



GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting
Monday the 24th January 2022 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	Welcome and Introductions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairperson Keith Dickinson welcomed, Cllr Mark Rowley, Amanda Stewart, Barry Van Der Boer & Neil Gilmour. 	
2	Apologies: Cllr Donald Moffat, Cllr John Greenwell, Lorraine Tait, Carole Wright, Bryce Weir	
3	Declarations of interest: None raised	
4	Minutes of the meeting 13th December 2021 Minutes were approved with no amendments	AS
5	Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere in the agenda Dark Skies – JG had this added to SBC Climate Action Change Report to be discussed by council in Feb 2022.	
6	Treasurers Report Transactions since last meeting 13th December 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheque for £64.50 issued to AS to cover cost of dog bags Cheque for £466.80 issued to AS for cost of replacement defibrillator cabinet. Balance of CC account £2028.78 General funds £1382.04 Covid support funds £646.74 CW has received information from Clare Malster advising that the insurance premium for the defibrillator & cabinet is due and will cost £17.92- CW will pay this once an invoice is received. CW requested that anyone with expenses to claim should let her know and submit receipts to be reimbursed before the end of the financial year.	CW
7	Plans for CC Elections Last CC elections were held in 2016 with elections due to be held in 2020 postponed due to covid restrictions. KD circulated advise from SBC on how to hold an election to all CC prior to the meeting. There are 10 seats available on the community council and we require a minimum of 5 community councillors. There are currently 7 CC members some of whom may wish to stand down at the election and therefore we must recruit new members from our local community. We also require a returning officer, usually one of our SBC councillors. MR kindly offered to help with the organisation of the election. KD indicated that by the 18 th April we should have gone through the	KD

	<p>process of seeking nominations, if between 5-10 people are nominated then they are returned unopposed, if more than 10 are nominated then an election must be held. If required an election can be held after the CC meeting on 18th April 2022 with the intention of newly elected community councillors being in place for the CC AGM on 6th June 2022.</p> <p>MR noted that Duns CC are looking to recruit some younger members of the community and MR to meet the Rector of Berwickshire High School on 25th Jan 2022 to discuss encouraging interested young people over the age of 16 to join the CC. The committee asked MR to advise the high school that we would be happy to welcome younger members of our community to the GFPC.</p>	
8	<p>Community Improvements and Maintenance- Current</p> <p>a) Update on problem of overhanging shrubbery in Gavinton. JG was unable to attend the meeting and therefore this update was unavailable.</p> <p>b) Issue of parking at entrance to The Glebe, Gavinton AS e-mailed our community police officer to request a review of parking in this area and to contact residents where a vehicle is causing obstruction, awaiting a response.</p> <p>c) Upgrade of Gavinton Play Park DM has provided AS with a list of SBC approved suppliers for play equipment. AS to form a sub-committee of local residents and members of the village hall committee to discuss priorities for improvements to the play park.</p> <p>d) Services available from the SBC Dog Education Officer Rose Hogg, SBC Dog Education Officer, has offered to add signs at the football fields and along the Fogo road to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets and will walk the area to survey the issue of dog fouling and pass on any relevant advice to the CC.</p> <p>e) Resilient Community Response to Storm Arwen/ SPEN compensation TJ produced a digital map of our CC area identifying properties affected by the power outage following storm Arwen and the duration that power was lost. This map was sent to MR to help ensure that residents receive the correct compensation from SPEN. This map has been well received at SBC and TJ, Logan Inglis & KD met with Netta Meadows, Jenny Craig and John Curry at SBC with the aim of promoting digital mapping and the Gavinton.net webpage as a model for other CCs. MR is due to meet the Chief Executive of SPEN next week to discuss compensation. MR is concerned that some residents have not received any of the compensation they are entitled too and currently there is no appeals process in place. MR has asked council officers to look into this issue. Compensation should have been issued automatically with money promised before Xmas however SPEN don't appear to have a clear picture of which properties were cut off from power and when power was re-established. To complicate matters further once power was restored many properties suffered from a low flow of electricity rendering it unusable for many hours. AS received requests for help with compensation from local residents via the community Facebook page – requests to be</p>	<p>BW/JG</p> <p>AS</p> <p>AS</p> <p>AS</p> <p>KD/AS/TJ/NG</p> <p>MR</p> <p>AS</p>

