

Gifford Community Council

Minutes

of the meeting of Monday, 11th April 2011,
held in the Todrick Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

1. Welcome: Alastair McClung (AMcC), Acting Chair, welcomed those present: Elizabeth Whiteford (EW) Treasurer (taking notes), Andrew Gilmour (AG), Margaret McDougall (MMcD), Shona Thomas (ST), Margaret Maslowski (MMas), John Wrinn (JW), WPC Deborah Gray and 7 members of the public.
2. Apologies: John O'Connor, and ELC Cllr Ludovic Broun Lindsay.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 14th March 2011 Draft 2: proposed by JW, seconded by MMcD, and *Agreed*, but subject to the following corrections:
Item 5: The reporting WPC was Deborah Gray not Lynn Black.
Item 11. Hugh Broad had already been thanked.
Item 13. Add, that JOC has the "Avenue etc Right to Buy" renewal papers.
4. Matters arising: In relation to the agreed address by Andrew Hamilton, Forbes Lodge Planning Applicant, Stuart Jeffray expressed his concern, that no support had been given by our three ELC Councillors (all on the Planning Committee) to the Gifford Community Council's (GCC) objections to the application. AMcC intimated, that Mr Hamilton would not attend to give the address: he had suggested to Mr Hamilton that there was no real need to address the Community Council again as he had gained planning permission for the plot of land already; he agreed and decided not to attend. AG felt that it was possibly a letter from a member of the community to Mr Hamilton that had irked him, informing him how the villagers felt about the development. Close attention should therefore be paid to future development of the site now that Planning Permission had been granted.
Ian Arnott confirmed that Mr Groves-Raines, the architect, had commented to him together with AG that he had not been commissioned for the full service and did not assume that he would necessarily continue to be involved. He agreed with AG that the approved design was not protected against subsequent alteration, and reminded the Community Council that the planning officials had recommended that the dreadful first Application should be accepted; fortunately the Planning Committee was not persuaded and rejected it. The danger remains that they may not defend the current approved design against adverse change, and we must remain vigilant. Stuart Jeffray remarked, that the GCC Minutes displayed on the Notice Board were two months out of date. It was explained, that the Minutes could not be displayed, until they had been approved by GCC (with any necessary corrections made).

Ian Gibson a member of the public expressed displeasure at bonfires at Forbes Lodge at 7 pm on Saturday evening and again on Sunday afternoon, when people were hoping to enjoy the beautiful weather: he thought, that more consideration was required. He was advised, that anyone disturbed by bonfires should contact the ELC Community Action Team.

5. Police: WPC Deborah Gray reported two incidents in Walden Terrace: first involved street lights going out – it was thought, that it could possibly have been caused by youths hitting lamp posts – this had been reported to ELC street lighting department: the second related to the use of a laser pen – this was confiscated. She also intimated, that a **radar gun speed trap** would soon operate in the village.
6. Giffordonline: The website www.giffordonline.co.uk appears to be working well. See also the note at the end of these Minutes. There was a suggestion too, that the website should advertise the vacancies on Gifford Community Council.
7. Correspondence: None: It was wondered, whether Julian had had any.
8. Planning: See the report, which appears at the end of these Minutes. There had been three applications for Planning Permission, but none controversial. No action to be taken.
9. Reports: None.
10. Pot holes and repairs: Duns Road into Wynd and in Walden Terrace: MMcD will contact ELC roads department. A water main cover on Park Road pavement was broken: EW will contact Scottish Water. At 12, Walden Place a drain cover was missing: EW will contact ELC.
11. Christmas Tree 2010: This to be left off the agenda until our September meeting, when we will discuss the 2011 Tree.
12. Ongoing items not covered elsewhere: see Item 13.
13. AOB.
 1. Bus services: First bus replacing local operator: It was thought, that this might make the local operators not viable, and possibly not be available in the future for private hire to the detriment of local groups. ELC Councillor Paul McLennan had e-mailed JOC to say “ELC will be looking at how we progress Demand Responsive Transport and will look to do so in the next few months. Happy to meet with the Community Council to discuss”. AMcC said that car sharing might be

more widely used. It was decided to leave further discussion until the revised timetable was available.

2. Avenue: Recycling Bins: AMcC advised that it would cost about £80 to paint each of the four bins (covering cleaning appropriate priming with special paint, undercoating and 2 or 3 top coats), giving a total of £320. He suggested, that we should not incur this cost.
3. Avenue etc “Right to Buy”: JW will get the renewal papers from JOC, and he will renew.
4. War Memorial: this item to be deleted, and reinstated only if anyone thought something should be done to it.
5. Toilet taps etc: JOC is progressing this.
6. Tennis Courts: Alastair still awaiting a meeting with the feuars. He thought, that the golf course was in the hands of the Feuars, but AG stated, that this was not so: that rather there was a Golf Course Trust. There was a discussion regarding, who the feuars were, but EW stated, that she thought, that there were only two viz. Max Muir and Findlay Marshall.
7. Gian Carlo Menotti memorial: JOC had sent an e-mail with a letter of support.
8. White lines at the Village Square: It was decided, that unless there was a real road safety issue, this should be rejected.
9. Bleachfield Wall: Progressing.
10. Toilet sign at Station Road: AMcC suggested, that a re-cycling sign should appear on the same post.
11. Yester Woodlands: agreed, that JW should look further into this: we would join the Community Woodlands Association (application already submitted), and get what help we could from them. JW could apply for up to £10,000 for a feasibility study: It might take three months to get a grant. It was agreed, that we should ask our community, what they thought of this project, as it would take a very large sum of money to progress it.
12. Herds horn and bell: still to be decided where to display.
13. Development of Bleachfield area: Unfortunately, due to Liz Stewart not getting information back from ELC early enough, the 31 March deadline for application for grant was missed.
14. A vote of thanks was extended to Julian Tennent for all his many years service to GCC and to the Community. JOC to write.

The meeting closed at 9.04

14. Date of next meeting: Monday, 9th May 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Todrick Room of Gifford Village Hall.

Website www.giffordonline.co.uk is expected to show our March Minutes, these Minutes, and future Minutes. Click on the “Village page” link above a nice photograph of Gifford Main Street. It also shows all our Minutes for 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, February 2011, our Mission Statement, our Constitution, and the **dates of our meetings** in 2011.

Gifford Community Council Meeting 11.04.11
REPORT ON PLANNING MATTERS

page 1 of 1

Weekly Listings of Registered Applications over the past weeks since the last meeting contained the following application for work within the GCC area.

	Registered
17.03.11	1
11/00205/P	Alterations to house 9 Park Road, Gifford EH41 4QS for Miss Margaret Bryce <i>—not controversial; conversion of outside store & porch to form utility room</i>
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24.03.11	1
11/00199/P	Extension to house, erection of garage/shed, re-siting of oil storage tank Sandford Cottage, Tweeddale Avenue, Gifford EH41 4QN for Mr & Mrs P Love <i>—not controversial unless neighbours are concerned about boundary fence/walls and proximity of garage/shed; narrow entrance to garage</i>
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31.03.11	nil
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07.04.11	1
11/009253/P	Alterations and extension to house Speedyburn House, 24 Station Road, Gifford EH41 4QL for Mrs Jill Hinton <i>—a re-submission of the plans we discussed in February; little apparent change, but inadequate drawings.</i>
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Andrew Gilmour
11 April 2011