

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Hall on 18 May 2009

Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), David Seed, Cathy Allman, Graeme Macleod, John Marjoribanks, Ellen Curran, Pete Gibbons, Terry O'Gorman, Jane Jeffrey, Janet O'Kane (secretary), Councillor Trevor Jones and 1 member of the public.

Apologies were received from: Kerry Renton, Councillors Frances Renton and Donald Moffat.

1. Police input: there was nothing to report. CC members raised the issue of speeding, especially through Gavinton and one particular vehicle in the Fogo/Caldra area
2. Nomination of new CC member for Gavinton: Ms JE Jeffrey, New Haven, South St, Gavinton TD11 3QA; electoral register ref. 6F 378. Ms Jeffrey was proposed by Mrs Bishop, seconded by Mr Macleod and was duly elected.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 20 April 2009 were agreed and signed.
4. Matters arising
 - Planning brief for West Gavinton: CC response will go out to villagers for comments then back to the CC to be returned to SBC by 5 June.
 - Gavinton's 250th anniversary: Mr Marjoribanks gave a report on progress. He also confirmed that the Village Hall Committee has donated £500 towards the event and this has been paid into the coat of arms account.
 - Report on windfarm: Mrs Darling reported that the bank account is set up but still empty. There is still documentation outstanding.
 - Reseeding of area on Gavinton village green has been done by the SBC Parks Dept.
5. Planning applications: Mr Macleod reported that there are 3 applications to be considered:
 - Crunklaw – internal/external alterations
 - Derelict cottage on the Hardens (listed building)
 - Nisbet House – 2 new dwellings. This is outwith the GFP CC area but will impact on CC residents. Historic Scotland has become involved.
6. Treasurer's report: account stands at £899.21. The accounts have been sent to Clare Malster at SBC. The issue of SBC not funding the cost of extraordinary meetings, e.g. the one about future uses of the High School, will be taken up with SBC.
7. Speeding through Gavinton: Mr Macleod reported that there has been a noticeable increase in traffic through the village now that the speed limits have been extended in Duns. He has explored the CC purchasing some sort of calming measure, but really it needs a 'black box' data collection unit, not just flashing signs. Cllr. Jones suggested contacting David Sharp at SBC about getting the flashing sign back on the concrete block.
8. Coat of arms: Mr Marjoribanks gave an update. The presentation will now be on Saturday 21 November.
9. A letter re Polwarth amenities from J McEwen was discussed. Mr Seed confirmed that Polwarth has about 14 residents. It was agreed to contact Ewan Calvert, the Berwickshire Access Officer, to investigate some of the issues raised. Mr Marjoribanks pointed out that the Polwarth Thorn has been incorporated into the coat of arms, which should help future protection of it. Cllr Renton will be approached about a bus shelter.
10. Correspondence received:
 - SBC: Enquiry about cost of meeting room hire – respond by 25 May (see point 6 above)
 - Notification of military flying activity 11 – 22 May (already circulated)
 - SEPAView spring 2009
 - Community Service publication
 - SNH: The Nature of Scotland
 - SBC: insurance schedule
 - Floral Gateway notification: this will be passed on to Tara Grey
 - Licensing Board: this will be passed on to the Village Hall Committee
11. AOCB
 - Mr Macleod asked for copies of signed minutes for last year to go onto the website
 - Mrs Allman reported that the tap in Fogo churchyard has been repaired, but the grass at the nursery has still to have its annual cut.

- The road is sinking halfway to Ladyflat Brae
 - Mr Seed reported that a lot of potholes have been filled in for the Jim Clark Rally. There are swallows nesting in the Gavinton bus shelter
 - Mr Macleod confirmed that the Fogo development application had been dismissed.
 - Mrs Bishop reported on the recent AGM of the Scottish Borders Community Councils Network that she attended. Attendance was very low: out of 62 CCs, only 5 sent representatives, 3 of whom were from Berwickshire. The Borders has recently lost 5 CCs due to lack of members. Mr Macleod confirmed that GFP CC addressed this issue in the new constitution: only half its members have to stand down at once. There followed a discussion about to attract new CC members.
12. Dates of future meetings (all at 7pm in Gavinton village hall unless otherwise stated):
- 29 June
 - 7 September at Fogo
 - 19 October
 - 30 November
 - 11 January 2010
 - 22 February
 - 5 April

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary