

## GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Monday the 14th June 2021 at 7pm - Zoom

Item	Comment	Action
1	<ul> <li>Welcome and Introductions:</li> <li>Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed Cllr Donald Moffat, Cllr John Greenwell, Carole Wright, Bryce Weir, Lorraine Tait and Amanda Stewart.</li> </ul>	
2	Apologies: No apologies received	
3	Declarations of interest: None raised	
4	Approval of minutes from AGM 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2020:  • Minutes were approved with no amendments.	AS
5	Chairman's Report A copy of the chairman's report is available to view on the community webpage Gavinton.net and was made available to CC prior to the meeting.	KD
6	Treasurers Report  Annual accounts have been completed and signed by the auditor Angus McMillan and CW.	CW
	<ul> <li>CW gave an update on the CC account</li> <li>Balance of the account as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 – £2337.41</li> <li>Current Balance 14<sup>th</sup> June - £2082.23 made up of:</li> <li>£646.74 ringfenced for resilient community activities for the Covid-19 response</li> <li>£221.13 ringfenced for defibrillator costs</li> <li>£129 ringfenced for purchase of dog waste bags</li> <li>Balance for general expenditure £1085.36</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Transactions since last meeting 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021</li> <li>£10 annual standing order to community council forum</li> <li>£39.91 cheque paid to CW – this sum was made up of £7.92 for stamps, £16.99 auditor gift and £15 gift for flower planting at Fogo.</li> </ul>	
	It was agreed by CC that funds should be ringfenced to cover costs of dog waste bags to keep dispensers in Gavinton filled.	
	Annual accounts were circulated to all CC members prior to the meeting and are available on the CC webpage.	
	BW commented that he was in the process of recovering receipts from members of the community who have been maintaining community flower	BW

	tube and renovating community handhas DM to condithese receipts to	
	tubs and renovating community benches. BW to send these receipts to	
	CW as soon as possible.	
7	Proposals for amendments to the SBC constitution for CC	
	None raised.	
8	Election of office Bearers	
	No CC wished to contest the positions and current office bearers were	
	happy to continue in their roles.	
	KD-Chair – proposed by AS, seconded by CW	
	AS-Secretary- proposed by KD, seconded by BW	
	CW-Treasurer- proposed by AS, seconded by LT	
9	Appointment of Auditors	
	Angus McMillan was appointed as auditor.	
10	Agreement to abide by the SBC code of conduct for community	
	councillors.	
	All members agreed to abide by this code of conduct.	
	Other General Business	
11	Minutes of the meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	
	Minutes were approved with one amendment-item 8 – reference to a	AS
	discussion on planning should be anonymised.	70
12	Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere in the	
12	agenda	
		KD
	SBC received a complaint against the CC from Mrs Huggins-Haig	אט
	regarding comments made on a planning proposal. KD circulated a draft	
	response to this complaint to be submitted to Jenny Wilkinson of SBC. All	
	CC thought that the response drafted by KD was entirely appropriate.	
	KD asked our local councillors for clarification on the planning process –	
	the CC are asked to give a view on planning and responses are submitted	
	to planners, KD felt it was the responsibility of planning officers to check	
	the veracity of information provided by community members and that we	
	do not have the resources to fact check matters of planning. It seems in	
	this instance our comments including questions put to the planners were	
	immediately available for public view on SBC planning portal - KD wished	
	to know if this was normal procedure for such correspondence.	
	DM confirmed that any comment submitted by the CC is immediately	
	published on the SBC planning portal.	
	JG commented that planning officers are aware that CC are not qualified	
	planners and will look at information provided to determine if there are	
	grounds for objection. JG felt that the letter of complaint against the CC	
	reflected personal views rather than issues relating to planning.	
	KD reflected that now he is aware that correspondence will be published	
	on the planning portal he will act accordingly.	
13	Community Improvements and Maintenance	
	a) Review of SBC grass cutting and maintenance of vegetation	
	on roadside verges.	JG/BW
	Further discussion on this issue had been postponed until SBC	
	staff involved are back in their usual pre-covid posts. JG and DM	
	confirmed that staff are now returning to pre-pandemic roles	
	although there are still some individuals self-isolating or suffering	
	from long covid. CC should continue to monitor the frequency of	
	grass cutting in our community. BW commented that the grass on	
	the village green was not cut frequently enough with small children	
	struggling to walk through long grass.	
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	b)	<b>Update on problem of overhanging shrubbery in Gavinton.</b> BW met with Neil Pringle of SBC to discuss this however this issue has not yet been resolved.	BW/JG
	c)	Improvements to parking area at the football pitches, Gavinton.  AS contacted Gary Haldane to request that verge markers be installed, GH replied on 21 <sup>st</sup> May to say that he was happy to progress with the verge marker posts. AS to contact GH for a time scale on when verge markers will be installed. AS also asked whether we could obtain a sign to restrict parking however GH confirmed that we cannot install a no parking sign without formal	AS
	d)	restrictions such as double yellow lines.  Maintenance of Hedges at the football fields, Gavinton KD to contact TD to ask if Duns FC have been in contact.	KD
	e)	Overhanging Beech Tree on the Road to Calder This tree has now been cut down by SBC.	AS
	f)	Maintenance of footbridge over Langton Burn BW discussed this issue with Neil Pringle, SBC have agreed to reinstate the anti-slip mesh on the footbridge.	BW
	g)	Gravestone safety BW discussed the issue of unsafe gravestones being pushed over by SBC with Neil Pringle. BW identified that some stones that had previously been pushed over for reasons of safety had now been laid out over the grave with the writing upwards and hoped that this work would continue for other gravestones. BW commented that SBC should establish a better method for the placing of gravestones to prevent them moving and becoming a danger in future as more recent stones appear to have poor foundations.	BW
14 <b>F</b>	Plannir	ng	
	•	epared a planning summary prior to the meeting which was made ble on the community webpage.	KD
ŀ	1.	ted that there were 2 new applications Bogend Farm, demolition of existing building and erection of hay store, application approved 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 Land east of Thistle Brae, Hardens, erection of dwelling house and detached garage, registered 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2021.	
3	3 Appli	cations have been approved since our last meeting	
	1.	Plot 1, land south west of Langton Edge, erection of occupational health, PTSD therapy centre with separate accommodation block and erection of garage/tack room and stable block- approved 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2021.	

