

## GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall on Monday, 30 September 2002 at 7.00pm

**PRESENT:** Mrs B Darling (Chairman), Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mr S Brodie, Mr I Gill,  
Mr N Humphry, Mr A Macmillan, Mrs F Renton, Mrs J Seed, Mr B Weir.  
Councillor W L Forrest  
Mrs J Wheadon (Committee Secretary).  
Members of the public: 1

#### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

#### 2 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2002

The Minutes which had previously been circulated were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### 3 MATTERS ARISING

3,6 Keep Berwickshire Tidy – Mrs Darling had spoken to Col Simon Furness, of Keep Berwickshire Tidy Committee and he agreed that the marking scheme was unsatisfactory.

3,8 Scottish Borders Floral Gateway – Gavinton winners of “Wee Village” section. The award ceremony will be in Hawick on 22 October. Mrs Darling will ask if we can keep the trophy as it is the third year running that Gavinton have won.

5 Common Good and Trust Funds – these will be discussed at the Scottish Borders Community Councils’ Network on 5 October. A request will be made that the community has input into the distribution of the funds. As far as funds for Polwarth and Fogo are concerned, if a good case for their use is put forward it could be considered but legal advice will have to be taken.

7 Proposed free concessionary travel scheme – due to many responses to the Consultation Paper, the scheme has been extended to allow free travel at any time within the Borders and to Biggar, Carlisle, Edinburgh and Berwick-upon-Tweed to women over 60 and men over 65 (men over 60 from April 2003) and persons with disabilities. Travelcards will also be free. It was decided to contact the First Bus company to see if all buses could come into Gavinton and turn at the church as the Red Brae is steep and slippery especially for elderly persons and the road end is dangerous when alighting from Galashiels bus or getting on to Berwick bus. Currently the 0916 to Berwick and the 1125 to Galashiels come into the village.

9 Scottish Borders Community Councils’ Network Seminar, 5 October. Mrs Darling, Mrs Renton and Mr Scott Brodie to attend. Scott will display our website on a laptop computer.

11(b) Right of Way, Fogo – Mrs Lisa Chernoff of Fogo explained to the meeting that she had researched the reinstatement of the right of way including building a Ranger bridge over the Blackadder. She had spoken to a number of organisations including Rural Partnership who would help with any form filling for requests for funding. SBC Countryside Service were also exploring funding possibilities. A drawing for a wooden bridge with steps on each side was shown to the meeting. There is a possibility that the Army or Territorial Army could construct the bridge. A civil engineer is to pay a visit to the site and will submit a quotation. A figure of £10,000 has been suggested for the bridge and path up to Fogo church. The path up to the road is not in such a bad state and requires tidying. Scott will mention this project on the website and ask for anyone who used the path and old bridge in years gone to let him have details. Lisa also to make a similar request through the Berwickshire News. Lisa was commended for her efforts. She will attend the next meeting and keep us informed of progress. Mr Trotter also approves of the project.

11(d) Dog fouling bin – Mr Hogg to check position of the bin.

- 11(e) Football on Gavinton Village Green – The problem was last raised in 1986/7 and 1992 when ball games on the east side of the green were banned. Since then, play equipment has been installed and the age profile of the children has changed.

A meeting of the parties concerned was held on 18 September as most parents do not wish their children to go to the playing field. Parents ask that any complaints be made to them in the future.

A compromise solution was suggested with fund raising by those who want it to purchase a small portable net.

The following points were made:

- 1 Grass cutting is not to be impeded.
- 2 Consideration for the residents round the green and their property.
- 3 Bad language is not acceptable.
- 4 Reasonable time of finish once the dark nights come.
- 5 Consideration for the safety of younger children on the play equipment and for those wishing to kick a ball.
- 6 The current iron net, tyres etc to be removed as considered dangerous.

Thanks were expressed to Frances Renton for attending the meeting.

#### **4 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL, CHANGES IN DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROCEDURES**

The weekly list of planning applications can now be received via e-mail and consultation replies made in the same way. However it was decided that the post should still be used as our replies went to the Duns office and not Council HQ. The meeting supported the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee with regard to correspondence received outwith the statutory period provided and less than 3 working days in advance of a Development and Building Control or Area Committee meeting will no longer be circulated to members.

#### **5 IT UPDATE**

- Scott said he had received the syllabus for the Langton WRI but not one for the Guild. Mrs Darling to chase this up.
- An e-mail had been received from a Mr Boyd in South Africa trying to trace his family who had been born in the area between 1860-80. It was suggested that perhaps Mrs Cook and Mr Cleat may like to help find the information. Scott to tell Mr Boyd this.
- No further progress on the community computer.
- The website receiving an average of 11 or 12 hits each day.
- Permission to use text and picture of Hillary Memorial received.
- The domain name renewed for 5 years, using Calor Gas IT Fund.

#### **6 TREASURER'S REPORT**

The balance of the current account stood at £378 and in the special account £1984.

#### **7 VACANCY FOR A GAVINTON MEMBER ON THIS COMMITTEE**

Any nomination would be gratefully received. The nomination needs to be included on the agenda with name and address.

#### **8 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The following correspondence was tabled:

- (a) Newsletter from Neil MacCormick, MEP
- (b) 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division Veterans' Association, El Alamein Reunion in Perth, 26 October

- (c) SBC, Recruitment to Children's Panel
- (d) TPAS Annual Conference, 25-27 October in Nairn
- (e) Southern Uplands News, Summer 2002
- (f) Institute of Contemporary Scotland, Borders Debate, 5 October, St Boswells
- (g) O- Airwave service
- (h) Institute of Contemporary Scotland, Day in the Borders 5 October 2002.
- (i) Scottish Borders Local Plan Review, Briefing Note 2, September 2002
- (j) Free Business Skills Training, Eyemouth East Berwickshire Partnership
- (k) SBC Flood Protection Fayre, 5 October, Galashiels
- (l) Scottish Consumers Association for Natural Food – gm freeze

**9 CATALOGUES RECEIVED**

- (a) Glasdon Litter Bins
- (b) Color'ado 2002 Play System
- (c) Turnock Christmas Lighting

**10 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

- (a) Mrs Frances Renton thanked Mr Allman for cutting grass in Fogo. However it was felt that SBC should carry out more grass cutting in the Fogo area to keep it as neat as Gavinton. The road between Fogo and Bogend was particularly bad and dangerous as sight was inhibited and the road regularly used by persons driving to and from the playschool. Mrs Darling said she would take the matter up with the Council.
- (b) The lych gate at Fogo church has not been repaired. Mrs Darling to ask either Tom Chisholm or Jim Robinson if it could be repaired.

**11 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Monday, 11 November 2002.  
 Monday, 16 December 2002

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chairman ..... *G.F. Darling* ..... Date ..... *11/11/02* .....