

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Village Hall on Monday 4 April 2011

Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chairman), Janet O'Kane (Secretary), Peter Gibbens (Treasurer), Jane Jeffrey, David Seed, Ellen Curran, Kerry Renton
Apologies had been received from Terry O'Gorman and Cllr Donald Moffat

1. Police input - none
2. Minutes of the meeting of 10 January 2011 were signed (NB the February meeting was not quorate, so matters were deferred to this April meeting)
3. Matters arising
 - Gavinton village green parking: the edging has now been laid down but has to be protected until the grass grows through it
4. Planning applications – John Marjoribanks circulated the latest summary. There was a discussion about the application by Duns FC to develop the Gavinton ground. Concern was expressed about the amount of parking places planned (18) when considerably more vehicles park there sometimes (55 counted recently). Ownership of the land is now held by SBC on behalf of the residents of Gavinton, but their response to Mr Marjoribanks' recent letter did not deal with the issue raised, i.e. that some time in the future the parish may need the use of the land to be returned to it. David Seed spoke of plans to improve the road junction when the housing development goes ahead and confirmed that discussions are already underway with SBC. It was agreed that Duns FC's facility upgrading and the road improvements would be best done as a single integrated project.
5. Treasurer's report – £812 in bank. A discussion followed about possible expenditure of these funds. It was agreed that Stewart Seed will be asked to clean out the Polwarth and Fogo phoneboxes and bill the CC. Other suggestions included:
 - Social event
 - Raised, sloping flower bed in front of power box planted out as the Coat of Arms
 - Sign for Polwarth Thorn (to be discussed with landowner)
6. Gavinton Green signage – Margaret Bishop has requested a new sign from SBC
7. Plans for football pitch and basketball net – agreed that the basketball net could be relocated back on the Green
8. Berwickshire Community Councils Forum re Walking Festival – Janet O'Kane told the meeting that it was possible Duns and Eyemouth would jointly bid for the 2012 Festival, in which case Gavinton may wish to get involved. She will keep the CC informed.
9. Floral gateway competition – there has been insufficient interest to enable Gavinton to enter this year
10. Re-election of CC members and officers – Cllr Renton has agreed to be Returning Officer. Mrs Bishop, Mr Gibbens and Mr O'Gorman are due to stand down.
11. Correspondence received:
 - Energy Savings Scotland: Boiler Scrappage Scheme
 - SBC: The Big Lunch (Sunday 5th June) (circulated by email)
 - SBC: Bus Users' Forum – Duns, 18 Feb, 12 noon (circulated by email)
 - Volunteer Centre Borders: Volunteer Works
 - SB Elder Voice: Feb 2011 newsletter
12. AOCB
 - Bridget Darling has resigned as our representative on the Blackhill Windfarm committee. Mrs Bishop will approach potential candidates; if there is no interest Mrs O'Kane will produce a poster.
 - Mrs O'Kane mentioned the old Polwarth village hall which is an eyesore and very close to the main road. Mr Seed agreed to raise this with the owner and ask what their plans for it are.
13. Dates of future meetings in 2011 (all at 7pm in Gavinton village hall unless otherwise stated): 8 August; 26 September; 7 November; 19 December

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary