



**GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**
Minutes of the Meeting held in Gavinton Village Hall
Monday the 27th September 2021 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed Cllr John Greenwell, Carole Wright, Bryce Weir, Amanda Stewart & Gordon Stirrat. 	
2	<p>Apologies: Cllr Mark Rowley & Lorraine Tait</p>	
3	<p>Declarations of interest: None raised</p>	
4	<p>Minutes of the meeting 16th August 2021 Minutes were approved with no amendments</p>	AS
5	<p>Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere in the agenda None raised</p>	
6	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>CW gave an update on the CC account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance of the account – £2693.04 £646.74 ringfenced for resilient community activities for the Covid-19 response £221.13 ringfenced for defibrillator costs £37.02 ringfenced for purchase of dog waste bags Balance for general expenditure £1788.15 <p>Transactions since last meeting 16th August 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 cheque issued £19.19 for cost of website domain name. 	CW
7	<p>Community Improvements and Maintenance</p> <p>a) Review of SBC grass cutting and maintenance of vegetation on roadside verges. JG kindly circulated the SBC schedule for grass cutting in Gavinton prior to the meeting – the cemetery & grass areas in the village are on a 20-day cutting cycle and the football fields and village green are on a 10-day cycle. CC are requested to observe if this schedule is being followed. BW commented that although the whole of the village green was recently cut none of the cuttings were removed leaving a mess behind.</p> <p>b) Update on problem of overhanging shrubbery in Gavinton. The CC have been informed that the resident in question has been requested by an officer of SBC to cut back the hedge. JG to confirm with Neil Pringle if this is the case and what instruction</p>	JG/BW/All BW/JG

	<p>has been given. Although some work has been undertaken, it was felt that the hedge had not been cut back sufficiently.</p> <p>c) Improvements to parking area at the football pitches, Gavinton. AS contacted Gary Haldane to request the time scale for installation of verge markers. GH replied on 30th June to suggest that 6 weeks would be a reasonable time frame. GH has apologised for the delay and says he is currently trying to source the marker posts and has been advised that works will be completed at the earliest opportunity. AS contacted Claire Simpson, Secretary for Duns Juniors Football Club and requested a meeting to discuss ways to improve the facilities at the football fields for the football club and community use and to improve access to parking. Duns FC have requested a couple of weeks to discuss with coaches what improvements they would like to prioritise before any meeting takes place. AS to contact Claire Simpson to set a date for this meeting. AS asked JG if it would be possible to see a copy of the lease between Duns FC and SBC. JG commented that the football club could apply to Sports Scotland for funding.</p> <p>d) Maintenance of Hedges at the football fields, Gavinton Neil Pringle has confirmed that SBC are responsible for maintenance of the hedges at the football fields in Gavinton. NP has a budget for the works but is currently having difficulty finding a contractor. Thomas Darling of neighbouring Ladyflat Farm would like to see this work completed and has offered to recommend a tree surgeon that could carry out the work.</p> <p>e) Maintenance of footbridge over Langton Burn BW informed the meeting that the 1st section of bridge has had the chicken wire completely removed and the 2nd section has had repairs to the mesh which is still in place. It was felt that this has resolved the issue.</p> <p>f) Removal of Japanese Knotweed at riverside in Gavinton JG contacted Jason Hedley of SBC to report the Japanese Knotweed and give the location in the Gavinton woods. It was suggested that BW meet up with an SBC officer to show the exact location however this has not yet happened. JG to follow up with Jason Hedley/ Craig Blackie and arrange for this meeting to take place as soon as possible before the Knotweed disappears over the winter.</p> <p>g) Issue of parking at entrance to The Glebe, Gavinton JG suggested contacting Phillipa Gilhouly of SBC to request a single white line be painted on one side of the road entrance into the Glebe in Gavinton to control parking – this would not require a traffic regulation order to be written and so may be a quicker solution to the problem.</p> <p>h) Update on enquiries into the change of speed limit A6105</p>	<p>AS/KD/VAD JG</p> <p>KD/TD/JG</p> <p>BW</p> <p>BW/JG</p> <p>AS/BW</p> <p>KD</p>
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	<p>Duns/Greenlaw Road KD wrote to Phillipa Gilhouly at SBC to discuss the change to the speed limit from 40 mph to 60 mph over approximately 100yds on the approach to the Duns 30mph buffer zone. PG informed KD that there are regulations on how frequently the speed limit can change on a roadway resulting in the change of speed limit on this short section. PG said that the 20mph trial is currently being evaluated by Napier University and SBC expect to receive a report in the Autumn. It was pointed out that all of the traffic regulation orders in the trial are temporary and subject to review by SBC once all the necessary information has been gathered. The CC have raised the issue of the change in speed limit on the A6105 with SBC and will now wait to see the results of the review.</p> <p>i) Update on Multi-use path TJ wished to inform the CC of a meeting with Greener Melrose to discuss the East Berwickshire green route multi-use path project due to be held 13/14th October 2021. TJ felt that a representative of the CC should attend this meeting. The CC felt that TJ was most knowledgeable regarding the project and requested that he attend this meeting on our behalf and report back to the CC.</p>	TJ/KD
8	<p>Planning KD prepared a planning summary prior to the meeting which was made available on the community webpage.</p> <p>KD noted that there were 2 new applications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application for replacement windows at Eden House, South Street, Gavinton. 2. Land North East of Woodend Farmhouse Duns Scottish Borders. Application submitted for erection of a dwelling house. <p>The CC had no objection to these applications.</p> <p>KD informed the meeting that an application for Crunklaw Farm House, internal and external alterations – has now been withdrawn.</p> <p>BW queried a registered planning application for replacement windows at 4 Maitland Row, Gavinton. KD offered to look into this application.</p> <p>KD followed up a previous enquiry from a Gavinton resident regarding planning permission for a replacement door at the Old Smiddy in Gavinton. KD was informed that planning consent had been given by SBC for replacement doors and windows at this property.</p> <p>Details of all planning applications are available on the community webpage.</p>	KD

