

Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting held on 29th May 2006 in Portobello Baptist Church Hall

Present: Jackie Brock, Celia Butterworth, Diana Cairns, Dawson Currie, Maria Devoy, Zoe Dunn, Alix Gaffney, Robert Gatliff, Kathleen Hart, Stephen Hawkins, Bob Jefferson, Peter McColl, Nora Mackenzie, Karen MacLean, Margaret Munro, Tom Nimmo, Avril Scott, John Smart, Margaret Smith, Tom Smith, John Stewart, Nick Stroud, David Turner, William Wilson, Betty Young.

Apologies: Stephen McIntyre, Lawrence Marshall, Brenda Molony, Sheila Scott, Sandy Smith.

In attendance: John Butterworth, Joyce Campbell, Maureen Child, Robert Davidson, Liz McMahon, Kenny Owen, Aileen Ward, Anne Ward.

24.1 Chairman's Introduction

Robert Gatliff welcomed everyone to the new Community Council, and introduced the Returning Officer for the recent election, Joyce Campbell.

Joyce thanked everyone for the Community Council's support to the Library over the previous year. She was pleased at the level of support and enthusiasm for the elections, and the community participation it demonstrated. She announced the following results:

Elected members: Celia Butterworth
Dawson Currie
Alix Gaffney~
Robert Gatliff
Stephen Hawkins
Bob Jefferson
Stephen McIntyre
Nora Mackenzie
Avril Scott
John Smart
Sandy Smith
Tom Smith
Nick Stroud
William Wilson
Betty Young

Group representatives: Jackie Brock (PFANS: Portobello For New Schools)
Diana Cairns (PCATS: Portobello Campaign Against The Superstore)
Maria Devoy (Portobello Online Community Website)
Zoe Dunn (8th Edinburgh Squadron Air Training Corps)
Kathleen Hart (Portobello Citizens Advice Bureau)
Peter McColl (PEDL: Portobello Energy Descent and Land Reform Group)
Karen MacLean (Portobello Park Action Group)
Brenda Molony (Portobello Reporter)
Margaret Munro (Portobello History Society)
Tom Nimmo (Brighton Residents' Association)
Nominee (Portobello Community Centre)
Sheila Scott (Portobello Traders Association)
Margaret Smith (Labour Party local branch)
John Stewart (PAS: Portobello Amenity Society)
David Turner (Portobello Amnesty Group)

24.2 Election of officers for 2006–2007

Joyce Campbell called for nominations for the four posts, and the following were received:

	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Robert Gatliff	Tom Smith	Alix Gaffney
Vice Chair	Margaret Munro	Tom Smith	Robert Gatliff
Secretary	Nick Stroud	Anne Ward	Margaret Munro
Treasurer	Kathleen Hart	Celia Butterworth	Margaret Smith

The meeting approved all the nominations.

24.3 Chairman's Remarks

Robert Gatliff thanked Joyce Campbell for her hard work in running the election; the Community Council would make a contribution to the Library in appreciation of this. George Murray was a long-serving member of Portobello Community Council and its 'Counts' sub-group, who had retired at the election; Robert Gatliff thanked George for all his work for the community, and also thanked all the Council officials who do so much to help make Portobello such a pleasant place to live in.

The Chairman summarised the procedures he hoped the new Community Council would follow. Meetings should be friendly and relatively informal, with contributions made through the Chair. He hoped that decisions could be made without resorting to divisive votes, but if votes were necessary then the people entitled to vote were the 15 elected members and the 15 group representatives, and no others. He recognised that there were differences of opinion over some issues, but hoped that these could be dealt with amicably so that we could continue in friendship to do the best we can for our whole community.

Five extra specialist members could be co-opted on to the Community Council, and he proposed that Aileen Ward be co-opted to represent the High School. Maria Devoy seconded this.

24.4 Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the 2005 AGM were approved at the June 2005 ordinary Community Council meeting. The Chairman invited additional comments, but there were none.

24.5 Treasurer's Report

Kathleen Hart presented a summary of the accounts for 2005–2006, including detailed summaries of income and expenditure for the Community Council, Joppa Tennis Courts, and Interpretive Boards. The balance of £6,585.22 includes money from the 'Golden Days' and 'Portobello Festival' accounts; Kathleen would explain this to the City Council, and pointed out that it would be sensible not to retain such a large balance. It was agreed to use some of the 'Golden Days' money to support local events. The cheque sent to the City Council in part payment for repairs to the sundial in Brighton Park had not been cashed; Maureen Child agreed to investigate this. Robert Gatliff noted that we did not have a representative of Joppa Tennis Courts; he would try to find someone to co-opt.

- * **Action:** Maureen Child to find out if the Brighton Park sundial has been repaired and needs to be paid for.
- * **Action:** Robert Gatliff to find a Joppa Tennis Courts representative.

24.6 Any Other Business

The Chairman circulated copies of the Community Council constitution, and mentioned the book of reference information which anyone could borrow from the Secretary.

24.6 Next AGM

The next AGM is due to be held on Monday 28th May 2007.