

✱

## GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Village Hall on Monday 1 September 2008

1. Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), Kerry Renton, Graeme Macleod, Terry O'Gorman, Pete Gibbens, Janet O'Kane (Secretary), Cllr. Frances Renton (from 8.25pm)  
Apologies had been received from: Brian Coleman, David Seed, Cathy Allman, Cllr. Donald Moffat
2. Police input: Sgt Eccles attended from 8.30pm on behalf of Lothian & Borders Police. Mr Macleod raised the subject of speeding vehicles through Gavinton and gave Sgt Eccles the results of his survey (see ??). Sgt Eccles confirmed that the 'smiley face' sign and 'black box' traffic measure are both held by SBC and are subject to availability. He could, however, organise a policeman with a 'gun' to measure speeds, as long as the site met health and safety criteria. He will also speak to Jim Godfrey, the traffic warden, to ask him to visit and make Acting Inspector McLean aware of the community's concerns.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 23 June 2008: subject to a minor amendment, these were agreed and signed.
4. Matters arising
  - Flashing speed sign for Gavinton/traffic in Gavinton: see point 5
  - Reseeding of Red Brae: it was agreed to approach the SBC Access Fund for this
  - Update on windfarm benefit: Mrs Darling had submitted a report. Progress is still slow. It was agreed that the CC should be encouraging ideas from the local community for suitable projects.
5. Mr Macleod reported on a survey of traffic going through Gavinton on the first day of the school term. It is clear that something has to be done, as accidents are waiting to happen due to the speed at which some vehicles travel. It was agreed he would send his report to the councillors and the police (see also point 2)
6. Resignation of Bryce Weir from CC: Bryce was thanked for his 8 years of service. Mr Macleod informed the meeting that to comply with the constitution an election process had been started, as the number of elected members had fallen to under half. Any co-opted members will need to seek nomination. Nominations close 15 September, with a one-week 'cooling-off period'. On 22 September, Mrs O'Kane, acting as Returning Officer, will report on how many nominations had been received. If more than places available, an election will be necessary. Mrs Bishop thanked Mr Macleod for organising this.
7. Planning applications: Mr Macleod circulated the latest summary. Papers for the Langton Edge application have not been received, so he has requested them.
8. Planning appeal: site adjacent to Fogo Hall – Reporter's inspection 29 September, 12pm. No party is allowed to make representations to the Reporter.
9. Treasurer's report: account stands at £1,119.
10. Jim Clark Rally: the follow-up meeting took place in June. There was a lack of community attendance, which could be interpreted as a good thing, showing that there were less complaints than previous years. Things had definitely improved; the organisers had listened.
11. South St. repairs: there is a need to keep up the pressure. A resident's wall adjacent to South Street is in urgent need of repair, but this cannot be undertaken until the street itself is attended. Cllr Renton reported later that it has now been surveyed, but confirmation is needed as to the extent of the work to be carried out by SBC.
12. Notification from Post Office re Gavinton PO: Gavinton is not due to be closed, although Greenlaw is.
13. Village hall: Mrs Bishop reported that there are some minor jobs to be completed.
14. Gavinton.net website: Mr Macleod reported that there has been a major software change. The missing CC files have been found and minutes will go on to the site. It was agreed that not all the contents of the files will be kept, but items such as minutes, accounts, structure and local plan information, etc will be retained. Mr Macleod will set up a village hall area on the website to encourage use of the hall.

*M. Bishop 13/10/08*

15. Correspondence received:

- SBC customer services project: notification of changes to Duns contact centre (circulated)
- Victim Support: volunteers needed
- Scottish Government consultation on marches and parades: available online, respond by 15 September
- SBC Access Maintenance Grants
- SBC consultation: Draft supplementary planning guidance on new housing in the Borders countryside, respond by 10 November. Mr Macleod will report on this at the October meeting.
- WRVS Borders Community Transport
- SBC 'Ambitious for every child' consultation, respond by 27 October (Mr Seed, Mr O'Gorman, Mrs Renton)
- Digital UK TV switchover information
- ASCC regional meeting, 4 October, Dumfries
- ASCC constitution: ballot on final proposed constitution, return by 30 September
- ASCC newsletter, Summer 2008
- Scottish Borders Race Equality Review 2008, return by 26 September
- Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network annual conference: 27 September. Mrs Bishop and Mr Macleod to attend.
- Scottish Borders Green Spaces strategy: informal public discussion, 5 August, Tweed Horizons, 2-4pm
- SBC: Submission of alterations to the Scottish Borders New Way Forward structure plan 2001-2011: objections to be lodged by 3 September. There are no objections.
- SepaView, Issue 39, Summer 2008
- SB Elder Voice event: 2 October
- SBC CC training/information seminars: all 7-9pm at SBC HQ
  - Project funding for CCs, 8 October
  - Local View (web-based mapping information system) and Public Access (online access to planning applications and building warrants), 22 October
  - Licensing Forum and the new licensing regulations, 19 November

16. AOCB

- A discussion on the road end at Gavinton concluded that things have improved, in that there have been accidents since the changes. Many residents are still unwilling to use this junction, however.
- Concern was expressed that the attendance of SBC councillors at CC meetings had fallen off.
- Mr Macleod has been looking at the CC constitution as per the new SBC CC scheme. He confirmed:
  - Accounts will need to end 31 March
  - A new constitution will have to be adopted; guidance will be sought from Clare Malster
  - There will be no need for another election
  - The length of term each member shall serve will be a minimum of 2 years, maximum of 4 (currently 5 years)
  - Changes to the constitution will need to be approved by SBC before adoption
- Roads are being damaged around Fogo by very large farm vehicles.
- Concern was expressed that Fogo Hall had not yet spent the money donated by the CC. It was agreed that all future donations would be time-limited.

17. Dates of future meetings (all at 7pm):

Monday 13 October 2008 - Fogo

Monday 24 November 2008

Mrs Bishop and Mrs O'Kane will plan early 2009 meetings (trying to avoid the first Monday of each month which is Greenlaw's meeting date) and confirm these at the next meeting.

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary