



GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Gavinton Village Hall
on Monday 9th of December 2024 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	Welcome and Introductions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chairperson Amanda Stewart welcomed Carole Wright, Neil Gilmour, John Hughes, Bryce Weir, Tony Huggins-Haig, Yvonne Huggins-Haig, Morag Naylor, Kathy Anderson and Katy Massie.	
2	Cllr Donald Moffat	
3	Declarations of interest: None raised	
4	Minutes of the meeting on 11th November 2024 Minutes were approved with no amendments.	MN
5	Matters arising from the minutes and not covered elsewhere in the agenda None	
6	Treasurers Report Transactions on the account since the last meeting on 11 th November 2024: Cheques Issued: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cheque for £435.18 to AS for defibrillator pads and a new batteryCheque for £220.20 to AS for new passing place signs Balance of the CC Account: General funds £1154.41 The remaining £35.98 in the Covid 19/Resilient Community fund was put towards the purchase of the defibrillator supplies.	CW

<p>7</p>	<p>Community Improvements and Maintenance- Current</p> <p>a) Vehicle Speed - Main Street/Crimson Hill, Gavinton & Hardens Road</p> <p>NG said it would seem from the response he had received from SBC they didn't think there was a problem in Gavinton and that if there was a speeding incident the time and registration details should be passed on to the police. With the constraints on the police force, it was unlikely there would be a result. It was felt that the CC had tried every avenue.</p> <p>Regarding the Hardens Road problems the slow and bend warning signs have still not been installed. YHH to continue to oversee this.</p> <p>(b) Vehicle speed restrictions through Fogo</p> <p>AS advised SBC's Traffic and Road Safety Department that, failing a 20mph limit, Fogo village residents would like to be considered for a 40mph limit in the next speed limit review. CW reported that some residents had said the new warning sign showing parents/children seemed to have the effect of slowing traffic.</p> <p>(c) "Pedestrians in the road" signs</p> <p>AS had contacted SBC's Road Safety and Traffic Management Dept to say that the signs had been placed on Main Street and not on the route from Gavinton to the Ford on the single-track section, as had been requested. She was told that a local resident had directed SBC staff to erect them within the speed limit area. She was also told that the Dept's budget had been allocated and unless there was underspend there was no guarantee the signs could be moved this financial year. It was questioned how a resident was allowed to overrule the CC in the matter and AS was asked to report this to Cllr Greenwell.</p> <p>(d) Parking at the Gavinton football pitches</p> <p>AS said that, true to her word, Alison Payne had been out directing traffic at the Saturday match following the last CC meeting and everything went well. Unfortunately, at the Monday practice drivers reverted to parking on the verges and causing obstructions. AP erected posts as a temporary measure. AS requested parking cones from SBC to be delivered to Duns FC Juniors -PG to liaise with AP.</p>	<p>NG</p> <p>YHH</p> <p>AS/CW</p> <p>AS</p> <p>AS</p>
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8	<p>Community Improvements & Maintenance – issues to be kept under review and discussed only when appropriate updates are available.</p> <p>a) Deterioration of road surface – Main St. Gavinton (JG/BW)</p> <p>b) Update on GoFibre extension of fibre broadband network. AS to follow up with GoFibre about a sagging cable</p> <p>c) Verges between the Crimson Hill exit and the turnoff to the Ford At the suggestion of Cllr Greenwell YHH had emailed John Evans of the Community Action Group asking him to visit the site but had no reply. YHH to follow up.</p> <p>d) Defibrillator for Fogo CW had spoken to a member of the Fogo Kirk Community Church Trust who reported that it did not have the funds for the defibrillator but might be able to make a contribution towards costs like pads and battery. She had also spoken to the head of the Nursery who advised that the Trustees were happy to have the defibrillator sited beside the Nursery but did not want to have any responsibility for it. As regards the equipment costs fundraising events could be organized as had happened in Gavinton and at Turnbull Court. Sponsorship could also be sought from local businesses. CW suggested a meeting be arranged with Fogo residents to establish if there was serious interest and if so to get the latter on board about being involved both in raising funds and being responsible for its ongoing responsibility.</p> <p>e) Passing place signs on C101 from Gavinton to A6112 to Duns AS had purchased the two signs to be installed.</p> <p>f) Fallen trees on Charterhall Estate land CW reported that after the heavy rain over the weekend the flood water in the river had cleared the blockage. AS had emailed Cllr Greenwell asking if it was possible to have an independent inspection by SBC of the leaning trees. No reply has been received yet.</p> <p>g) SBC’s Grass Management & Damage at Fogo Church Graveyard</p>	<p>BW AS</p> <p>YHH</p> <p>CW/AS</p> <p>AS/BW</p>
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9	<p>SBC Review of non-financial support to community councils</p> <p>YHH had attended the Duns Community Led Planning meeting. She queried why Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth had not been included and was told towns rather than small communities were being included. Priorities being discussed for Duns residents, so far, included a skatepark, better bus connections and multi-use paths. John Fisher, involved in this project, said he would like to attend the next GFPC meeting on 27th January 2025.</p>	YHH
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10	<p>Proposal for application to the Blackhill Windfarm Community Fund for funding subsidised membership of Duns Swimming Pool</p> <p>CW thanked AS and her daughter Niamh for all they had done in designing the poster and online questionnaire to canvas interest in subsidized swimming lessons for children, and individual and over 60's membership. There had been 20 responses by the cutoff date but there may still be a few interested people. CW would now put together an application for funding from the Blackhill Windfarm Community Fund. If successful, application forms would be sent to those who expressed interest.</p> <p>It was pointed out that Duns Pool was the biggest provider of swimming lessons in the Scottish Border.</p>	CW
11	<p>Feedback on the Resilient Communities meeting</p> <p>NG reported on the meeting held on 17th November at the SBC offices. He would be putting an item on the CC Facebook page giving advice in the event of severe weather conditions and would do an article for the Village Hall newsletter. Apparently Gavinton was one in only three village halls in the Borders that has a generator.</p>	NG
12	<p>Correspondence forwarded to CC prior to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mid Berwickshire police reports for October and November 2024 o Berwickshire Community Partnership meeting, Duns 22nd August 2024 o Berwickshire Area Partnership meeting, Coldstream 5th December 2024 with Well and Warm event beforehand. o Berwickshire Tree Survey o Borders Warm Spaces Support Grant 	MN

