Correspondence received:
  - Jim Hume MSP: Consultation on the future of Forestry Commission forests
  - Lothian & Borders Police: Newsletter December 2008
  - SBC: consultation on draft supplementary planning guidance on use of timber in sustainable construction (respond by 16 February)

- NHS Borders: The Future of Day Services and Day Hospitals for Older People in the Borders – summary of responses to discussion paper

13. AOCB

- Mrs Bishop reported that a bus driver had told passengers that the service to/from Gavinton is being withdrawn. Cllr Renton said that SBC had recently analysed the cost of rural bus services and found that they are being subsidised by between £25 and £95 per passenger per journey. Bus companies have been asked to retender in the light of the drop in fuel prices.
- Mr Macleod issued the new CC member's pack.
- Mr Marjoribanks reported that 2009 is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Gavinton, and suggested that this be marked in some way. Mrs Bishop asked CC members to bring ideas to the next meeting.
- Mrs Renton reported that despite the patching, the Sisterpath road is still in poor condition. Cllr Renton will check up on this.
- Mrs Bishop noted that the repairs to South Street have still to be completed.

14. Dates of future meetings (all at 7pm):

Monday 23 February 2009

Monday 23 March 2009

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary

*L. Bishop*  
*23/9/09.*