



**GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
Minutes of the Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall  
on Monday, the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	<b>Welcome and Introductions:</b> Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed Cllr Mark Rowley, Amanda Stewart, Bryce Weir, Carole Wright, Nigel McKnight, Lorraine Tait, David Ward.	
2	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Donald Moffat, Terry O’Gorman, Julie Chalmers-McKenzie	
3	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> None	
4	<b>Approval of Minutes from AGM, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018:</b> Minutes approved with no amendments.	
5	<b>Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere in the agenda</b> KD asked Nigel McKnight whether the Men’s Shed organisation were now established and in a position to help with construction of bus shelters for Polwarth. Nigel confirmed that while progress has been made in establishing a workshop for Men’s Shed they are not yet in a position to accept projects.	KD/NMcK
6	<b>Community Council Membership</b> Co-opting of Nigel McKnight, 9 The Glebe, Gavinton, TD11 3QU- electoral role number 177 onto the GFPCC. All members agreed to co-opt Nigel McKnight and KD welcomed him onto the community council.	KD/All
7	<p><b>Treasurers Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CW has confirmed with SBC that the environmental maintenance grant received on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 of £60 was in fact late payment for 2017 and a further payment of £60 is expected for 2018.</li> <li>• Current balance of the account - £1588.60</li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Of this £ 404.65 is ringfenced for the defibrillator £1183.95 is community council funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AS to check with SBC that minutes from AGM and signed accounts have been received and determine when we should expect the annual grant.</li> <li>• Rent for GFPCC use of the Gavinton village hall for the last 12 months is still to be paid CW is currently arranging this.</li> <li>• KD to be reimbursed £19.19 for the cost of the GFPCC web page domain name.</li> <li>• An additional insurance premium of £16.80 has been paid to cover the defibrillator.</li> <li>• KD has previously suggested that savings in insurance costs could be made if the village hall committee and the community council (via SBC) obtain a combined insurance policy. NMCK to raise this on our behalf at the next village hall committee meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>CW</p> <p>AS</p> <p>CW</p> <p>NMcK</p>

