

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 140th meeting, held on 24th June 1996 in
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

PRESENT:

Sandy Smith (Chairman), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer)
Harold Alexander-Bowen, PC Andy Allan, Cllr Maureen Child, Shand Hutchison, Keith Jeffrey,
Osbert Lancaster, Cllr Lawrence Marshall, George Murray, Sgt Peter Scholes.

APOLOGIES:

Celia Butterworth, Anne Millan, Lesley Reid, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, Gavin Strang, Nick Stroud.

Cllr Child and Cllr Marshall apologised for having to leave the meeting early.

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

140.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all present.

140.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27th MAY

The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted (proposed by Harold Alexander-Bowen,
seconded by Shand Hutchison).

140.3 MATTERS ARISING

140.3a Towerbank playground: no further information.

140.3b Signposting and Plaques: no further information.

140.3c Universal Markets: Lawrence reported that no planning application had yet been made to the Council.

140.3d Training for Community Councils: a letter has been received saying that a training course would possibly be arranged later in the year.

140.3e Government cuts as they affect Community Councils: George reported that there were no major implications so far. Building has commenced at Portobello High School, and refurbishment of the swimming baths is to go ahead. Voluntary organisations have had their grants frozen at last year's level. The public conveniences at Bath Street and Joppa are to remain open. Museums and libraries are to increase their charges, and community education will have higher fees. The Social Work department is to be reviewed, with possible cuts in funding for the terminally ill. Various travel concessions are to be cut, though Taxicard holders can still travel anywhere including by train. Similar cuts of 8% are expected next year.

140.3f Anniversary of Portobello's amalgamation with Edinburgh: we have received an application for funds, which will be completed and forwarded with Lawrence's help. Any ideas as to the form of the celebration will be welcomed at the next meeting.

140.4 REPORTS

140.4a Police

Sgt Scholes reported that May's figures were static:

Vehicular accidents: there were 20 accidents, 10 involving injury.

Crime statistics: there has been a significant drop in the figures, though with holidays coming up the Police are keen to emphasise the importance of security; a leaflet on the subject is available.

Rowdy behaviour: the Police are monitoring rowdy behaviour of teenagers at Joppa Quarry Park and near the new pumping station.

Jet skiing: the Police were asked if, in view of the possibility of accidents between jet-skiers and swimmers, there is any local bye-law concerning jet-skiing.

Unmarked vans: there are several unmarked vans in the streets, which is a matter for concern following the Manchester bombing. However there is no legislation which forces vans to be marked. (Some are probably unmarked so they can use the city dump without being charged.)

140.4b Treasurer's Report

Tom has appealed to local banks, traders etc for contributions towards our Christmas illuminations. So far we have received £125 for this.

The Treasurer reported that the accounts as at 24th June 1996 are:

Treasurer's Account: £1369.52

Joppa Tennis Courts: £ 574.86

140.4c Future Search

No further meetings have been held so far; a new date will be arranged. Hopefully all interested parties will be at the hundredth anniversary celebration.

140.4d Portobello Museum

Further progress depends on the study currently being undertaken, the report from which is due at the end of the summer.

140.5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

140.6a Bath Street development: 109 objections have been received to the proposed development at the site of the Railwaymen's Club, mostly concerning the height of the building. Lawrence reported that he had tried to get the plans changed, and hopefully the building line will be moved back. The gable end of the adjoining tenement is to be restored.

140.5b Cycling on Promenade: we have received a letter from the Council in response to our objection. It appears that cycling will be allowed for a year's experimental period. This will be advertised locally, and objections can be made at that time. The Secretary will write, reiterating our objections to the plan.

The Secretary will also write concerning the proposals for Portobello train station.

- 140.5c Liaison Officer: a letter has been received from Cllr Michael Pringle regarding the replacement of Neta Sinclair as Community Councils Liaison Officer. This has been agreed in principle, but we are asked to write in and request that a specific person is designated.

It was also suggested that each department of the Council – such as planning and transportation – should designate a specific contact person for Community Councils.

Alec Coupar, Area Manager North, is to be invited to speak to us at a future meeting, on ‘Planning, Economic Development and Transport under the new Authority’.

- 140.5d Pigeons: it was noted that the pigeon population has increased. There had been a cull at Baileyfield Bridge.

- 140.5e Twinning Portobello: it was suggested that Portobello might be twinned with Blois, La Chaussées St Victor. This was discussed, and it was decided that we should consider it further at the next meeting.

140.6 FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meetings will be held on the following dates 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 29th July

*** No meeting in August ***

Monday 30th September (AGM)

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 141st meeting of Portobello Community Council
will be held
on Monday 29th July 1996 at 7:30pm,
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

**** There will be no meeting in August ****

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 3. Matters arising**
- 4. Reports**
- 5. Portobello Baths**
- 6. Centenary of Portobello's amalgamation with Edinburgh**
- 7. Future Search**
- 8. Trees at the Pumping Station**
- 9. Twinning Portobello**
- 10. AOCB**
- 11. Dates of future meetings**