

GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Gavinton Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2012

1. Present were: Margaret Bishop (Chair), Janet O’Kane (Secretary), Kerry Renton, John Marjoribanks, Peter Gibbens, Ellen Curran, Cllr Donald Moffat
Apologies were received from David Seed, Cllr F Renton
2. Minutes of the meeting of 7 November 2011 were approved and signed
3. Matters arising:
 - Recruitment of new Gavinton member: Mrs O’Kane to bring proposed wording to next meeting. It was agreed that some manual letterboxing is required.
 - Repair of seat on Gavinton: two options for paving around it were discussed. CC members agreed to go ahead with the £430 (cheaper) option of a timber frame and gravel infill, as long as the gravel goes under the seat. This will prevent later problems with tree roots.
 - Community resilience initiative: meeting and insurance implications for volunteers. CC members were informed that SBC’s insurance cover will not extend to volunteers using mechanical means of snow-clearance. The Gavinton volunteer has agreed to report back on any additional requirements of his insurers, and the CC will consider paying any additional sum. However, other issues are of concern, e.g. the potential loss of no-claims benefits. CC members expressed disappointment at SBC’s short-sightedness in this matter.
 - Red Brae light: has been reported and repaired
 - Jubilee tree-planting nominations: Peter Gibbens to visit nursery and report back (see also item 7 below)
 - Polwarth Thorn sign: awaiting information from Cllr Renton
4. Planning applications: John Marjoribanks circulated an up-to-date report and application ref 11/01653/FUL. Other similar wind turbine applications have been approved.
5. Treasurer’s report: £1165 in account, less ring-fenced/committed funds comes down to £554. Margaret Bishop confirmed that Clare Malster should be provided with details of the ring-fenced/committed funds when annual accounts are submitted.
6. Grit bins: Cllr Moffat advised that the CC should write to SBC’s Roads Department to request reinstatement of grit bin in Gavinton to serve the side roads which are not gritted by lorries.
7. Cllr Moffat informed the CC that SBC has produced a map of significant trees in the region, and he will try to locate this. A tree on Gavinton Green has been lopped, so could be replaced as part of the Queen’s Jubilee celebrations, as could those at the kirk gates. Janet O’Kane asked for agreement to buy on the CC’s behalf a Forestry Commission book on Scotland’s significant trees. Agreed.
8. Correspondence received:
 - Scottish Borders Elder Voice, December 2011
 - Margaret Kerr Unit Appeal (in-patient specialist palliative care in the Borders): balance of £1.4 million to be raised. It was agreed that one of the Gavinton coffee mornings could be a fund-raiser for this.
 - SBC: Anti-dog fouling campaign update
9. AOCB
 - Kerry Renton asked if there was any truth in the rumour of an attempted child snatch in Duns that was mentioned on Facebook. [Follow-up: Janet O’Kane emailed the police who confirmed there was no truth in this]

- The Christmas Carol service raised £105 which has gone to the village hall.
 - Margaret Bishop will contact the Football Club about rubbish lying on the pitch after games. The litter bin has been removed by SBC but will be replaced, but in the meantime the FC must tidy up after themselves.
10. Dates of future meetings in 2011 (all at 7pm in Gavinton village hall unless otherwise stated):
- 13 February
 - 26 March
 - 14 May (AGM)

Janet O'Kane, Minutes Secretary