

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 157th meeting, held on 30th March 1998 in
Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

PRESENT:

Shand Hutchison (Chair), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer)
Lynn Aitchison, Harold Alexander-Bowen, Telfer Blacklock, Celia Butterworth, Cllr Maureen Child,
Dawson Currie, Keith Jeffrey, Linda Kelly, Osbert Lancaster, Insp Harry McAdam, James McGachie,
Rod McGill, Sheila McIvor, Marianne Mason, Brenda Molony, George Murray, Tom Nimmo,
Alison Robinson, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, Hazel Thomas, David Turner.

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Lawrence Marshall, Anne Millan, Lesley Reid, Sandy Smith, Gavin Strang, Nick Stroud.

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

157.1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Shand Hutchison took the Chair in Sandy Smith's absence and gave a warm welcome to all present.

157.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 23rd FEBRUARY 1998

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

157.3 MATTERS ARISING

- 157.3a Information Plaques: the sub-committee met on 18th February. £915 has already been obtained towards the cost of the Pottery board. Forward Scotland has been approached, and replies are awaited from other potential sponsors.
- 157.3b Brunstane Road traffic: no further information yet; item continues.
- 157.3c Telferton allotments: Shand chaired a well-attended meeting at Kekewich where the participants were asked to write to the Secretary of State.
- 157.3d Lord Lyon: the original parchment with the Portobello Coat of Arms is now being framed and we have six good photocopies.
- 157.3e Pottery Museum: due to staff and duty arrangements in the City Council, the Portobello Action Group meeting has not taken place; item continues.
- 157.3f Car Club: due to the need for competitive tendering, several car-leasing companies have been asked whether they might be interested in this scheme. It could be up and running by July.
- 157.3g Credit Union: the latest meeting was the largest so far, but they still need a few more people before a training programme can be set up.
- 157.3h Letterheaded Notepaper: after discussion, Lesley Reid was asked to get a price for 500 sheets of 80gsm paper, white (recycled if possible) and 500 envelopes.

- 157.3i Amalgamation Event video: this has now been copied and will soon be circulating amongst members.
- 157.3j Multilateral Agreement on Investment: no further information; the Secretary will remind Gavin Strang that we await Margaret Beckett's comments.
- 157.3k Information at Bus Stops: both LRT and Lowland have replied. Lowland have asked for a list of the bus stops with display panels from the City Council. LRT say they have been handed a massive task with more than 2,000 stops to cover, but as a major service revision is due with effect from 5th May, every effort will be made to supply new publicity across our area by this date. They also said that they will be increasing the frequency of the 26A evening service on Mondays to Saturdays, as an experiment, to every 20 minutes instead of every 30 minutes.
- 157.3l Swim Centre: the Chairman wrote to Sport and Leisure Foods Ltd and Edinburgh Sport and Leisure Trust, saying how we felt about a local co-operative losing the catering contract at the Baths. Portobello High School have still to let us know if a video of the reopening on 16th April will be made.
- 157.3m Community Indicators (and sustainable communities): Osbert and Marianne gave a joint presentation on this. Several members signed up after the meeting with a view to coming to the next meeting with some hard ideas and suggestions.
- 157.3n Joppa Toilets: a reply was received from East of Scotland Water public relations department, saying that they understand the problem, but that our request for funding to reopen the toilets did not fit in with their criteria for supporting public projects. Nevertheless they have passed our request to Mr Peter Braid, the Divisional Manager for Edinburgh.

157.4 REPORTS

157.4a Police

The public consultative meeting held in Piershill Library was very well attended. One of the main concerns was the apparent lack of Police officers on the streets. Police in Portobello are now wearing high-visibility jackets to try and correct this perception, although there are no more police officers than before.

The Police are also working very closely with Portobello High School and some primary schools to try and reduce the amount of litter generated by pupils at lunch times.

157.4b Treasurer's Report

The accounts as at 30th March 1998 are:

Treasurer's Account:	£1124.52
Joppa Tennis Courts:	£ 786.86

After some discussion about several letters asking for donations, it was agreed that we would give the following:

- to Portobello History Society, £100 to enable them to donate a film of an early edition of the Portobello Advertiser to the Edinburgh Room of the Central Library.
- to Portobello Older Peoples Project, £100.
- to the Monday Centre for the confused elderly, £50.

157.4c P.C.F.A. Report

Lynn Aitchison reported that the meeting in the Library was poorly attended, and she had been unable to get the ten or so volunteers she needs to run a Gala. During the discussion the view was expressed that as at least half the people who attend Community Council meetings represent fairly large local interest groups, we – the Community Council – should be able to take the message back to our groups, and hopefully provide even one volunteer to work with Lynn to save our Gala.

157.5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

157.5a Association of Scottish Community Councils: a meeting will be held on 13th June in the Assembly Rooms, George Street.

157.5b East of Scotland Water: a meeting will be held on 3rd April at 2pm in Leith Academy; Shand and Celia will attend on our behalf.

157.5c Festival of the Environment: this will be held on 12th-19th September.

157.5d Portobello Community Centre: questionnaires have been sent to households in the Herald and Post; we are all asked to take a few minutes to complete and return them, as our answers will help to decide future activities in the Centre.

157.5e Millennium Cycle Route: this is intended to run from the Forth Road Bridge to Musselburgh. Money is available to extend local paths to access this route. This and other cycling issues will be on the April agenda.

Secretary's note: it has come to my attention that James McGachie, one of our Portobello High School representatives, is a member of the Edinburgh European Youth Parliament (there are two such parliaments in Scotland – one in Edinburgh and one in Inverness). In November, two Scottish delegates will attend the European Youth Parliament in Strasbourg, and James hopes to be chosen to represent Edinburgh. This will be a very great distinction and we wish him well. It is good to hear of another of Portobello's young people involved in such a worthwhile activity, and perhaps taking his first step on the ladder of success. Well done, and good luck James!

157.6 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 27th April

Monday 25th May

Monday 29th June

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

The 158th meeting of Portobello Community Council
will be held
on Monday 27th April 1998 at 7:30pm,
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street.

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's welcome; apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: 30th March 1998**
- 3. Matters arising from meeting of 30th March**
- 4. Reports**
- 5. Cycling**
- 6. Planning**
- 7. AOCB**
- 8. Dates of future meetings**