

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 154th meeting, held on 24th November 1997 in
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

PRESENT:

Shand Hutchison (Chair), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer)
Harold Alexander-Bowen, Sandy Begg, Sgt. James Brooks, Rev Neil Buchanan, Celia Butterworth,
Cllr Maureen Child, Dawson Currie, Keith Jeffrey, Linda Kelly, Osbert Lancaster, Insp Harry McAdam,
Sheila McIvor, Cllr Lawrence Marshall, Marianne Mason, Brenda Molony, George Murray, Beryl Neill,
Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, David Turner.

APOLOGIES:

Marjorie Jenkins-Thomas, James McGachie, Anne Millan, Tom Nimmo, Sandy Smith, Gavin Strang,
Nick Stroud, Hazel Thomas, Kathleen Ward.

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

154.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

As Sandy Smith was confined to a sick bed, Shand Hutchison took the chair and opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, especially our new Police Inspector, Harry McAdam, and also Rev Neil Buchanan, who has volunteered to keep the men of the cloth up-to-date with our activities. Shand paid tribute to the contribution that Insp Keith Marwick had made to the work of the Community Council, and how well police-community relations had prospered under his leadership. We wish him well in his new post at Fettes.

Shand then introduced our speaker for the evening, Marianne Mason, Sustainable Communities Project Officer.

154.2 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Marianne began by explaining the two pilot schemes, one in Wester Hailes, the other in Portobello – where the main focus will be the area between the Figgate Burn and Bath Street.

Sustainable Development seeks to promote an all-round quality of life for both people and the place where they live. It should include every member of that community, with involvement of all age groups and ethnic groups, trade unions, shopkeepers and traders.

Each local community will have a different set of concerns, so it is essential that each community identifies and prioritises their own particular concerns and the best ways to address them.

Portobello concerns have been identified as:

Transport: speed and safety; congestion; parking; improving public transport; integrated provision of cycleways and walkways.

Pollution: sea quality; air pollution.

Environment: improvement of Prom area; dog fouling.

Waste: litter.

A discussion followed during which Marianne said she would welcome any input from the people of Portobello. She can be reached at Community Education, Towerbank Annexe, Bath Street (tel 469 3583).

154.3 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27th OCTOBER

The minutes were accepted as a true record: proposed by Margaret Smith, seconded by Celia Butterworth.

154.4 MATTERS ARISING

- 154.4a Information Plaques: the plaque at Joppa has been vandalised, so a further laminated sheet has been fitted over it. Money for the kilns plaque is not yet available, and it was felt that the Community Council could not provide any funding at this time.
- 154.4b Air pollution: we still have no further information on this, so item continues while the Secretary investigates.
- 154.4c Planning Applications: the Pittville Street Lane application has gone to the Secretary of State, so PAS and the Community Council will object again.
- 154.4d Brunstane Road traffic: the census has now taken place and the results are being collated.
- 154.4e Telferton allotments: there is a possibility that a security fence will be erected around the area, as technically the allotment holders are now trespassing.
- 154.4f Loyalty Card: the future success and enlargement of this scheme now depend on the present traders and users spreading the word that the scheme is beneficial to all.
- 154.4g Lord Lyon: the two framed copies of the Coat of Arms for the Town Hall will cost about £175, the complete scroll framed for the Library £36, and the six photocopies £9: total cost £220. This was agreed.
- 154.4h Public conveniences: a reply has been received stating that financial constraints required closure at five locations, and that the closures were based on the level of usage. All toilet signs on the Prom will be moved to direct people to Bath Street.
- 154.4i Pottery Museum: item continues.
- 154.4j Car club: the scheme now operational in Edinburgh is now ready to roll out to other more outlying districts. Lawrence will attend the next meeting on our behalf. It seems that if 40 people in Portobello sign up and we have two off-street parking places, then a Car Club in Portobello is a possibility.
- 154.4k Credit Union: now that they have money in the bank, more publicity material can be provided. The next public meeting will be on **Thursday 22nd January at 7:30pm**, in Towerbank Annexe, Bath Street.
- 154.4l Christmas illuminations and carol singing: the brackets for the Town Hall trees have been made by Portobello High School, for which we are most grateful. It was agreed that we would donate £30 to the School Fair Fund in appreciation.

The switching on of the lights will be on **9th December**.

- 154.4m Headed notepaper: item continues.

154.5 REPORTS

154.5a Treasurer's Report

The accounts as at 24th November 1997 are:

Treasurer's Account: £1141.67

Joppa Tennis Courts: £ 812.64

The Treasurer reported that she will have to arrange a meeting with the Joppa Tennis Courts committee, as she has not yet received satisfactory income/expenditure statements.

154.5b Police

Sergeant Brooks informed the meeting of two seasonal police initiatives:

The national Christmas drink-driving campaign will run throughout December and into January.

A force initiative will focus on alcohol abuse by young people, targeting off-sales shops and areas where young people congregate to drink.

Sgt Brooks also informed the meeting about a personal safety course which is being developed by the Police and local Community Education office. This will take place at Towerbank School next February.

Finally Sgt Brooks highlighted the Force Community Safety strategy, which acknowledges the role of various local community organisations, including the Community Council.

154.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

154.6a East of Scotland Water: a meeting of the Area Committee of the Customers Council is being held in Grangemouth Town Hall on Tuesday 9th December at 7pm, but we will not be represented.

154.6b Amalgamation Event video: a video of the Amalgamation Event in the Town Hall was commissioned but so far has not been handed over. Linda Kelly will try to discover what has happened to it.

154.6c Community Councillors Training: another training course has been arranged, for Saturday **17th January**, from 9:30am to 4pm, in Roseberry House, Haymarket.

154.7 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:

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

Monday 26th January 1998

Monday 23rd February

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 155th meeting of Portobello Community Council
will be held
on Monday 26th January 1997 at 7:30pm,
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 24th Noveember 1997**
- 3. Matters arising from meeting of 24th November**
- 4. Reports**
- 5. Planning**
- 6 AOCB**
- 7. Dates of future meetings**

**SEASON'S
GREETINGS
TO
EVERYONE IN
PORTOBELLO
!!**