



**GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
Minutes of the Zoom Meeting  
Monday, the 2nd November 2020 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed Cllr John Greenwell, Cllr Donald Moffat, Cllr Mark Rowley, Bryce Weir, Carole Wright, Lorraine Tait and Amanda Stewart.</li> </ul>	
2	<p><b>Apologies:</b> Ann Lindsay</p>	
3	<p><b>Declarations of interest:</b> None raised</p>	
4	<p><b>Approval of minutes from last meeting 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were approved with no amendments</li> </ul>	
5	<p><b>Matters arising from minutes - not covered elsewhere in the agenda:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KD wished to update the CC on progress on the topic of the development of a walking/cycleway from the old railway track bed from Duns-Gavinton-Greenlaw and beyond. SBC are to make an application to Sustrans and if successful they would be willing to fund a feasibility study and potentially fund up to 70% of construction costs. If Sustrans agree to a feasibility study, support from the local communities and landowners along the route would be sought. KD wished to know the best contact from local community councils or community groups to approach. MR offered to provide KD with appropriate contact details and to provide details of the South of Scotland Enterprise project for a coast to coast cycle way. MR informed the meeting that there might be a refresh of the Southern Upland way as it is remote with few links to local settlements.</li> <li>KD updated the CC on the work of the resilient communities' group. There has been no word from SBC about the potential increase in local need due to the second wave of Covid-19. The resilient community volunteers are currently on stand-by ready to assist if required.</li> <li>KD offered to circulate the papers from recent meetings of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership.</li> </ul>	<p>KD</p> <p>MR</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>
6	<p><b>Treasurers Report</b> CW gave an update on the CC account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balance of the account £2918.54</li> <li>£630 annual support grant from SBC has been received.</li> <li>One cheque was issued - £55.50 to pay for dog waste bags.</li> <li>£971.22 ringfenced for resilient community activities for the covid-19 response.</li> <li>£345.24 remains ringfenced for defibrillator costs</li> </ul>	<p>CW</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balance for general expenditure £1602.08</li> </ul> <p>An invoice was received from TJ for £50 – Scot Borders Web Design for updating webmail accounts. CW will issue a cheque to KD to sign and pass on. This invoice will be paid from Covid-19 funds.</p> <p>KD queried the CC as to whether an annual subscription to Zoom may be better value than the current charge of £14.39 per month. CC felt that as Zoom will be required during the current pandemic and beyond as many meetings will remain online the annual subscription may be cheaper in the long term.</p>	KD/All
7	<p><b>Community Improvements and Maintenance</b></p> <p>a) <b>Review of SBC grass cutting and maintenance of vegetation on roadside verges.</b> Concerns over frequency of grass cutting at the village green and road ends were raised at the previous meeting. JG made enquiries and reported to the CC that grass cutting next year should return to pre-Covid timescales with ‘amenity grass’ being cut on a 20day working cycle. JG said that we would need to determine if areas of grass at road ends were on 3<sup>rd</sup> party land which will no longer be cut by SBC. BW commented that grass on the village green should be cut more regularly than other areas in Gavinton to allow children to use the play park. This summer the village green was only cut twice by SBC and twice by volunteers from the football club. MR felt that playgrounds were a high priority area and that there may have been some error in the grass cutting rota for Gavinton. JG agreed and offered to follow this up with SBC. MR also commented that if CC notice that the grass is unacceptably long at the village green photos should be taken and submitted to the online report-it SBC site as this goes directly to the work schedule and provides logged evidence of issues making it easier for our local councillors to help with issues that arise. BW has been strimming grass and cutting vegetation at the junction from Main Street, Gavinton with the main Duns-Greenlaw Road to improve the line of site for motorists. BW discussed this safety issue with Neil Pringle in February 2020. JG offered to follow this up with Neil Pringle and Craig Blackie at SBC.</p> <p>b) <b>Update on problem of overhanging shrubbery in Gavinton.</b> The issue of overhanging vegetation at The Old School and at the building development plot on Main Street Gavinton has still not been followed up by SBC, JG offered to make enquiries on behalf of the CC.</p> <p>c) <b>Improvements to parking area at the football pitches, Gavinton.</b> This issue to be discussed at next meeting where Ann Lindsay may be able to advise.</p>	<p>JG</p> <p>BW</p> <p>MR/JG</p> <p>BW</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p>
8	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>KD prepared a planning summary prior to the meeting which was available on the web-page and e-mailed to CC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no new planning applications for our CC area.</li> <li>2 applications for external renovations to Langton House, Main St Gavinton have been approved.</li> </ul> <p>Details of all planning applications are available on the community webpage.</p>	KD

9	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for suggestions for training courses appropriate for community councillors to be provided by the Open University forwarded to all CC. KD provided a response on behalf of the CC.</li> <li>• BAVS- special report on Berwickshire's response to Covid-19 forwarded to all CC.</li> <li>• CC were asked to circulate information on the Scottish Government Covid-19 guidelines for hosting of seasonal events.</li> </ul>	AS KD All
10	<p><b>Councillor Update</b></p> <p>Cllr John Greenwell Cllr Greenwell has been providing advice to community groups on commemorations for remembrance Sunday. All commemorations at war memorials are banned by Covid-19 restrictions. Current advice to those wishing to lay a wreath at war memorials is to attend privately either on remembrance Sunday or on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. JG informed the meeting that the 'no-cold calling' system has been refreshed for Coldstream and that local areas are being encouraged to update their system by contacting their local community police officer. The CC felt that the 'no-cold calling' system was not appropriate for Gavinton. JG and KD encouraged CC to use the SB Alert system to stay updated on the latest scams either by phone or cold-calling.</p> <p>Cllr Mark Rowley Cllr Rowley has been working on supporting local people to access Business Grants, those affected by increased Covid-19 restrictions over the last 3 weeks in particular businesses in hospitality and the supply chain. MR informed the meeting that guidance on further programmes of support will be made available in the coming days. MR informed the meeting that the current roll out of the 20mph speed restrictions across the Borders is nearly complete and that the programme has received a broadly positive response.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Moffat Cllr Moffat has been assisting TJ in contacting local community representatives regarding linking cycle paths. DM offered to provide contact details for Duns and Greenlaw CC to KD. DM informed the meeting that SBC planning meetings have now restarted.</p>	JG MR DM
11	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AS enquired as to why the glass recycling facilities were currently unavailable at the recycling centre in Duns. BW has been informed that the glass recycling area will reopen soon.</li> </ul>	AS
12	<p><b>Dates of Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall if possible, at 7pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 26<sup>th</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> June (AGM) 2021. Meetings may be held over Zoom when it is considered necessary.</li> </ul>	
13	<b>The meeting closed at 8.15 pm</b>	

