

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 152nd meeting, held on 27th October 1997 in
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

PRESENT:

Sandy Smith (Chair),
Celia Butterworth, Cllr Maureen Child, Shand Hutchison, Keith Jeffrey, Marjorie Jenkins-Thomas,
James McGachie, Sheila McIvor, George Murray, Tom Nimmo, Lesley Reid, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith,
Hazel Thomas, David Turner, Kathleen Ward.

APOLOGIES:

Kathleen Hart, Insp. Keith Marwick, Anne Millan, Brenda Molony, Beryl Neill, Nick Stroud,
Gavin Strang.

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

152.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all present, and asked that we keep our comments brief as there was a lot of business to get through.

152.2 MINUTES OF AGM ON 29th SEPTEMBER

The minutes were accepted as a true record; they were moved by Margaret Smith and seconded by Keith Jeffrey.

152.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING OF 28th JULY

152.3a Information Plaques: more letters seeking funding have been sent out, and another two refusals have been received.

152.3b Air quality in Portobello High Street: item continues.

152.3c Le Vineyard: development is going ahead, but the frontage will be retained.

152.3d Planning Applications: the proposed development at Pittville Street Lane has been refused planning permission.

152.3e Brunstane Road traffic: it is hoped that a traffic census will be taken on 5th November 1997, in the Joppa Road-Brunstane-Coillesdene triangle.

152.3f Telferton allotments: the allotment holders have been given notice, but the City Council still hopes to (a) exercise a buy-back option for part of Telferton; (b) buy alternative land for allotments.

152.3g Loyalty Card: item continues.

152.3h Lord Lyon: it was agreed that Shand would arrange for the scroll to be framed (cost £31.39 + VAT), and six copies made.

- 152.3i Public conveniences: as the closure of Portobello's public toilets is a great problem to visitors, and is not compatible with our aim for a Seaside Award, the Secretary will write to Environmental and Consumer services. Members of the public are asked to write to their Councillor to complain. (Letters for any Councillor or Council official can be handed in to Portobello Library for free delivery.)
- 152.3j Pottery Museum: item continues.
- 152.3k Car Club: item continues.
- 152.3l Credit Union: although progress has been made, it would be helpful if more people could attend meetings.

152.4 MATTERS ARISING FROM AGM ON 29th SEPTEMBER

- 152.4a Donations: letters of thanks have been received from the groups to whom we donated money.
- 152.4b Sustainable communities: Marianne Mason will address the next meeting. The Secretary will write to remind her.
- 152.4c Community Council Liaison: there will be a joint meeting of community councils and the City Council on Tuesday 4th November, from 6:30-9:30pm, in the City Chambers.
- 152.4d Forth Estuary Project: we are now in the Forum for this project.
- 152.4e Christmas illuminations and carol singing: Portobello High School have agreed to make brackets for the Town Hall Christmas trees, and Celia has arranged for the children to sing in the High Street:

Towerbank:	11:15am	Friday 12th December
High School:	10:30am	Saturday 13th December
St Johns & Duddingston:	week commencing 8th December (not yet finalised)	

- 152.4f Letterheaded paper: item continues.

152.5 REPORTS

152.5a Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was unable to attend this meeting, but sent in her report that the accounts as at 27th October 1997 are:

Treasurer's Account:	£1257.76
Joppa Tennis Courts:	£ 812.64

It was suggested that using the surplus items from the AGM and a small additional expenditure, we could have a social evening after the November meeting. This was agreed.

152.5b Joppa Tennis Courts

Marjorie Jenkins-Thomas reported that they had had a very successful year. She was not aware of any difficulties with their accounts, but their treasurer had not been well. With the risk of the discussion becoming acrimonious it was agreed that the Chairman would liaise with Marjorie as soon as possible.

The audited accounts which were presented to the AGM were for the year ending March 1997, and do not include this summer's JTC income and expenditure.

152.6 CYCLING IN PORTOBELLO

Lesley Reid produced handouts of her Report for everyone, and made her presentation.

She pointed out that various things could be done quickly to improve the lot of cyclists in and around Portobello, such as improving traffic flow at the roundabout on Harry Lauder Road and taking more traffic off the High Street.

It seems that although there is a clear division between *for* and *against* cycling on the Prom, there seems to be support from both sides to let children under the age of 12 ride there (although it was suggested during the ensuing discussion that the 5-12 age group was the most dangerous to other Prom users).

The Report will now be placed in the Library and also, Lesley hopes, in local coffee shops. We need feedback from the public and we hope that they will take the opportunity to make their views known to the Community Council by completing the questionnaire.

After a fairly lengthy discussion, the Chairman thanked Lesley, George Murray and Kathleen Ward for all their work.

152.7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

152.7a Portobello Action Group: this group was set up by the City Council under the City Development department, and has already had several meetings. Their activities are especially directed to the Prom area, and they will use an updated version of the 1992 McGowan Report. This will be used in an application for Lottery funding, though of course the City Council will still have to find 25% of the cost of any development. The plans for the Pottery Museum will be integrated into this exercise.

152.6 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 24th November

**** No meeting in December ****

Monday 26th January 1998

Monday 23rd February

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 153rd meeting of Portobello Community Council
will be held
on Monday 24th November 1997 at 7:30pm,
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Sustainable Communities: Marianne Mason**
- 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 27th October 1997**
- 4. Matters arising from meeting of 27th October**
- 5. AOCB**
- 6. Dates of future meetings**