	forwarded to MR for further help and advice.	
	<p>f) Platinum Jubilee Fund SBC have circulated information on a new fund available to help communities celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. Grants of around £1000 are available. Donald Rae of the village hall committee has offered to complete an application on behalf of our community to fund a celebration on the village green in Gavinton. KD noted that this event may be an opportunity to thank the resilient community volunteers that came forward to help the community during the Covid pandemic. AS to bring this suggestion to the attention of the village hall committee at the next meeting – 3rd Feb 2022. MR noted that the Jubilee website has ideas for beacons to be lit along the coastline and for tree planting to commemorate the occasion.</p>	KD/AS
	<p>g) Maintenance of Information Signs-Fogo KD noted that information signs at Fogo Kirk and at Hunters Bridge had been damaged by storm Arwen and were generally in a poor state of repair. KD offered to look into having these signs repaired and renewed. AS to ask TS of Fogo Kirk if there are currently any plans by the church community to repair these information signs.</p>	KD/AS
	<p>h) Vehicle Speed – Main St Gavinton B.VDB wished to attend the meeting to raise the issue of vehicles travelling at excess speed at the east end of Main Street, Gavinton as the road opens up to the single track road leaving the village. B.VDB noted that vehicles travelling at far higher speeds than the current 20 mph limit included tractors towing fully laden trailers and many lorries and vans. B.VDB had contacted some local companies directly to complain about their vehicles speeding through the village. He felt that current signage was being ignored and that speed calming measures and police enforcement was required. KD noted that concerns over the speed of vehicles travelling through the village were shared by the CC. KD offered to share information previously gathered on traffic speeds on Main Street – although these measurements were taken further up Main Street and are not indicative of vehicle speeds passing The Glebe. MR noted that the slow speeds being maintained through Duns by the 20mph trial may have pushed more traffic through Gavinton towards the industrial estate in Duns. MR offered to pass this information on to Phillipa Gilhouly of SBC to ask for this situation to be monitored. KD felt that as conditions will have changed, due to the new 20mph limit and the displacement of traffic, new speed measurements by SBC traffic officers are required. Up to date speeds of vehicles passing the Glebe should help justify future plans to reduce vehicle speeds in this area.</p>	B.VDB/KD/MR

9	<p>Community Improvements & Maintenance – issues to be kept under review and discussed only when appropriate updates are available.</p> <p>a) Review of SBC grass cutting and maintenance of vegetation on roadside verges. AS contacted Craig Blackie of SBC to enquire about the plan for weed killing in Gavinton. Unfortunately, CB response that weedkilling in Gavinton would be done on an ‘ad-hoc’ basis by SBC staff did not clarify the situation. JG kindly wrote to CB on our behalf to request that in conjunction with the CC a weedkilling programme is set out in early spring of 2022 to get ahead of the issue of weeds at the start of the growing season. We await a response from CB.</p> <p>b) Removal of Japanese Knotweed at Riverside in Gavinton</p> <p>c) Update on enquiries into the change of speed limit A6105 Duns/Greenlaw Road</p> <p>d) Replacement of Defibrillator cabinet-Gavinton AS has purchased a replacement cabinet and will contact the electrician preferred by the village hall committee to have this installed.</p> <p>e) Maintenance of hedges at the football fields, Gavinton. Work on reducing the height of the hedges began 17th January 2022 and is ongoing.</p> <p>f) Improvements to Gavinton football pitches</p>	<p>AS/JG</p> <p>BW</p> <p>AS</p> <p>VAD</p>
10	<p>Planning</p> <p>KD prepared a planning summary prior to the meeting which was made available on the community webpage.</p> <p>KD noted that there are 3 new planning applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alterations to dwelling house, Plum Cottage, South Street, Gavinton. 2. Erection of dwelling house, land west of Hardens Hall (plot 2) Duns. 3. Erection of dwelling house, land west of Langton Birches, Duns <p>Details of all planning applications are available on the community webpage.</p>	KD
11	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Berwickshire police report December 2021 forwarded to all CC prior to the meeting. • Debrief analysis form – resilient community response to storm Arwen, submitted by KD on behalf of CC. • SBC have launched funding for the Platinum Jubilee – now open for applications. • SBC budget consultation forwarded to all CC- open until 30th January 2022. • Consultation on the SBC Common Good Asset Register forwarded to all CC. 	AS

12	<p>Councillor Update</p> <p>Cllr John Greenwell and Cllr Donald Moffat were unable to attend the meeting and therefore their update was unavailable.</p> <p>Cllr Mark Rowley wished to inform the meeting that the Duns Summer Festival would return in July 2022!</p>	MR
13	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.VDB raised the issue of mud on Main Street, Gavinton. Mud is being left on the road by tractors working in the field at the Glebe end of Gavinton on the approach to the single-track road and this now presents a danger to vehicles and pedestrians. • KD wished to inform the meeting that Neil Gilmour had agreed to review the resilient communities plan and in conjunction with Donald Rae of the village hall committee to see how the village hall could be used to support the community in emergency situations. KD and the community council wished to thank Neil for all his work in re-establishing this important community resource. 	KD
14	<p>Dates of Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall, at 7pm on Monday 7th March, 18th April and 6th June (AGM) 2022. Meetings may be held over Zoom when it is considered necessary. 	
15	The meeting closed at 8.20 pm	