

## GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Village Hall on Monday 17 May 2010

1. Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), Terry O’Gorman, Jane Jeffrey, Kerry Renton, John Marjoribanks, David Seed, Peter Gibbens, Janet O’Kane (Secretary), SBC Councillors Frances Renton and Trevor Jones, Laurie Wood (SBC Warden), Ronnie Richardson (Lothian & Borders Police), 1 member of the public. Apologies had been received from Ellen Curran.
2. Police input:
  - Ronnie Richardson confirmed that there will soon be a fourth community beat officer, primarily involved in crime prevention, and working with agencies, organisations and communities. This complements the strategy of Lothian & Borders to have a preventative approach.
  - He agreed to attend one of the regular coffee mornings held in Gavinton to do a presentation about bogus callers.
  - Recent sheep rustling incidents in the area have still to be resolved.
  - Farm and house thefts are on the increase, especially in isolated properties.
  - The force offers checks on home security and advice on how to improve security.
  - A member of the CC raised the subject of boy racers driving through Gavinton during the Jim Clark Rally which when reported to Edinburgh was not followed. The CC asked for assurances that this will be addressed in future.
3. Laurie Wood (SBC Warden) spoke about the Warden service:
  - He is based in SBC’s Duns office with Darren Silcock.
  - The wardens’ task is to be present within the community, and they carry out an educational function also, for example going to speak in schools.
  - They deal with all types of anti-social behaviour, including fly-tipping, boy racers and dog fouling, and other things such as street lights which aren’t working, as well as clearing dead animals
  - Much of their work is intelligence-led, and needs the cooperation of the public in informing them of issues to be dealt with.
  - It has been the law since 2005 that all dog-fouling must be picked up, not just that in close proximity to homes.
  - The CC was visited in late 2009 by another warden who promised action to deter/catch people who don’t clear up after their dogs. The issue of stopping fouling especially at the Gavinton playing fields has also not been addressed. Laurie Wood assured the meeting he would follow these issues up.
4. Minutes of the meeting of 12 April 2010 were agreed and signed.
5. Matters arising
  - Report on windfarm benefit: Mrs Darling has notified the CC that an event is taking place on 12 June to allow members of the community to visit the windfarm (details to be circulated when available). The grant system will be live thereafter.
  - Red Brae: SBC has agreed to take responsibility for all of it
  - Gavinton Futures project – Jane Jeffrey reported that the project had received comments back from funders that it lacks focus, so this is being addressed. £500 has been pledged by the Heritage Lottery Fund which needs match-funding, and another funding body has invited a re-application for the photography aspect of the project. She will contact Jean Robertson, SBC for further advice.
  - Gavinton village green parking – SBC has inspected the damage to the green from parking and agreed a grass-paving system would be suitable. Unfortunately SBC has no funding for this at present, but the CC agreed this may be a suitable project to seek a windfarm fund grant to have done by the community. Cllr Renton will ask Paul Matthewson, SBC, to provide details of the exact cost. In the meantime, Mr Marjoribanks will investigate getting ‘no parking’ cones, but where else do visitors park?
  - Rat problem in the Glebe: Mrs Bishop organised Environmental Health to investigate.

6. Planning applications: Mr Marjoribanks circulated an updated list of applications and two were circulated for comment during the meeting.
7. Treasurer's report: there is £536.70 in the account. Cllr Renton confirmed that the document issued with the confirmation of SBC's grants to CCs need only be completed if the CC gives a grant to another organisation.
8. Berwickshire Community Councils Forum (BCCF) AGM, 27 May at 7pm, Birgham
9. Correspondence received:
  - SBC Social Work Services – Biennial Report 2007/09
  - SBC – Maintenance grants for CCs for local paths (grant applications to be submitted by 31 January 2011)
  - SBC – Lothian & Borders Outdoor Diary 2010 plus other outdoor pursuits information
10. AOCB
  - Cllr Renton confirmed the new weight limit sign for Fogo bridge is in hand
  - There was further discussion about SBC's programme of pothole repairs
  - Parks & Open Spaces Section of SBC has been in touch about a request from a member of the public to place a commemorative seat next to Gavinton phone box in memory of Mr & Mrs Laurie Cleat. The CC was happy to agree to this, and Mrs O'Kane is to ask SBC to liaise with Mr Marjoribanks on its exact position.
  - Cllr Renton has asked SBLocal to repair the footpath down to the Fogo footbridge.
11. Dates of future meetings in 2010 (all at 7pm in Gavinton village hall unless otherwise stated):
  - 5 July
  - 6 September
  - 18 October
  - 29 November

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary