

# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 131st meeting, held on 28th August 1995 in  
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

## PRESENT:

Sandy Smith (Chairman), Tom Smith (Secretary), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer)  
Harold Alexander-Bowen, Sandy Begg, Sgt Peter Boni (Portobello Police), Celia Butterworth,  
Graham Jeffrey (Portobello Police), Keith Jeffrey, Ray Lang, Alex Muir, George Murray,  
Gordon Stirling, Lawrence Marshall, Elsie Thom.

## APOLOGIES:

Maureen Child, Gavin Strang, Nick Stroud.

**Note:** people who wish to submit apologies at the last minute should notify Sandy Smith on 669 6534.

### 131.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all those present, and intimated that a tribute to our late Chairman, Len Young, would appear in the next edition of the Porty Reporter.

### 131.2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were accepted as correct: proposed by Ray Lang and seconded by George Murray.

### 131.3 MATTERS ARISING

- 131.3a Rosefield traffic calming: letters have been received from the Director of Transportation together with Alasdair Grey's report to him of our suggestions and comments, made at the June meeting. The street closure is costed at about £5,000 and will take about nine months to implement.
- 131.3b Joppa Tennis Courts: Elsie Thom reported that the season was officially over, and it had been quite a successful one with a profit of about £44. She also reported that the posts and the fence around the courts were in need of repair, and that the hut will be painted soon. She was asked to report back to the next meeting with a list of work needing done, and probable costs. In response to questions she said that a person is employed at a cost of £12 per day to collect the money etc, and the courts will still be available to those who pay for a £10 ticket.
- 131.3c Christmas decorations: the catalogues for decorative lighting were available for inspection. It was decided that the larger pieces, about 4ft by 4ft, were too expensive for us, at £300 to £400. It was agreed that it might be better to use strings of lights concentrated around the Town Hall. The Secretary will try to cost this out for the next meeting and the Chairman will contact Scottish Power to seek a donation.
- 131.3d Litter around the Town Hall: The Cleansing Department were down to look at the situation and reported that provision of bins was well up to their expected level. They will however monitor the position. It was suggested that the existing bins could be repositioned nearer to the seats. Lawrence Marshall will pursue this further.
- 131.3e Kinnaird Park: In response to a reminder from the Secretary, a letter was received from the Planning Department saying that our letter had been received and that our comments had been and were being considered.

131.3f “Towerbank Playground” (on Prom by Toddlers’ Hut): Celia reported that the go-ahead has been given for upgrading of this playground; plans include soft fall areas and lots of things for small children. A picnic table will be provided in the shelter, and litter bins. It was also suggested that a mural on the shelter wall would add interest for older children. During the discussion which followed this report, it was suggested that the Community Council sponsor a competition to design and paint a mural. Entry would be open to all Portobello Schools. Celia Butterworth and the Chairman will liaise on this matter regarding a letter to schools and suggestions about prizes.

## **131.4 REPORTS**

### **131.4a Police**

Sgt Boni reported that pedal cycle thefts are still increasing, with 56 stolen in the last six months.

There have been 1,474 reported crimes this year, with 27 assaults, 250 housebreakings, and 136 thefts from cars.

Traffic accidents were, in June: 56, with one fatality and 13 injured;  
in July: 81, with one fatality and 22 injured.

### **131.4b Signposting and Interpretive Plaques**

Celia gave a progress report on this, saying that some funding could be available from LEEL, Edinburgh District Council, PAS and the Community Council. A 3ft by 2ft vandal-proof plaque costs about £1,000, while an 8in by 5in cast iron wall-mounted plaque costs about £300. It was agreed that Celia would convene a meeting of the original sub-committee with a view to asking for sponsorship from Buchan Pottery, and asking for a Small Projects grant from LEEL.

## **131.5 TREASURER’S REPORT**

The treasurer reported that the extra money to cover the cost of the Joppa Tennis Courts insurance had not materialised, but Neta Sinclair had sent £600 of our grant in advance. The JTC have also handed over their profit for the year – £43.92.

Including both these items, the accounts as at 28th August 1995 are:

Treasurer’s Account:	£1675.00
Joppa Tennis Courts:	£ 362.36

## **131.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 131.6a Disturbance at Fun Fair: members complained that a private party going on until 4am on 28th August at the open air Fun Fair on the Prom had created a disturbance for everyone in the neighbourhood. It was felt that those responsible for issuing a licence for such events as this should be told that this is not acceptable, and that nearby residents should have been consulted – or at least warned about what was proposed. The Secretary will write.
- 131.6b Election of Community Council: members were reminded that nomination forms have to be handed in to the Returning Officer in the Library by 4pm on 29th August 1995. If an election is held, it will be on Tuesday 26th September.

## **131.7 FUTURE MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on the following date in Portobello Baptist Church Hall in the High Street (enter by the door to the right of the Portobello Bar), starting at 7:30pm:

Monday 25th September.

# **PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The 132nd meeting of Portobello Community Council  
will be held  
on Monday 25th September 1995 at 7:30pm,  
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 3. Julia Cormack – Returning Officer; election of Officers**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Reports**
- 6. Treasurer's Report**
- 7. AOCB**
- 8. Dates of future meetings**