13	<p>Councillor Update</p> <p>As there were no councillors in attendance there was no update.</p>	
14	<p>Planning</p> <p>A planning summary was circulated prior to the meeting. Since the last meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The application (retrospective) for the erection of temporary accommodation, access, parking and timber outbuilding on land West of Hardens Hall (plot 2) 23/00513/FUL has been approved. 2. A new application for the erection of an agricultural building on Nisbet Hill Farm, Duns 24/01367/AGN has been received. YHH advised that as it is a Class 6 application it does not need to come to the CC for comment. 	AS/YHH

15	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YHH noted the last day for SBC to respond to the Lees Hill Energy Park application was 5th February 2025. If SBC objects to the application it will go to a public enquiry. 2. AS reminded everyone about articles for the Village Hall newsletter. 3. NG said John Craik had once again delivered a Christmas tree for the Village Green. It was agreed to give him a thank you present, and JH agreed to arrange this on behalf of the CC. 4. NG said that the tall ash tree on the road out at the west end of Gavinton, identified in the Berwickshire Tree Survey, was to be felled. 5. NG had erected the flag for St Andrews Day but pointed out it was not included in the flag protocol. AS to correct. NG said he was happy to take over responsibility for flag raising on the Village Green. 6. NG said the key for the Village noticeboard had seized. He also said that 	<p>JH</p> <p>NG</p>
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	<p>the sign at the Ann Smith memorial had come down. He had done running repairs but it was agreed that he approach a local tradesman to arrange repairs for both.</p> <p>7. NG noted that the illuminated speed signs showed different outcomes.</p> <p>8. BW said there was a repeat of vehicles without registration plates/MOT parking on the verges at Crimson Hill. Following the previous incidents it had been established it was an SBC issue. NG had emailed Cllr Greenwell. BW to send details to AS.</p>	<p>NG</p> <p>BW</p>
16	<p>Dates of Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Date of next meeting, Monday 27th January 2025 – 7pm Gavinton Village Hall. <p>Future meetings will be held at Gavinton Village Hall, at 7pm on Monday 10th March, 21st April, 2nd June (AGM), 18th August, 29th September, 17th November 2025 and 12th January 2026.</p>	
17	<p>The meeting closed at 8.30pm</p>	