



# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on 28th May 2007 in Portobello Baptist Church Hall**

**Present:** Robert Gatliff (Chair), Nick Stroud (Secretary), Kathleen Hart (Treasurer) Celia Butterworth, Diana Cairns (PCATS), Maria Devoy (Porty Online), Peter McColl (PEDAL), Stephen McIntyre, Nora Mackenzie, Karen MacLean (PPAG), Brenda Molony (Porty Reporter), Tom Nimmo (Brighton Residents), Margaret Smith (Portobello Labour Party), Tom Smith, John Stewart (PAS), David Turner (Portobello Amnesty Group), Sean Watters (PFANS), William Wilson.

**Apologies:** Dawson Currie, Alix Gaffney, Bob Jefferson, Lawrence Marshall, Margaret Munro, Sheila Scott, John Smart, Aileen Ward, Betty Young.

**In attendance:** A.J. Burns, Archie Burns, John Butterworth, Cllr Maureen Child, Eileen Cook, Susan Hart, Cllr Stephen Hawkins, Caroline Hosking, James Hunter (CEC), Linda Kelly, Mark Ladyman (CEC), Alison Miller, Angus Currie (CEC), Anne Ward, Norman Ward, Ian Wilson.

### **25.1 Chairman's Introduction**

Robert Gatliff welcomed everyone to the Community Council's 25th AGM, and pointed out that the minutes of the 24th AGM had been accepted at the Ordinary Meeting in June 2006. He thanked everyone for their participation in the Community Council, and Kathleen Hart (treasurer), Margaret Munro (vice chair), Nick Stroud (secretary) and Jackie Brock (secretary for a difficult meeting) for their support. He felt that one of the biggest outcomes of the year had been the installation of the coade-stone pillars after decades of neglect, and congratulated Celia Butterworth on that achievement. He gave particular thanks to Lawrence Marshall for all his contributions to the Community Council and to Portobello in his time as a City of Edinburgh Councillor, and congratulated Stephen Hawkins on his election as a City Councillor.

The Chairman then looked forward to a busy year ahead, with major issues including planning for a new High School, the new plans for redeveloping North West Portobello, developments on the Promenade, and the possible redevelopment of Meadowbank.

### **25.2 Treasurer's Report**

Kathleen Hart presented a summary of the accounts for 2006–2007, including detailed summaries of income and expenditure for the Community Council, Joppa Tennis Courts, and Interpretive Boards. The accounts had been audited by Celia Butterworth and Margaret Smith. The report was accepted with thanks.

### **25.3 Secretary's Report**

Nick Stroud thanked everyone for their patience over late delivery of minutes and other papers, and congratulated Maureen Child, Kenny Owen and John Stewart on having achieved perfect attendance over the year.

### **25.4 Vacancies on the Community Council**

The Chairman summarised the options for filling our vacancies. We were allowed to co-opt up to five people for their expertise, such as Aileen Ward for the High School, and we currently had two such vacancies. We were allowed to fill up to three (strictly, up to 25% of the total number) 'casual vacancies' for elected members in a three-year period, and we currently had two, Avril Scott having moved out of the area and Stephen Hawkins being elected to the City Council. The third category was group representatives; if a group folded, or otherwise withdrew from the Community Council, a general meeting of local groups was required to find a replacement, but groups were entitled to change their representative at our meetings, as PFANS had done with Sean Watters replacing Jackie Brock (in this last case the change should be notified to the City Council's community councils' liaison officer). It was thus possible for Bob Jefferson to take Maria Devoy's place as our representative from Porty Online, but Maria could not automatically have Bob's elected place in return. The Chairman further pointed out that community councillors did not have to resign if they moved out of the area, but could complete their three-year term.

The Chairman asked for suggestions on how to handle the situation, which was unprecedented in the City Council's experience. After discussion it was agreed to start the whole process from scratch, and hold a ballot of existing Community Council members at 7:20pm, immediately before the June meeting. Nominations on the correct City Council form should be sent to the Secretary by 5pm on 12th June, optionally accompanied by a short supporting statement. These would be circulated at least a week before the June meeting.

- \* **Action:** interested parties to return nomination papers to Secretary by 5pm on 12th June.

#### **25.5 Election of officers for 2007–2008**

The following nominations were proposed by Brenda Molony, seconded by William Wilson and accepted by the meeting:

<b>Chair</b>	Robert Gatliff
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Margaret Munro
<b>Secretary</b>	Nick Stroud
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathleen Hart

#### **25.6 Any Other Business**

There was none.

#### **25.6 Next AGM**

The next AGM was due to be held on Monday 26th May 2008.