



PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 226th meeting held on 28th February 2005 in Portobello Baptist Church Hall

Present: Celia Butterworth, Maureen Child, Dawson Currie, Alix Gaffney, Robert Gatliff, Kathleen Hart, Bob Jefferson, Nora Mackenzie, Brian McCrow, Brenda Molony, Margaret Munro, George Murray, John Smart, Sandy Smith, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, John Stewart, Nick Stroud, David Turner.

Apologies: Lawrence Marshall, Sheila Scott, Sandy Smith, Betty Young.

In attendance: Alison Robinson, Avril Scott (Portobello High School), Paul Lundberg (Portobello Police), Ian Wilson; Stuart Young and Bruce Kidd (Portobello Triathlon).

226.1 Chairman's Introduction: (John Smart): Welcomed members and visitors.

226.2 Portobello Sprint Triathlon (incorporating Scottish Sprint Championships): Stuart Young (Director) and Bruce Kidd presented plans for this year's event. It will be held on Sunday 14th August, and has grown to incorporate the Scottish Championships. 300 participants are expected. The Community Council offered their support.

Action: Secretary to contact POD about organising a supporting event.

Action: Explore options for a Sporty Party day (swimming pool, beach events, 5 a side etc).

Action: Bob Jefferson to pass on details of Portobello website B&B, self catering etc.

226.3 Police Report: Paul Lundberg (Community Policeman) reported that Bob Wardrop had retired and would soon be replaced by Inspector Norman Ward. The Community Council recorded their thanks to Bob for his hard work and support during his time in Portobello.

226.4 Minutes of the 225th Meeting: The minutes were accepted. Proposed: Celia Butterworth: Seconded: Tom Smith.

226.5 Matters Arising: none recorded.

226.6 Reports

226.6a Treasurer: Account balances: Community Council £7,040.12, Tennis Club £3,895.65. Treasurer has decided to continue with current banking arrangements as service has improved. Members were urged to clarify financial transactions prior to or at the next meeting. A discussion at the end of the meeting agreed to allocate £1,000 towards erecting the coade stone, £500 towards Portobello High School garden, a possible donation of £500 to support other events on the day of the Triathlon.

226.6b Tennis Courts: No report.

226.6c Task Force: No report.

226.6d Planning: (John Stewart):

Superstore application: The public enquiry will begin on 1st March at the British Legion in Portobello. Members were urged to attend when they can and give support to the Portobello campaign.

Other issues: There are currently 56 planning applications in the Portobello area of which PAS has objected to 22. Objections include change of use of the ground floor of the new flats at the foot of Bath Street. PAS is in dialogue with Ian Abbot over a new proposal for the Hugh Miller property. A letter was written to Susan Deacon about third-party rights of appeal, and a letter of support has been sent about the proposals for a new garden area outside the flats at 65-77 Portobello High Street. PAS welcomed the Reporter's report on the Shamiana Centre, where the decision supported "preserving the character of the conservation area".

226.6e Councillors: Maureen Child – see attached written report.

226.6f Signs and Plaques (Celia Butterworth): Following an article in the Reporter, Ned Barney's daughter has been in contact about the plaque. A meeting had been held to look at options for the coade stones. It has

been agreed to develop ideas for raising funds to include the stones in the new design for the Paddling Pool site. A sum of £20–£50,000 will be required. The Community Council agreed to donate £1,000.

Alison Robinson presented a piece of newly made coade stone. This is hard and long-wearing, and one idea is to use new coade stone (possibly manufactured in conjunction with local art students) as a cladding for the garden walls.

226.6g Portobello Merchants & Hoteliers Association: no report.

226.6h Portobello Neighbourhood Watch (Brian McCrow): The next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th March in the Library (open meeting).

226.7 Planning for 2005 onwards. Brian McCrow presented an update of actions. Bob Jefferson has reviewed children's facilities and will organise a visit to Granton. He was organising a survey. It was reported that the Rotary Club supported the ideas for a Portobello "Person of the Year Award".

Discussion centred on the Powerleague site. M. Child suggested that the Community Council represented one set of views; the Community Centre had possibly different views. Users of the sports facilities may have different views again. These groups needed to be brought together to have a discussion on the wider planning issues in Portobello. It was suggested that this process begin after the result of the current public enquiry was known.

226.8 A. O. B.

- 1. Portobello High School.** Avril Scott was welcomed as the new Community Council representative of Portobello High School. Ideas were presented for developing the playground from a sterile concrete area into a more eco-friendly and attractive garden. The Community Council agreed to donate £500 to a fund-raising campaign. It was noted that the garden at the adjacent St John's has been a great success, and had been built by parents with funds from the PTA. Ideas for the High School include mosaics, trees, trellising, planting, seating, compost etc. Portobello High School is one of only three ECOSCHOOLS in Scotland. Pupils would take a very active role, including the development of the rather neglected school allotment at Telferton.
- 2. LDC meeting:** 8th March, Royal High Primary – focus on older people
- 3. Outdoor Access Code** (Secretary has copy).
- 4. Standing up to anti-social behaviour awards** (Secretary has copy of scheme).
- 5. Community Council boundaries meeting** (3rd March City Chambers).
- 6. Edinburgh Association of Community Councils:** Sat 5th March, Cllr Andrew Burns on transport policy.
- 7. Fair Trade Fortnight** (1–13 March).
- 8. Review of Marches and Parades:** Secretary has report.
- 9. Freedom of Information in Scotland:** Secretary has report.
- 10. Keep Edinburgh Growing Competition:** Secretary has details of this year's competition.
- 11. SE consultation on public phone boxes:** Deadline 21st March.

226.9 Next meeting

Meetings are held on the final Monday of each month, except July and December, at 7.30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 Portobello High Street.

The next meeting is on 28th March 2005.