



PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 197th meeting, held on 25 March 2002
in Portobello Baptist Church Hall.

Present:

Sandy Begg Jordan Burns (PHS) Celia Butterworth Cllr Maureen Child Dawson Currie (Sec) Margaret Downie Nora Mackenzie
Cllr Lawrence Marshall Sonya Seston (PHS) Margaret Smith Tom Smith (Chair) John Stewart Nick Stroud Natalie Todd (PHS)
Lewis Waugh.

Also: Paul Cairney Val Cairney Robert Davidson (CEC) Tom Nimmo David Turner Mike Spells (CEC) Joyce Campbell (CEC)

Apologies:

Susan Deacon MSP Kathleen Hart (Treas) Bob Jefferson Keith Jeffrey Brenda Molony Patricia Ralph Gavin Strang MP.

Item

Action

197.1

GUEST SPEAKER #1

Joyce Campbell (Librarian) introduced her boss Mike Spells who outlined the plans for the Library upgrade with the work to be started April 2003. It is hoped to provide 8 PCs in the upstairs room as a learning centre and it is hoped that this room will still be available as a small meetings room possibly with a partition. It is however all necessary in the first place because of the need to install a lift to the upstairs facilities to meet with access for the disabled obligations. There is £240,000 available for the work but the lift alone will cost around £100,000. The remainder will be used to open up the front lobby somehow to provide a little extra space but a more open entrance area. This would include automatic doors which cost about £70,000 leaving £70,000 for the other alterations, so there isn't a great deal of scope. Individuals' comments and proposals are welcome and Mike Spells would return to give details in due course.

197.2

GUEST SPEAKER #2

David Wright was unwell and unable to attend. Instead Nick Stroud volunteered to speak on solutions to some of the recent problems with youths in the area.

Nick suggested that there was a great need for these young people to get more help and encouragement from adults and the community. He proposed that we give a trophy to the PHS pupil most adjudged to be 'Best youth in Portobello'. It was suggested that Holy Rood School be included. This was ruled out as the school is outside our area. Then St John's was suggested but it was thought that their pupils were outside the target age. Maureen suggested that the whole thing was a very good idea but we should make it eligible to Portobello young people and make it a 'Young Citizen of Portobello' award. This was thought to be a good idea and was accepted. Other suggestions made were:-

- Kids Cafe (Perhaps persuade Oop to stay open for a while on Friday nights)
- Approach other councils to find out their solution to the problems
- Arrange a Town Hall meeting with MP and MSP present to promote ideas
- School exhibition (again in Town Hall) to show off work and projects to non school connected people

This item had involved a welcome amount of ideas and discussion.

197.3

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (25 February 2002)

Moved Margeret Smith Seconded Margaret Downie.

197.4

MATTERS ARISING

As expected, time was short and only the following items were dealt with:-

197.5

REPORTS

197.5a

Task Force Manager Robert Davidson having returned from sick leave was able to update us with the following:-

Recycle bins to be placed in the High Street/Brighton Place; Kings Road roundabout to be given a hard surface if the money can be found (Prom regeneration fund or local traders donations); new bins for High Street in six weeks; containers for local business rubbish in 4-5 weeks; mid April–Sept, extra cleaning in High Street by hand with barrow (one day also visit parks); regular beach cleaning to restart soon.

197.5b

Treasurer

Treasurers account	£1340.05
Joppa Tennis Courts	£3837.11
Co-Warm account	£6501.35
Sir Harry Lauder Memorial Fund	£2836.10 (includes Portobello Christmas Lights fund £950)