8	<p><b>Community Improvements and Maintenance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the issue of bus stops at Polwarth Cllr Mark Rowley confirmed that funding through the Quality of Life Fund from SBC has been approved and Darren Silcock has confirmed that the works should begin within the next month. MR also confirmed that the criminal justice system may be able to help in construction of bus shelters but that installation at the roadside must be supervised by an SBC approved contractor.</li> <li>Update on proposals to improve parking at the football fields, Gavinton. KD has been in contact with Nuala McKinlay (Chief Legal Officer with SBC) to determine ownership of the land used as football fields. Nuala McKinlay provided the following statement <i>“Our research suggests that the land in question forms part of land disposed in the disposition by Col. The Hon. T.G.B. Morgan Glenville Gavin of Langton, D.S.C. to the Parish of Langton. We are carrying out further work to see if we can confirm the likely successor”</i>. KD to contact John Marjoribanks, former GFPC chairman and local historian to see if he may be able to help. J-CM had offered to contact Duns FC (Juniors) to determine their progress on the issue of parking however as she was absent from the meeting this update was unavailable.</li> <li>Update on potential funding for play equipment, Gavinton Village Green. Cllr John Greenwell was unable to attend the meeting and therefore his update was unavailable. JG had messaged prior to the meeting to enquire as to ownership of the village green as SBC will only provide direct funding for play equipment on SBC land. KD to include this query in his investigations into land ownership in Gavinton. Alternative sources of funding such as the Localities Bid Fund, Quality of Life Fund and Blackhill Windfarm Fund were discussed.</li> <li>Update on vehicles crossing the village green to access parking Cllr John Greenwell was absent from the meeting therefore his update was unavailable. AS to contact JG to determine if there has been any progress on this issue.</li> <li>Discussion of the issue of grass cutting by SBC KD sent a letter and photos detailing the issues with quality and frequency of grass cutting in Gavinton to Tracey Logan, Chief Executive of SBC. Tracey Logan responded to say she had contacted the Councils Neighbourhood Manager, Jason Hedley to investigate and he had confirmed that all the issues were resolved prior to the civic festivities in Gavinton and that he is confident that services will continue to improve for the remainder of the season. KD also spoke to Darren Silcock who said that he would keep an eye on any grass cutting issues. The GFPC also acknowledges the help received from our local councillors in getting the message through to SBC that grass cutting has been infrequent and of poor quality. John Greenwell has suggested to SBC that as Gavinton is classed as a high amenity area a 10-day grass cutting cycle would be appropriate. CC members are encouraged to report back to the meeting if maintenance declines again.</li> <li>Re-surfacing of South Street, Gavinton KD noted that on SBC programme of works the re-surfacing of South Street has been delayed until October 2018. MR confirmed that despite the delays the re-surfacing works are on the work programme and funding has been set aside and therefore will be done.</li> <li>Update on construction of passing places on single track road at Langton Lees.</li> </ul>	<p>MR</p> <p>KD</p> <p>J-CM</p> <p>JG/KD</p> <p>JG/AS</p> <p>KD/All</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>
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	<p>KD contacted Darren Silcock and confirmed that although there is no date set for the works they are high on his list of priorities and imminent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD encouraged CC members to use SBC online system to report potholes. Members should take two photos – one to show the severity of the pothole and a wider shot to illustrate the location and report these online to SBC. Members should receive an online acknowledgement of the report and these requests are transferred directly to the SBC workplan.</li> <li>• Nigel McKnight enquired as to whether planning permission would be required for the solar panels on the village hall. MR encouraged Nigel to contact the Fallago Environmental Fund who have funding available for solar panels. KD offered to enquire with the planning department as to whether solar panels would require planning permission.</li> </ul>	<p>KD/All</p> <p>NMcK/KD</p>
9	<p><b>Discussion of Outcome from Traffic Survey, Main Street, Gavinton</b> The data from the survey includes the times at which individual speeding vehicles pass through Gavinton. KD noted that there were 3 times of day when vehicles appear to speed on Main Street, Gavinton. Police enforcement should be our next course of action. BW and KD to interrogate the data to determine specific time periods in which we could request police to enforce speed limits and catch those offenders.</p>	KD/BW
10	<p><b>Resilient Communities</b> Volunteers are required for the resilient communities' project. A new phone network would need to be established and a new survey of resources in the village and outlying areas would need to be completed as previous surveys were done 5 years ago. KD requested that NMcK enquire at the next village hall committee meeting as to whether anyone would be interested in volunteering for the resilient communities' project. KD to enquire as to any changes recommended in the running of a resilient communities' network.</p>	KD/NMcK
11	<p><b>Local Path Maintenance Grants</b> £450 is available from SBC to assist with ongoing maintenance or improvements to paths. The CC discussed the potential for improvements to paths in Gavinton wood, at Langton Ford and at the John Hunter Bridge at Fogo Kirk. BW to consider whether we have paths that could benefit from this funding and report back to the CC.</p>	BW
12	<p><b>Correspondence</b> KD had received 5 copies of the SBC Household Survey for 2018 which he had been asked to distribute. Copies of the survey were given to CC members, others were encouraged to participate in the online version of the survey.</p>	AS/KD
13	<p><b>Planning</b> KD circulated the latest planning summary to all CC members prior to the meeting. There were 4 new planning applications, deadlines for comments on erection of dwelling house plot 3 Hardens Farm Cottages and alterations to Langrig Cottage, Gavinton have passed with no objections raised by any members of the CC. The CC have until the end of August 2018 to comment on proposals by the Equitait Veterinary Practice for changes to steading buildings at Raecleuchhead Farm and proposals for replacement of overhead power lines between Ladywell Farm Manderston and Caldra Farm Duns. The CC have been asked if planning permission is required to convert garages into a residence as it has been reported that this work has been done at a property on the Hardens Road. MR confirmed that there were no planning</p>	<p>KD/All</p> <p>MR</p>

	applications registered for the address concerned but said he would need to check the original planning consents for the site. KD to speak to SBC planning department to enquire as to the need for planning consent.	KD
14	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMCK queried the dates on the war memorial in Gavinton for the 1<sup>st</sup> world war. On the memorial they are written as 1914-1919. AS to make enquiries to determine the reason for this inscription.</li> <li>• NMCK raised the issue of dog fouling on the football fields in Gavinton. The CC felt it would be appropriate to provide new signage to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets and to use CC funds to provide a dispenser with dog poo bags. DW suggested that similar measures be deployed on the Fogo Road in Gavinton. AS to contact community police for advice on signage and look into purchase of dispenser and bags. Once signs are up and disposal bags available people should be encouraged to report those dog owners who are not acting responsibly.</li> <li>• BW raised an issue brought to him by residents of South Street Gavinton who complain that the new thicker electric cable at the roadside encourages birds to roost and leave droppings on the cars below. The CC could not think of an easy solution to this issue. BW to encourage residents to discuss this with the energy network provider.</li> <li>• KD wished to record a message of thanks from Kirsten Arthur to the village hall committee for the loan of a Gazebo.</li> <li>• KD noted that Marilyn Hunter has been trying to obtain a thank you from the MacMillan Cancer Centre at Borders General Hospital for the donation made by the GFPCC following the death of Steve Hunter. The CC are glad that the donation was well received and feel there is no need for a more formal acknowledgement of thanks.</li> </ul>	AS AS BW KD KD
19	<p><b>Dates of Meetings</b></p> <p>Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and 21<sup>st</sup> January, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> April and 10<sup>th</sup> June (AGM) 2019.</p>	
20	<b>The meeting closed at 9.03 pm</b>	