

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 170th meeting, held on 28th June 1999
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

Present:

Tom Smith (Chair), Kathleen Hart (Minutes, Treasurer)
Celia Butterworth, Cllr Maureen Child, Iain Cook, Dawson Currie, Margaret Downie,
Morna Fergusson, Shand Hutchison, Keith Jeffrey, Linda Kelly, Nora McKenzie,
Cllr Lawrence Marshall, Brenda Molony, Steve Morris, George Murray, Patricia Ralph,
Margaret Smith, Sandy Smith, John Stewart, Nick Stroud, Sgt John Townsend.

Apologies:

Lynn Aitchison, Sheila Kennedy, Vince Ridd, Gavin Strang, David Turner.

Item

Action by

170.1 Minutes of the 17th AGM

With the correction in item 3 line 19 that 'Portobello Accounts Committee' should read 'Portobello Counts Committee' the minutes were formally accepted.

170.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting (31st May 1999)

Item 169.3e should read "Portobello Counts Committee". In item 169.4e, the words "nor Standard Life" should be inserted after "Scottish Power". In item 169.4g the last sentence should be deleted.

With these corrections the minutes were accepted (proposed by Sandy Smith, seconded by Steve Morris).

170.3 Matters Arising

170.3a Information Plaques: Shand has completed one 'horizon' board and is working on the second; item continues.

170.3b Brunstane Road traffic: the surveys done on 9th September 1998 and 17th February 1999 show that 99% of north-south traffic and 89% of south-north traffic is not local. The residents want a temporary closure of the road and as it is likely that East of Scotland Water will need a road closure soon for their work, a further survey can be undertaken in the area at that time.

170.3c Credit Union: item continues.

170.3d Crossrail Project: no further information; item continues.

170.3e Corner Shop Initiative: a meeting with the Portobello Traders was held as arranged on 17th June but no agreement could be reached about forming a committee to bid for funding for some of our Millennium ideas. The Portobello Traders Association is currently being re-established.

170.3f East of Scotland Water: there is no question of waste water being recycled for domestic use.

170.3g Calor Gas Scottish Community of the Year: our entry has been accepted for all five categories which are:

1. Environment
2. Business
3. Young People
4. Older People
5. Community Life

Our thanks to Brenda Molony for editing and typing our entry.

- 170.3h Telferton Allotments: more rubbish is being dumped on some of the plots. Lawrence Marshall will investigate and try to organise a clean-up. LM
- 170.3i Fence in Rosefield Park: the fence has been removed from the burn; PAS is trying to find out who erected it.
- 170.3j Walkway beside Indoor Bowling Centre: no action has been taken by the City Council to tidy up the damage as yet. Lawrence Marshall will speak again to the relevant department. LM
- 170.3k Photos of Coat of Arms: an A4 size is available and can be enlarged without loss of quality. This will be done and two copies framed for the Town Hall.

170.4 REPORTS

170.4a Police

Sgt Townsend gave the statistics for various crimes in our area, stressing that in the three cases of theft from vehicles, all had been left unlocked. He apologised that staff shortages meant that he had not been able to follow up the problems of vandalism near the Bowling Centre.

A surgery is to be held at Portobello High School on Thursday afternoons for pupils who wish to speak privately to the four officers who will attend.

170.4b Treasurer's Report

The accounts as at 28th June 1999 are as follows:

Treasurer's Account:	£ 699.41
Cowarm account	£5000 (plus interest)
Joppa Tennis Courts:	£2305.37

170.4c Millennium Committee

The arrangements for the torchlight procession are well under way; two volunteers will be needed at the Town Hall as stewards. Three primary schools will enter the art competition. The awards for all Lottery money applications are in the final stages. The idea of a beacon, bonfire or fireworks will be discussed at the next meeting. The matter of surplus Princes Street lights has not been forgotten, and will be pursued.

170.4d Portobello Counts

Thirty people attended the meeting on 17th June, and there will be another meeting in August. It is hoped to produce a paper for the next meeting of the Community Council, on 30th August, which will be the first item on the agenda.

170.5 Any Other Business

170.5a Seaside Award: Maureen Child pointed out that it would cost a lot to achieve and about £2,500 a year to maintain an Award standard for Portobello Beach. Keep Scotland Beautiful has produced a report saying that Portobello's facilities have deteriorated since their last report. Environmental Services have discussed this and have asked the question: "does Portobello want to go ahead to gain the Award, or should money be spent on other things for the area?". It was suggested that a questionnaire should be compiled giving the alternatives so that as large a cross-section as possible can take part. Maureen agreed to set this up. MC

170.5b Portobello Library: Joyce Campbell has written to say that the Library staff want to brighten up the Library frontage, for example by planting a couple of flowering cherry trees and providing additional seats, and would like assistance from the Community Council and PAS. After some discussion it was agreed to seek the advice of PAS's horticultural expert: John Stewart will report back. JS

170.5c Landfill Entrust: environmental improvements can be funded from the Landfill Tax; this will be discussed more fully at the next meeting.

170.5d High School Ceilidh: Environmental groups at the High School are planning to have a Ceilidh during the City's Environment Festival in September, and would appreciate lots of support from the community. More details will follow.

170.5e Recycling Sites: Lothian and Edinburgh Environmental Partnership is looking for suggestions for new recycling sites; requirements are:

1. ready access for both car-borne and pedestrian recyclers;
2. ready access for service vehicles;
3. no disturbance to nearby residents.

170.5f Portobello Lunch Club: this Club, held in the Congregational Church Hall in Marlborough Street at 12 noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, invites new pensioners to join them for lunch. They also need some more helpers to serve and clear up. Telephone 669 4570 or 669 7358, or go along at 11:50am on the day.

170.6 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 30th August 1999

Monday 27th September 1999

Monday 25th October 1999