- 197.5c Amenity Society Grannies Attic visited as part of appeal. It was unclear where the east boundary lies: this will be decided along with the main appeal in 6-8 weeks.
- 197.5d Councillors. Maureen: Joppa Tennis' objectors to Sunday opening mediation over without being resolved. Portobello part of City Car Club now being considered with about 20 members per car: people wanting to join should make enquiries now. Bellfield La (Thorburns and Garden Centre) planning restrictions imposed on developers on parking spaces. Skateboarding meeting Thursday; Indoor Bowling Centre car park proposed as possible site. Lawrence: Moira Park crossing reviewed in light of fatality (only 1 point added for fatality) puts it at 16 so we still don't get it but increased budget in 2003/4 might well allow it then.
- 197.6 AOB
- 197.6a PHS Year Book The funding concert which subsidises the year book had to be cancelled on Police advice. A lot of work had already gone into it, so rather than cancel it can we give some help (say £120) towards it. Proposed that £200 be given. Agreed without dissent.
- 197.6b Hugh Miller Plaque Contribution of £50 agreed.
- 197.7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 19:30 on 29 April, (Then, AGM 27 May.)
- Council Leader Donald Anderson will attend this meeting.

The following items were not reached and are repeated from last month.

- 196.2a Seaside Award Dianne Smith advised Brenda that award attempt put off for a year due to lack of lifeguards. Dog ban will be test run May to September.
- 196.2b Library Frontage. Joyce will attend next meeting and update us.
- 196.2c PCFA Funds *Item not reached – Last time* ⇔ Item continues.
- 196.4c Hugh Miller Sandy Smith to organise opera entitled Hugh Miller – no dates set.

196.3 REPORTS

196.3b Police

	August	Nov	Dec	Jan
House break-ins	1	1	13+9	14+3
Attempted HB	2	1		5+3
Theft of motor vehicle	20	11		
Attempted theft of MV	1			
Theft from MV	4			
Vandalism		36		104
Accidents involving Motor Vehicles				
Damage only	8			
Injury minor	1			
Injury serious	0			

'+' Residential + Business

No obvious reason for substantial increase in vandalism. Kids observed dealing drugs but hopefully will be dealt with. Long period of discussion held on youth disturbance. Police answer is shortage of staff (sickness, loan to other duties, helping other areas and processing newly caught people).

- 196.3c Joppa Tennis: No rep. Study showed work feasible. Additional grant from LDC of £5000. Work should start next year.
- 196.3d Harry Lauder: Board now designed and gone for production. Will cost less than other recent boards as black and white. Garden to get more plants. Still mugs to sell. The boundary fence has been repaired twice but still needs attention. American account now closed but still some recent income from US.
- 196.3f Portobello Counts: Meeting held 11 Feb. Annual review under way. So far this shows a minor change to the shop occupation figures.
- 196.3h LDC Report: Next meeting 5 Mar Royal High primary at Southfield Broadway.
- 196.3i Information Boards and Building Plaques: Seaside board still waiting for replacement. The firm is being pressed to hurry up. Town Hall plaques waiting to be put up. Kath was asked to arrange insurance when erected. Hugh Miller will be erected in time for his celebrations April/May.

- 196.3j Coade Stone Columns: Plans to be discussed at small implementation group.
- 196.3k Prom Improvements: Old Ghost Train Site Lawrence (not present) still dealing with proposed purchase for/by Lawrence house owners. Refurbishment: Phase1 Bath St to Bellfield St done. Phase2 Bellfield to Joppa due end of Mar. Final phase Bath St to Kings Road due 2003. Extra no-cycling signs to go up. Driving on Prom should be cured. Planters to be refurbished and re-planted. Next progress meeting May/June.
- 196.3l Community Councils Web Site: Decided to use City Connect including free training on how to update, free Web space, technical help when required for at least three years and no editorial interference (and none from Community Council). Chairman reminded meeting that as a Community Council sub-committee it would need a CC member as its chair, and minutes regularly of its business. It was thought that this would be easy to resolve in the weeks to come.
- Contacts
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Secretary: Dawson Currie 30A Rosefield Avenue Edinburgh EH15 1AU (0131) 657 2678

Apply for membership of Community Council
Get forms from the Library.

Deadline Monday 29 April 2002 for forms to be returned to the
Library.