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	2. Plot 2, Hardens View, erection of dwelling house with detached	
	garage, approved 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2021.	
	3. Redbrae, Main Street Gavinton, alterations and extension to	
	dwelling house, approved 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2021.	
	Details of all planning applications are available on the community webpage.	
15	Correspondence	
		AS
	<ul> <li>Mid-Berwickshire police report May 2021 forwarded to all CC prior</li> </ul>	
	to the meeting.	
	<ul> <li>Media release from NHS Borders – Open invite to discussion: what</li> </ul>	
	have you got to say about healthcare. Thursday 10th June 6-7 pm.	
	KD had previously attended a discussion on the NHS with	KD
	representatives of NHS Borders and SBC in a focus group with	
	other community members and found this to be a very positive	
	meeting – KD wished to encourage other CC to participate in	
	future meetings. JG confirmed that a further 4 meetings are	
	planned and that it is hoped that more people from a wider range of society can be encouraged to take part.	
	or society can be encouraged to take part.	
16	Councillor Update	
	Cllr John Greenwell and Cllr Donald Moffat attended the meeting but did	JG/DM
	not feel they had anything to update the CC on at this time.	
17	Any Other Business	
	BW informed the meeting that 2 clumps of Japanese Knotweed  And the second	DW//IC
	had been discovered beside the river in Gavinton and asked who	BW/JG
	we should notify about this. JG will provide BW with a contact at SBC who can notify the Tweed Forum if necessary,	
	<ul> <li>BW raised the issue of parking at the entrance to The Glebe in</li> </ul>	
	Gavinton. Residents have brought to his attention the issue of cars	BW/AS
	parking on both sides of this narrow road and making it difficult to	
	pass. AS to contact Gary Haldane to discuss whether it may be	
	appropriate to add yellow lines on one side of the road.	
	<ul> <li>BW noted that recent grass cutting at the road end (Greenlaw End)</li> </ul>	BW
	had improved the line of sight for cars pulling out onto the main	
	road.	
	<ul> <li>BW noted that on a recent trip to Duns on approach to the fire</li> </ul>	D\M
	station he was met by a vehicle driving on the wrong side of the	BW
	road to avoid recently added cycle lanes and had to take evasive	
	action to avoid collision. BW felt that many road users don't	
	understand that they should drive in these cycle lanes. KD noted	
	that the new layout of cycle lanes in Duns is experimental and being evaluated.	
	<ul> <li>BW informed the meeting that he had a receipt for paint from</li> </ul>	
	NMcK for restoring benches in Gavinton, KD asked BW to forward	BW
	receipts to CW.	
	A concern was raised that in the letter of complaint from Mrs	
	Huggins-Haig it is claimed that there is not a septic tank or reed	
	bed on site – where does waste water go? KD noted that this was	
	included in correspondence that has gone to the planning	
	department and so should be picked up and investigated by the	
	planning system.	
	pianning system.	

18	Dates of Meetings	
	• Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall if possible, at 7pm on Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> August, 27 <sup>th</sup> September, 8 <sup>th</sup> November and 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2021. 24 <sup>th</sup> January, 7 <sup>th</sup> march, 18 <sup>th</sup> April and 6 <sup>th</sup> June (AGM) 2022. Meetings may be held over Zoom when it is considered necessary.	
13	The meeting closed at 8.34 pm	