



GAVINTON, FOGO & POLWARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held at Gavinton Village Hall
Monday the 8th of June 2026 at 7pm

Item	Comment	Action
1	Welcome and Introductions: Chairperson Amanda Stewart welcomed Carole Wright, Bryce Weir, Neil Gilmour, John Hughes, Yvonne Huggins-Haig, Cathy Anderson, Katie Massie, Anne Lindsey, Julie Preston, Cllr Donald Moffat & Cllr John Greenwell.	
2	Apologies: Tony Huggins-Haig	
3	Declarations of interest: None raised	
4	Minutes of the last AGM held on 2nd June 2025 Minutes were approved with no amendments	AS
5	Report by the chairperson on the councils' activities for the previous year A copy of the chairperson's report was circulated to all members prior to the meeting and is available on the community webpage gavinton.net. A summary of completed projects is at the end of the report. AS thanked the members of the CC for their work during the past year and Cllr Greenwell for his attendance at meetings and his advice and assistance.	AS
6	Treasurers Report for the year ending 31st March 2026 - Balance brought forward 1st April 2025 £321.77 - Balance on 31st March 2026 £357.10 Total income for the year was £935.43 made up of: £693 SBC support grant £72 reimbursement for village hall hire £170.43 contribution from Gavinton Village Hall towards website costs. Total expenditure for the year was £900.10 The main expenditure was £289.70 for website costs. Other main items of expenditure: £141.12 dog waste bags £138.09 new battery and charger for the generator £116 hire of Gavinton village hall for meetings £76.99 maintaining planters and replacing flowers £56.99 red paint for phone box at Polwarth CW thanked Liz Casey for reviewing the CC accounts.	CW
7	Any proposals for the amendment of the community council's constitution None raised	
8	Election of office bearers Chair: Amanda Stewart -proposed by NG seconded by JH Vice Chair: Yvonne Huggins-Haig- proposed by AS seconded by CW Treasurer: Carole Wright- proposed by KM seconded by YHH	

[illegible]

	will be approved quickly after this date. Jonathan Jones confirmed the plan to replace rotten timbers and broken tiles and to treat the Lych gate structure for woodworm. The broken-down area of stone wall will be cleared during the works to allow an alternative access for church services. This area of stone wall will then be rebuilt. SBC bulk refuse collections YHH noted that there is a delay of 16 weeks in having large items uplifted by SBC. There is little hope that this system will change. The Salvation Army are now being asked to uplift large items of furniture. Item can be removed from agenda. Repair to benches, Hunters Bridge, Fogo Duns 'Men's Shed' have not had time to carry out maintenance on the benches – YHH to follow up. Repair to wooden fencing, path from Hunters bridge to Fogo Kirk. JG contacted Henry Trotter who confirmed that the fence is on Charterhall land. AS and CW to meet with Henry Trotter to discuss further. Tree Maintenance- large cherry tree in centre of Gavinton Village Green Natasha Stockman (SBC) confirmed that the planning permission has now been approved and she is reaching out to local contractors to tender for the works. Repair to community notice boards- Gavinton Matt Dickinson has begun the repairs to the notice boards.	YHH/JG NG/YHH CW/JG/AS AS AS
16	Community Improvements & Maintenance – issues to be kept under review and discussed only when appropriate updates are available. a. Deterioration of road surface- Main Street, Gavinton. b. Parking at the Gavinton football pitches. AS to contact DJFC to ask for the dog bag dispenser to be reinstated. c. Resilient Communities – additional/replacement salt bins. YHH confirmed that she would provide transport for the salt bin- NG to direct delivery to the bottom of South Street opposite the emergency equipment store. d. Potholes on Hardens Road KM updated the meeting that she had reported 2 dangerous potholes on the Hardens Road to SBC and noted that the repairs were carried out quickly and to a good standard.	JG/BW AS NG/YHH KM

	- Information from SBC on weed management trial to reduce the use of glyphosate circulated to all CC. - Survey on non-financial support to community councils was circulated – this survey is open until 3rd August 2026 and CC are encouraged to participate. - Information on road closures by SBC for surface dressing were shared on the CC Facebook site. The A6112 at Preston will be closed from 07:30-17:30 on 25th June and the road from Gavinton to Choicelee will be closed from 08:30-17:30 on the 26th June.	
21	Councillor Update Cllr John Greenwell - JG has been involved in discussions to change the Armed Forces Covenant helping veterans have better access to health, housing and social care. It is hoped that the new covenant will become law by September. - JG noted that April was the month of the 'Military Child' with poetry and art competitions. JG praised the high standards attained by the winners. This competition will be started earlier next year to increase the number of entries. - JG is involved in the review of paid parking – the plan is to harmonise all paid car parks with the same pricing regime across the Borders. It was noted that revenue from parking must be spent on road and transport related projects. Cllr Donald Moffat - DM is involved in a new group reviewing festival grants and support. DM had concerns that not all smaller groups/events were sufficiently represented within this group. Anne Lindsay noted that Duns Summer Festival group receive funding of £3,300 for an event that costs £20,000 annually. - DM informed the meeting of plans to remove a hedge that obstructs the narrow footpath along the A6105 towards the high school in Duns. - DM reported that there has been an issue with electric car chargers in Duns. There is currently only one available charger in Duns Industrial Estate. - DM reported that 2 applications for wind turbines had been refused by SBC planners. An application at Glenburnie/Longcroft was refused as it was on the site of 3 hill forts and a separate application at Monashee was refused on the grounds of visibility. - DM was awarded the French Medal of Honour in thanks for his work over the last 37 years on town twinning with Coldstream. The CC congratulated him on this great achievement.	JG DM
22	Planning 3 new applications: 26/00615/FUL, South View, Gavinton. Extension to form conservatory. 25/01031/SCO- proposal of application notice, Windshiel Wind Farm.	YHH/AS

	26/00471/LBC- Fogo Lych Gate, timber work and repairs to gate. 1 application decided 24/00145/FUL, June Cottage, Duns. Erection of block wall with timber fence (retrospective). Approved. YHH noted that comments submitted to Cameron Kirk in relation to the planning application for the plot owned by the golf club had been considered and taken up with the agent involved.	
23	Any other business - AS thanked Neil & Jan Gilmour for their work on maintaining the benches in Gavinton. - A resident of Gavinton has offered to create a fruit/veg barrow to allow residents to share home grown produce and plants. The CC agreed to the request for up to £100 to be available to purchase additional supplies. It was suggested that a collection tin could be added for donations towards defibrillator consumables. - NG has been approached by 3 local residents concerned by the damage being done to pavements on Main Street by the SBC pavement sweeper. JG to enquire. - BW noted that there was an abandoned vehicle at the bottom of Main Street, Gavinton. BW to send details to AS to report to SBC.	AS AS NG/JG BW/AS
24	Dates of meetings - Date of next meeting, Monday 17th August – 7pm Gavinton Village Hall - Future meetings will be held at 7pm on 28th September, 16th November and 11th January (2027).	
25	The meeting closed at 8.30pm	