9	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Berwickshire police report August 2021 forwarded to all CC prior to the meeting. • Information on East Berwickshire Light Railway Link to Central Borders – forwarded to all CC members prior to the meeting. This rail link would follow the old railway line from Reston to Galashiels. KD noted that east-west travel across the Borders was difficult and that easier links to Galashiels would be a benefit to young people wishing to access the College. The CC agreed that links to the East Coast Main line and Borders Railway network would benefit the area although plans for the light railway are at a very early stage. • 20mph Speed Trial – survey 2 for CC was forwarded to KD to complete on behalf of the CC. KD wished the views of the CC on the questions within the survey before completing and submitting on our behalf. The CC were in agreement that the 20mph speed limit on Main Street in Gavinton was popular with local residents. CC felt that the 20mph speed restriction had only a marginal effect on walking and cycling in the village. The CC suggested extending the 30mph buffer zone on the A6105 to include the 100yds that has been changed to 60mph for the trial. The CC had misgivings over certain details of implementation regarding speed limits throughout the area and more specifically regarding the detailed implementation in Duns generally and the A68 Earlston 20 mph zone. KD noted that there is overwhelming evidence that collisions at 20mph cause far fewer deaths than at 30mph. • Update on resilient communities from SBC and request for information forwarded to KD. KD confirmed that we are still a resilient community. The resilient community plan was drawn up 10 years ago and has not been revised but we do have an active community of volunteers available. 	<p>AS</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>
10	<p>Councillor Update</p> <p>Cllr John Greenwell alerted the meeting to the current review of play parks to be upgraded by SBC. It had been confirmed by SBC in March 2020 that Gavinton play park had been selected for an upgrade. Our 3 local councillors were asked which play parks they thought should be prioritised and all 3 recommended Gavinton. JG suggested contacting Craig Blackie directly to indicate that consultations and plans could be finalised in a couple of weeks with works beginning as soon as possible to ensure the project is fully delivered within the time frame of March 2022. KD to e-mail Craig Blackie. JG confirmed that SBC have an approved contractor for the works and that we would likely be given a selection of 2-3 blocks of play equipment to choose from. The CC felt that this would make a Facebook/website and community consultation on residents preferred selection of play equipment a quick and easy option.</p> <p>JG wished to inform the meeting of the Queens platinum jubilee bank holiday, 2nd-5th June 2022.</p> <p>JG has accepted the post of chair of the autism strategy group – the CC wish him well in this post.</p>	<p>JG/KD</p>

	<p>MR was unable to attend the meeting but contacted the CC prior to the meeting to alert us of the review of play parks for refurbishment and also recommended contacting Craig Blackie directly.</p> <p>Cllr Moffat was unable to attend the meeting.</p>	MR
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BW commented that play equipment for younger children should be located on the village green but that there was a need for fitness/play equipment for older children at the football fields in Gavinton. • AS was asked by the village hall committee to request repairs by SBC to the outside wall of the village hall. This wall was repaired by SBC approximately 2 years ago but now large holes are appearing in the mortar between the stones - AS to send photos of the wall to JG who has offered to raise this issue with Darren Silcock and request that a repair be carried out. 	<p>BW</p> <p>AS</p>
12	<p>Dates of Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall, at 7pm on Monday 8th November and 13th December 2021. 24th January, 7th march, 18th April and 6th June (AGM) 2022. Meetings may be held over Zoom when it is considered necessary. 	
13	The meeting closed at 8.55 pm	