



**GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
Minutes of the Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall  
on Monday, the 9th March 2020 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	<b>Welcome and Introductions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed Cllr Mark Rowley, Carole Wright, Bryce Weir and Amanda Stewart</li></ul>	
2	<b>Apologies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cllr John Greenwell, Cllr Donald Moffat, Lorraine Tait &amp; David Ward</li></ul>	
3	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> None	
4	<b>Approval of Minutes from meeting 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minutes were approved with no amendments</li></ul>	
5	<b>Matters arising from minutes - not covered elsewhere in the agenda:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None Raised</li></ul>	
6	<b>Treasurers Report</b> <p>CW gave an update on the CC account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3 cheques have now been debited from the account, £19.91 cheque for plants, £149.96 for payment of planters and soil at Fogo church and £100 for Scot Borders web design.</li><li>Current balance of the account £1569.90</li><li>Available balance £1224.26</li><li>£345.24 remains ringfenced for defibrillator costs</li><li>An annual fee of around £20 is required for software to allow the calendar on the webpage to function for hall bookings and events. Johnny Nicholson to arrange this and send an invoice. KD to enquire when this invoice will be available.</li></ul>	CW        KD
7	<b>Community Website</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>TJ has continued development of the interactive maps section of the webpage. KD and TJ to visit SBC next week to obtain their support for the project prior to a meeting with the Scottish Government Geographical Information Services (GIS) specialist to discuss options to encourage other CC's in Scotland to do likewise.</li><li>TJ is making a promotional video for the interactive maps which will be good publicity for the webpage and the community council.</li></ul>	KD       KD/TJ    TJ

8	<p><b>Plans for VE Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD contacted Jan Pringle, locality development co-ordinator at SBC, to enquire about funding for VE Day events. It was confirmed that a fund of £60,000 has set aside for VE Day events in the Scottish Borders. KD has circulated the application procedure to CC and Village Hall Committee.</li> <li>• MR confirmed that SBC had already received many applications to this fund and that we should get any application submitted as soon as possible.</li> <li>• The Village Hall Committee have formed a smaller group to help with organising the events on 8-9<sup>th</sup> May.</li> <li>• CC discussed the scope for events that may be held with events featuring music and food, perhaps a hog-roast or BBQ the preferred options.</li> <li>• It was noted that TJ had offered to arrange for vintage cars to be brought into the village for VE Day celebrations – the CC felt this would attract more people to events. AS to pass this information to the relevant Village Hall group.</li> </ul>	<p>KD</p> <p>MR</p> <p>All</p> <p>TJ/AS</p>
9	<p><b>Joint Working Between CC and Village Hall Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KD had a discussion with Donald Ritchie about the difficulty of getting local people engaged in meetings and helping with events and possible ways to overcome this. KD also suggested some future activities for the village hall.</li> <li>• KD discussed with Jan Pringle whether the CC and Village Hall could work together as one committee however it was felt that this would be problematic as the CC works under SBC legislation. Jan welcomed a closer relationship between the 2 committees.</li> <li>• Jan Pringle will look into whether the Village Hall Committee may benefit from access to SBC/CC insurance policies.</li> </ul>	<p>KD</p>
10	<p><b>Community Improvements and Maintenance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on potential funding for play equipment, Gavinton Village Green. JG confirmed that following discussions with Craig Blackie, Gavinton play park is now on the list of smaller play parks to be upgraded by SBC. JG suggested surveying residents for their wishes regarding changes to the play park and putting together a plan to be completed by September 2020. CC suggested that the new playpark may include some fitness equipment to keep older residents active and some play equipment for children with disabilities. KD suggested carrying out a survey of residents wishes during VE Day celebrations – AS to make of survey form.</li> <li>• Review of SBC grass cutting and maintenance of vegetation on road-side verges. BW met with Neil Pringle in Gavinton on the 7<sup>th</sup> February. Neil understood concerns over the frequency of grass cutting on the village green but felt it might be difficult to increase the frequency. MR to contact Neil Pringle to have the village green designated as a high amenity space requiring more frequent grass cutting. Neil Pringle agreed that grass on the roadside verges at the newly realigned main junction into Gavinton should be cut more frequently.</li> <li>• Update on problem of overhanging shrubbery at 2 properties in Gavinton. Neil Pringle to write letters to residents regarding overhanging shrubbery and in addition will write to residents of GreenRig on the subject of cars cutting across the grass of the</li> </ul>	<p>AS/JG</p> <p>AS BW</p> <p>MR</p> <p>BW</p>

	<p>village green to access parking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planters for Fogo church. AS to contact Dane Sherrard to see if volunteers from Fogo can be identified to help with planting flowers in the new containers.</li> <li>Improvements to parking area at the football pitches, Gavinton. KD and AS to meet with the Chairman of Duns FC (Juniors) to discuss this issue.</li> </ul>	<p>AS</p> <p>KD/AS</p>
11	<p><b>Planning</b> KD prepared a planning summary prior to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 new application was noted, Alterations to garage to provide annexed accommodation- South Street, Gavinton. Information was circulated to CC members and no comments were received therefore KD informed SBC that the CC had no objections or comment on the application. BW reported concerns of a local resident regarding parking difficulties on South Street and felt that additional vehicles associated with this conversion would not be accommodated on-site. KD to forward the details for this application to BW so that the resident may make comment on the application as appropriate.</li> <li>Applications for alterations to Cheviot View, South Street, Gavinton have been approved.</li> </ul> <p>Details of all planning applications are available on the community webpage.</p>	<p>KD</p> <p>KD/BW</p>
12	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Police report for January and February 2020 was forwarded to all members prior to the meeting.</li> <li>Information on headstone testing at Fogo churchyard was forwarded to all CC members.</li> <li>Information on VE Day 75 – celebration of the roles of women – was circulated to all CC members prior to the meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>AS</p>
13	<p><b>Councillor Update</b> Cllr Mark Rowley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed the meeting that funds are currently available in the SBC community fund.</li> <li>Due to Covid-19 SBC may soon be encouraging staff to work from home.</li> <li>Scotland Starts Here – there will be a new publicity campaign to promote tourism in the Scottish Borders with a new advert for South of Scotland tourism being shown throughout March 2020.</li> <li>MR queried the feelings of the CC towards the new style of police reports. The CC felt that understanding the incidents occurring within the local and surrounding areas such as Duns and Greenlaw was helpful.</li> </ul>	<p>MR</p>
14	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KD has applied to join the board of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership in order to have a say in strategic planning for our area.</li> <li>BW enquired as to whether there would be any support in the community for a community windmill to generate electricity for the village hall or for Gavinton. KD felt that we should ask the local community – should Gavinton have a community action plan with a green policy for sources of renewable energy? KD to ask David Seed whether a community windmill would be an option for the site</li> </ul>	<p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>

	<p>of the new housing development in Gavinton. KD to discuss with Donald Ritchie to obtain the view of the Village Hall Committee on such matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BW reported that a Black Land Rover Discovery with a private registration number has been driving slowly around the village arousing the suspicion of some residents. This has been reported to the police and an update should be available on the next police report.</li> </ul>	BW
15	<p><b>Dates of Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall at 7pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> April &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> June (AGM) 2020.</li> </ul>	
16	<p><b>The meeting closed at 8.25 pm</b></p>	