

Portobello Community Council

16th Annual General Meeting

held on 28 September 1998

Present: As for the 162nd Meeting, which followed the AGM.

Item

1. **Election Result.** Joyce Campbell, Returning Officer notified the meeting that it had not been necessary to hold an election. She then confirmed names of all members of the Community Council.

2. **Election of Office Bearers.** The following were proposed and seconded:
Chair Tom Smith Vice-Chair Shand Hutchison
Secretary Lynn Aitchison Treasurer Kathleen Hart

- 3 **Chairman's Report**
Sandy Smith, the retiring Chairman, reported that the number of issues raised had dropped from 60 in the previous year to 45 this year. Reasons for this drop were that road closures, General Election and Centenary Celebrations had taken up much of the time the previous year. Even 50 issues, over only 10 meetings can take considerable time. Issues this year have included information plaques, Telferton allotments, Brunstane Road traffic, car club, credit unions, sustainable communities, Portobello Community Festival Association, cycling, air quality, dog fouling, maps, public conveniences, Edinburgh cross-rail, and sewage. The Community Council may reach decisions, but does not always have time to fully discuss items. Even where decisions are made, there are then obstacles to implementation, such as convincing the City of Edinburgh Council (whose point of view is not always the same as the Community Council's), and resourcing. The Portobello Swimming Centre was a major time of elation! Sandy said that he would like to see Community Council members being participants - in sub-committees, for example - and that it was not simply a matter of just attending meetings once a month. The sub-committees are extremely valuable as they can report back to the Community Council after a fuller discussion. Sandy thanked Community Council members for their time and efforts during his chairmanship, and especially thanked Cllrs Maureen Child and Lawrence Marshall for their support. Sandy now joins the ranks to "pester us into the millenium!"

Shand Hutchison thanked Sandy for his valuable contribution.

4. **Treasurer's Report**
Kathleen Hart reported that finances were healthy and that we had managed to support a variety of organisations over the past year, such as the Police Tea Dance, the CAB, credit union, Portobello History Society, Portobello Amenity Society and information plaques.

A vote of thanks was given for the Returning Officer.

This concluded the AGM.