

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Fogo Old School on Monday 9 October 2006

Present: Mrs C Allman, Mrs M Bishop, Mrs B Darling (Chair), Mr I Gill, Mrs J O'Kane (minutes secretary), Mrs J Seed, Mrs C Taylor, Mr B Weir, Mr N Whyte. Also in attendance were one member of the public and PC Richardson of Lothian & Borders Police (for Item 2 only).

1. Apologies for absence were received from: Mr P Gibbens, Mr D Paterson, Mrs F Renton and Cllr Mrs M McCrave
2. Police input: PC Richardson reported that there had been a spate of thefts of scrap, especially copper, recently. Many roadsigns have been stolen, which is inconvenient, costly and dangerous
3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 28 August 2006 were approved and signed
4. Matters arising:
 - Hedge cutting: a bit has been cut, but the farmer will be cutting the rest in January, once the birds have eaten the berries
 - Gavinton traffic counter: in February outside the Kirk this recorded an average per day of 484 vehicles at an average speed of 26 mph. It will be repeated at the east end later in the year, to get a more realistic recording of vehicles'
 - Fogo speed limit: deferred again
 - Duns Paths Group met 12 September, but Mr Gill was unable to attend. Awaiting report
 - Fogo footpath: request put in to SBLocal for work at top end to replace the stones washed away
 - Floral Gateway results: Gavinton first (now winning 5 out of 7 times) in wee villages category. Congratulations to all residents who provided excellent tubs and window boxes, and to the volunteers tending the public displays
5. Planning applications:
 - Land east of Polwarth Rhodes Cottage: erection of dwellinghouse (REM) seen by sub-committee. One comment on the large size of this proposal.
 - Notification only: land north of Caldera Lodge, outline application for one dwellinghouse
 - Polwarth appeal: conditions have been attached to approval for 10 dwellinghouses. Mrs Darling explained the rules about delegated powers and reserved matters to the new CC members. It was agreed to continue with only the subcommittee seeing the majority of applications, but anything big or potentially contentious to be considered by all CC members.
6. Treasurer's report: the computer fund is static at £416.77, the normal account should be at about £956 (no statement yet received)
7. BCCF meeting, 20 September: Mrs Darling reported on a disappointing attendance but a fruitful evening
8. Windfarm at Blackhill, Duns: work is progressing well and the community being kept informed. Gavinton is within the designated area to apply for some community benefit, and Mrs Darling will investigate if Fogo will also qualify
9. Training evenings for CCs: 15 November 7-9pm at SBC on Roles and Responsibilities of CCs – Mrs Renton, Mrs Darling, Mrs O'Kane and Mrs Seed hope to attend; 21 February on Local Community Action Planning
10. Keep Berwickshire Tidy Campaign: presentation of award (3rd place) at Berwickshire Civic Society AGM, to be held at the Hirsell, Wednesday 18 October, 7.30pm – Mrs Darling, Mrs Allman and possibly Mrs Renton to attend
11. ASCC: AGM 14 October, Stirling. Draft constitution and standing orders were approved
12. Website: New webmaster still to be confirmed

13. Correspondence received:

- SBC 'Are We Listening? A Strategy for Community Engagement and Consultation': comments welcome
- Standing up to Antisocial Behaviour awards scheme 2006: over 100 applications received, ours not successful
- Berwickshire Area Committee, 24 October, 6.30pm: representatives from AMEY and Transport Scotland will be in attendance
- Scottish Executive 2006 Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning: Community Involvement Award, closing date 22 Sept.
- Traditional Boundaries Project (Borders FWAG)
- John Lamont: letter of thanks for 'Listening to the People' campaign, Gavinton/Fogo/Polwarth survey
- SEPA View Issue 32
- SBC advisory leaflet: Parking on the Footway/at Dropped Kerbs
- SBC Living Landscapes project leaflet
- Scottish Health Council Annual Review 2005/06
- Scottish Health Council Borders, Review of NHS Borders redesign of services
- SBC Elder Voice
- Notification of military exercise, 17-30 October
- Macmillan Cancer Support: Big Hush, 26 January fundraising event, and concert in Melrose
- Waterwatch Scotland: new ombudsman
- NHS Borders Carer Strategy: for response – Mrs Bishop, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Darling
- Scottish Executive Community Engagement consultation draft 'Planning with People' planning advice note: Mrs Seed, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Renton, Mrs Bishop and Mrs Darling to comment and these will be brought together to respond formally

14. AOCB

- Gavinton Hall fundraising has now reached its £358,090 target! The committee was congratulated. Mrs Bishop confirmed that the work will be going out to tender, and there will be a need for volunteers to help clear out the hall
- Recycling: in a change from previous information, Cllr. McCrave has found out that we are now asked to wait until bags are full before putting them out
- SBC review of CC scheme with a working group: Mrs Darling to attend 6 November and 4 December

15. Dates of future meetings:

Monday 27 November, Gavinton Church Hall

Monday 8 January 2007, Gavinton Church Hall

Bridget Darling
Chairman

B. Darling
27/11/06