

**GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in Gavinton Church Hall  
on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2004, at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Mrs B Darling (Chairman), Mrs C Allman, Mr I Gill, Mr N Humphry, Mr A Macmillan,  
Mr D Paterson, Mrs F Renton, Mr A Seed, Mrs C Taylor, Mr B Weir.  
Councillor Mrs M McCrave.  
Mrs J Wheadon (Committee Secretary).

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology was received from Mrs M Bishop.

**2 MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> MAY 2003**

The Minutes, which had previously been circulated, were signed as a correct copy by the Chairman.

**3 TREASURER'S REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS**

Mr Macmillan circulated an Income and Expenditure Account which showed an opening balance on 6 April 2003 of £120.91 and a closing balance on 5 April 2004 of £324.70. The accounts were accepted, proposed by Mrs Renton and seconded by Mr Paterson. A Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account was also circulated showing a balance on 5 April 2003 of £1836.78 and closing balance on 5 April 2004 of £1770.22. These accounts were also accepted, proposed by Mr Paterson and seconded by Mr Weir. At present there are sufficient funds in the computer account to run the website but in the future it may be necessary to fund raise. Thanks were expressed to Mr McDevitt for auditing the accounts.

**4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, APRIL 2003-2004**

Mrs Darling said:

The second year of 5 for this term of office has had 8 meetings and I thank members for their support, our Minute Secretary Joan Wheadon for immaculate paper work and Angus Macmillan, Treasurer.

Meetings are now held in Gavinton Church Hall as the Men's Club meets in the Village Hall on a Monday evening.

We have been consulted on 15 Planning Applications and the Draft Local Plan.

Our SBC Councillor, Mrs Margaret McCrave has attended most meetings and kept in touch over local matters.

The free community computer was installed into the Village Hall last December, one of eleven placed in rural areas as part of the Modernising Government Fund through Scottish Borders Rural Partnership. When it became apparent it was not being used, a questionnaire was circulated in Gavinton. The result being the computer was transferred to Gordon.

In Keep Berwickshire Tidy, our area won the Willie Swan Award in April 2003, jointly with St Abbs. Gavinton entered Wee Village Category (population under 300 instead of 200) in Scotland's Floral Gateway, being placed third. It seems that under the new rules because many of our lovely gardens cannot be seen from the road, greater reliance must be on street flower boxes. The new raised flower bed on the Green is welcomed.

The nameplates on the Gavinton stone flower wells have been re-enamelled. Thanks to Drew Gibb who cares for the plants, and has had exceptional colourful displays throughout the year.

Membership of the Berwickshire Community Councils Forum continues as does input to new Berwickshire Communities Online. Thanks to Margaret Bishop who is undertaking the training and will run our website.

This report has emphasised the parochial side but wider interest is taken with response to Scottish Executive questionnaires, and many contacts with Scottish Borders Council.

Inevitably there have been problems: speeding and the quantity of heavy traffic using Gavinton as a Duns bypass continue to be raised with the police. The state of the verges and potholes in Gavinton have reached unacceptable levels of maintenance. Some street signs for Gavinton are still awaited as is refurbishment of the bench at Fogo church, Bumping and de-barking of trees by the mowers continue to be a frustration.

Gavinton Post Office under new ownership has re-opened the shop, a welcome facility, and their window displays for topical events have become a feature.

To end on a positive note, a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant has been received to replace the footbridge over the river below Fogo Church and to reopen 2 rights of way to make a circular walk. Together with £5000 from the Community Support Fund, this project is now under way. A grant of £500 from the Community Councils Special Projects Fund was match-funded from Village Hall funds to buy a digital piano. Thanks to all who have helped make these wishes come true.

I look forward to another year of working with and for our community.

**5 OFFICE BEARERS**

Mrs Darling handed over the meeting to Councillor Mrs McCrave who asked if there were any more nominations for Chairman and as there were not Mrs Darling was reinstated as Chairman.

Vice Chairman – Mrs Renton, proposed by Mrs Darling and seconded by Mrs Taylor.

Treasurer – Mr Macmillan agreed to continue.

**6 DELEGATES TO BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY COUNCILS FORUM**

Mrs Seed said she was unable to continue therefore Mrs Taylor agreed to be the second delegate along with Mrs Darling.

Chairman ..... *S. Darling* ..... Date *30/5/05* .....