

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**held at Gavinton Church Hall
on Monday 19 May 2008 at 7pm**

Present were: Mr B Weir, Mr T O'Gorman, Mrs M Bishop (Chair), Mrs C Allman, Mrs K Renton, Mr G MacLeod, Mr P Gibbens, Mrs J O'Kane (secretary), Mr D Seed, Mr B Coleman

Apologies had been received from Cllr T Jones, Cllr F Renton, Cllr D Moffat.

- 1. Minutes of AGM held on 23 April 2007 had previously been circulated and approved**
- 2. The Treasurer made his report and presented the 2007/08 accounts**
- 3. The Chairman made her report for April 2007/08 and thanked all present for their efforts**
- 4. Amendments to constitution: Mr Macleod that these were minor changes that had been agreed some years previously but had never been incorporated into the published constitution. The constitution will need to be updated during the next year, in line with the new SBC community council scheme which has recently been published.**

**Janet O'Kane
Minutes Secretary**

M. Bishop
19/5/09.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
MAY 2008**

The first year of a new five year term with several changes to the committee has had nine meetings, Two of these have been held in Fogo and seven in Langton Church hall. There are three vacancies in Gavinton.

Due to changes at SBC we now have three Councillors who attend our meetings Councillors Renton, Jones and Moffatt. Councillors Renton & Jones have been in regular attendance and I should like to thank them for their assistance in many matters arising over the past months.

Regretfully during the year two of our community councillors resigned for personal reasons and a change to the position of Treasurer took place. Pete Gibbons stepped into the breach and I would like to thank Pete for his support. Janet O'Kane agreed to continue as our minute secretary and has supported the whole of the committee unfailingly. I would like to personally thank Janet for without her at times I would have sunk. Graeme McLeod took on the role of Planning Officer which with hindsight was a God send as little did we know what was in the pipeline.

A referendum was held in the village on the amendment to the local plan. The result supported the Reporter's recommendation and this was forwarded to SBC who ratified this decision at their meeting on 24th April 2008. John Lamont MSP was present at the meeting in December when the votes on the revised local plan were counted, he was much impressed with the way this and other matters were dealt with at the CC meeting and thanked us for a very interesting evening.

Roads continue to be a problem in particular South Street which is in a very bad state of repair. This matter has been taken up by Councillor Jones. Dog fouling has also been a problem this year and a poster campaign supplied by SBC has been displayed around the village, hopefully this will make dog owners aware and more responsible as it is a criminal offence to allow your dog to foul the public highway.

The signage at the junction with A6105 has been improved following a meeting with Technical Services this will be monitored for 1 year, hopefully it will help reduce the accident numbers at this junction.

Following a poll taken around the CC area it was agreed at CC meeting that Mr John Marjoribanks would proceed with an application to the Lord Lyon for a Coat of Arms for this district. John has agreed to be responsible for raising the funding and making the necessary application.

Gavinton Village Hall is nearing completion, a provisional date for June has been given always of course subject to weather as it is now the outside work which is being done. It has been proposed that an informal opening be held to allow villagers and others who may be interested to come along and see our new improved hall. A more formal opening has been suggested if and when we are awarded the Coat of Arms.

It has been a very busy year, and I thank you for your input to our communities.

REPORT ON REVISED LOCAL PLAN.

Scottish Borders Council were not prepared to set aside the Reporters Recommendations. It was felt that sufficient and correct information had been provided to the Reporter to allow him to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

Over 400 responses were received by Scottish Borders Council both for and against the Revised Local Plan.

Recommendations to accept the plan as a whole were proposed by Councillor Riddell-Carr and Seconded by Councillor David Parker.

Councillor Fullerton advised the council if approving the new site at Gavinton to be aware that the junction on to the main Duns road was extremely dangerous and consideration of this danger be taken into account.

Councillor Renton having taken legal advice was advised not speak out against the findings as she had previously voted against the inclusion of site BGA1 whilst a Community Councillor. She therefore declared an interest and left the room whilst discussions were underway .

Councillor Renton has declared to myself that she will happily answer any questions should the committee wish to question her.

MARGARET BISHOP
CHAIRMAN

20th MARCH 2008