

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 156th meeting, held on 23rd February 1998 in
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

PRESENT:

Sandy Smith (Chair), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer)

Lynn Aitchison, Harold Alexander-Bowen, Sgt James Brooks, Celia Butterworth, Cllr Maureen Child, Mark Courtney, Keith Jeffrey, Linda Kelly, James McGachie, Cllr Lawrence Marshall, George Murray, Beryl Neill, Tom Nimmo, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, Kathleen Ward.

APOLOGIES:

Sandy Begg, Shand Hutchison, Osbert Lancaster, Sheila McIvor, Anne Millan, Brenda Molony, Gavin Strang, Nick Stroud, Hazel Thomas, David Turner.

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

156.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman opened the meeting with his usual welcome, and as Osbert Lancaster was not present asked Lynn Aitchison to make her presentation on the Portobello Community Festival Association.

156.2 PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

Lynn explained that although the P.C.F.A. had lain dormant for a couple of years, it had not died from lack of support from the public. All the events they organised were well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. What the Association lacked was people willing to help organise and run the various events. It was unfortunate that a number of those who were involved all had to give up at about the same time for various family/work/health reasons, and so far replacements have not been found.

She went on to say that the P.C.F.A. would like to mount some event for year 2000, and are hoping to gather helpers and start the ball rolling this year. To this end a meeting will be held in the Library on Friday 27th March at 7pm, to which all are invited to have their say about what kind of Festival they want (a day, a weekend, a week, etc). Bearing in mind that parades with floats are very costly, do we have any local groups who can provide music and transport free, or at least cheap? Can local businesses be coaxed to sponsor the event(s)?

Come along on the 27th and help put P.C.F.A. back in business.

156.3 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 26th JANUARY 1998

The minutes were accepted as a true record: proposed by Harold Alexander-Bowen, seconded by Celia Butterworth.

156.4 MATTERS ARISING

156.4a Information Plaques: the sub-committee met on 13th February. Letters have been sent to LEEL and Local Agenda 21 with further proposals. The pottery board is half-funded and some replies have still to come in. The proposed additional boards will depict seashore life together with a couple of directional signs at Eastfield and King's Road indicating things like Inchkeith and other landmarks.

- 156.4b Brunstane Road traffic: item continues.
- 156.4c Telferton allotments: Lawrence Marshall reported that the money that was available to buy the land should still be available up until December 1998.
- 156.4d Lord Lyon: item continues.
- 156.4e Pottery Museum: some discussion took place about this, with one faction saying that the refurbishment of the Prom should take priority with the Museum following on, while the other view was that the Tower may not always be available and the Museum project should move ahead as soon as possible.
- 156.4f Car Club: the City Council will not put any more funding up for this, but the discussion continues with other possible sponsors.
- 156.4g Credit Union: item continues.
- 156.4h Letterheaded Notepaper: item continues.
- 156.4i Amalgamation Event video: this has not yet been circulated amongst all our members. If you put your name on the list you should see it soon.
- 156.4j Multilateral Agreement on Investment: a reply has been received from Gavin Strang, saying that he awaits information from Margaret Beckett.
- 156.4k Information at Bus Stops: a reply has been received from Max Thomson, Manager, Service Support, City of Edinburgh Council, saying that LRT already has a team in place to produce what we want, and he awaits replies from other operators regarding their ability to service stops in their areas. The Secretary will write to them.
- 156.4l Swim Centre: there is yet no further information about the “grand opening”, but it was suggested that this could be another event that should be recorded on video for posterity. James McGachie will make enquiries at the High School.
- 156.4m Community Indicators: item continues.

156.5 REPORTS

156.5a Police

Sgt Brooks outlined the crime prevention initiative “Operation Autofocus”. This takes place between 16th February and 29th March 1998, with the aim of reducing thefts of vehicles and their contents. Last year 4,600 cars were stolen and 9,100 had property taken from them. Officers will be engaged in several activities which will be geared towards reducing these offences.

In recognition of the importance of good relations between the Police and the High School, the current liaison arrangements are under review. The local community officer will be supported in this by the involvement of an acting sergeant. These officers will develop existing contacts and promote the improvement in formal and informal cooperation to enhance understanding, and support closer, effective relations with staff and students.

156.5b Treasurer’s Report

The accounts as at 23rd February 1998 are:

Treasurer's Account: £1129.54

Joppa Tennis Courts: £ 779.36

As the accounts close at the end of March, anyone who is owed any money should submit their claim before the next meeting.

156.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 156.6a Joppa toilets: after some discussion it was thought appropriate that East of Scotland Water should be asked to sponsor the opening of the Joppa toilets. It was agreed that the Secretary would write.
- 156.6b Dog fouling consultation: a consultation is being carried out by the City Council. As many people as possible should complete and send in questionnaires, which are available from libraries.
- 156.6c Eastfield landscaping: the area of gravel at the Eastfield bus terminus is due to be laid out with grass and shrubs etc. Two of the people who made this possible are June Allison Edgar of Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise (LEEL), and Richard Barclay of the City Development Department. It was agreed that the Secretary would write to express our thanks for their efforts on our behalf.

156.7 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:

Monday 30th March

Monday 27th April

Monday 25th May

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 157th meeting of Portobello Community Council
will be held
on Monday 30th March 1998 at 7:30pm,
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 23rd February 1998**
- 3. Matters arising from meeting of 23rd February**
- 4. Reports**
- 5. Planning**
- 6 AOCB**
- 7. Dates of future meetings**