



GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Church Hall on Monday 24 September 2007 at 7pm

Present were Mrs M Bishop (Chair), Mr P Gibbens, Mr G MacLeod, Mr N Whyte, Mrs C Allman, Mrs J Seed, Mrs K Renton, Mrs J O'Kane (secretary). Also in attendance was PC Spence of Lothian & Borders Police (for item 1), Cllr T Jones, Cllr D Moffat, Cllr F Renton (to item 4) and 3 members of the public.

Apologies were received from Mr J Weir and Mr T O'Gorman.

1. Police input: PC Richard Spence informed the CC that bogus workmen were operating locally, trying to sell materials for driveways. There was also discussion about trucks going too fast through Gavinton and drivers using mobile phones while on the move. PC Spence also confirmed that there had been an incident that morning at the Gavinton junction with the A6105, which according to police records had been the 6th crash reported there recently. (See item 2)
2. Russell Cramb of SBC's Roads Dept made a presentation on his findings on the dangers at the Gavinton junction with the A6105 and possible solutions to these. The main points of this were:
 - SBC only records incidents that have led to injury; this means only two are recorded for this junction.
 - There are three approaches to the junction, each with their own problems and dangers.
 - The roads are getting busier.
 - The visibility splay when joining the main road out of Gavinton is well below the minimum recommended, exacerbated by the trees planted by previous owners of [??].
 - The approach from Greenlaw did not alert drivers to the sharp bend until they were very close to it.
 - Mr Cramb recommended a combination of new and relocated warning signs and chevrons, as well as the planting of trees to break up the sight-line on the approach from Greenlaw; this could all be done within a month.
 - The CC thanked Mr Cramb for his work and accepted these recommendations, with reservations as to whether they would go far enough.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 13 August 2007 were approved and signed
4. Matters arising
 - CC insurance: coverage from SBC to be adjusted for the benches in Gavinton. Cllr Renton confirmed that the interpretative board mentioned is the one at the new Fogo Bridge.
 - Report on Jim Clark Rally debrief meeting of 7 Sept: Cllr Renton reported that the race organisers were planning a meeting with CCs of all affected communities.
 - Report on meeting with road signage specialist on 12 August: Cllr Jones (see item 2)
 - Digital Forum: Mrs O'Kane has made contact with Digital UK to request a presentation. It was agreed to try to have this as part of the Gavinton coffee mornings.
 - Q & A evening with Richard Lochhead, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs on 20 August: Mrs Bishop has circulated a report on this event.
 - Berwickshire Community Councils Forum meeting, 19 September: Mrs O'Kane reported on this event.
 - The verge-trimming requested at the last meeting still has not been done. Cllr Moffat, who had been told it would be done within 2 weeks of his request, will investigate.
5. Planning applications:
 - 6 dwellinghouses at Fogo: Mr Macleod outlined the CC's objections to this proposed development, which included traffic and parking issues, unsuitability of house designs. There is still concern about this being an old application that should have been reapplied for. The CC agreed to object to this application.
 - Iona Cottage: no objections

- Steading Building, Longbank Farm: no objections
 - Mr Macleod circulated a summary of current planning applications in the CC's area.
6. Naming of new dwellinghouse off Hardens Road, Duns was agreed as per the proposal submitted.
 7. 30mph limit in Gavinton: SBC has confirmed it cannot be extended but additional signs could be put up. The village is also to get a flashing sign, though it was agreed it would be better at the bottom end of the village, as most of the speeding is by drivers going towards the main road junction.
 8. Coat of Arms: letter to the community was agreed.
 9. Association of Scottish Community Councils survey: The CC agreed that Mrs Bishop could discuss this with Mrs Darling before completing this.
 10. Scottish Executive consultation on Strategic Development Planning Authorities: Mr Macleod will respond by 26 October.
 11. Core path planning consultation: this had been returned late to Mrs Bishop but was sent in.
 12. Treasurer's report: There is £420.66 and £923.76 in the accounts as at end August.
 13. Update on Gavinton.net website: the war graves are now up.
 14. Correspondence received:
 - Scottish Borders Council: Review of polling districts & polling places: respond by 26 October. The new Gavinton village hall will comply to all access legislation.
 - NHS Borders: Consultation on the future of adult mental health day services in the Borders: respond by 5 October
 - NHS Borders: Drug & alcohol action teams information sessions
 - SBC consultation on proposed introduced of 26-tonne weight restriction on Chatterdeanford Bridge, Ladyflat: further investigation required, as it seems this restriction has already been agreed.
 - Notification of military flying 17-28 September
 15. AOCB
 - CC members were reminded of the seminar at SBC on 6 Oct. Mr Macleod, Mrs Bishop and Mrs Seed will attend.
 - Patching on the Marchmont road has not started.
 - There is an investigation currently into the ownership of Gavinton playing field; Mrs Darling is looking into it.
 - The play area on Gavinton green is looking tatty: SBC Local to be asked to attend to this.
 - The CC agreed that Mrs Bishop and Mrs O'Kane could go ahead and fix CC meeting dates for a year, as other CCs do
 - Mr Ron Cook of Gavinton would like to join the CC; Mrs O'Kane to contact him and do what is necessary for co-option within CC rules.
 16. Dates of future meetings:
 - Monday 5 November 2007 at Gavinton Church Hall
 - Monday 17 December 2007 at Gavinton Church Hall
 - Monday 28 January 2008 at Gavinton Church Hall

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary

J. Bishop
7/11/07