



PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the 315th meeting held on 27th January 2014.

Present: Max Blinkhorn, Peter Bradley (Brighton and Rosefield Residents' Association), Mark Cameron, Brian Cosford, Emma Dempsey, Terry Dobson (Gilberstoun Residents' Association), Maria Devoy, Bob Jefferson, Lee Kindness, Geoff Lynn, David Medcalf, Ben McLeish, Thea McMillan, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Sean Watters, Stephen Dishon (Towerbank Parent Council), Gillian Eunson, Eva Schonfeld (PEDAL), Clare Slifer.

Apologies: Saul Kenrick (Woodcraft), Cllr David Walker.

In attendance: Cllr Michael Bridgman, Cllr Maureen Child, Cameron Buchanan MSP, Insp Roddy Hardy (Police), Sgt John Young (Police), Mary Dunbar (COEC), Jane Milne (COEC), Hema Herkes (COEC), Graham Rowan (COEC), Terry Magill, Joanna Senew (Home Instead Senior Care), Margaret Munro (Signs & Plaques), Alison Robinson (Signs & Plaques) and members of the public.

315.1 Chair's Welcome

Geoff Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting. He highlighted a new competition awarding substantial funding to technology based initiatives to attract people back to UK high streets, with more information available at the following:

https://www.innovateuk.org/competition-display-page/-/asset_publisher/RqEt2AKmEBhi/content/re-imagining-the-high-street

He also noted various possible sources of grant funding, for projects, organisations and individuals, with more information to be made available on the PCC web-site.

315.2 Police Report

Sergeant John Young gave a detailed Police Report (see appended).

Stephen Dishon asked about ongoing involvement with local schools in the wake of the restructuring of the police service. It was confirmed that there was still an emphasis on community policing and the local beat constables, Graham Pears and Scott McLennan, would continue to engage with the local schools.

315.3 Environment Report

Sean Watters went through the Environment Report (see appended).

315.4 Waste and Recycling presentation

Hema Herkes gave a presentation on Waste and Recycling services in Edinburgh followed by questions. It was confirmed that mixed recycling collection was due to be introduced and that Edinburgh was on course to meet the target of 50% recycling by 2015 as food waste collection was rolled out more widely. It was also noted that compost was available to community groups and projects.

315.5 Celebrating Diversity Programme

Mary Dunbar and Jane Milne outlined a pilot programme being run through Portobello Library and also involving ELREC (Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equalities Council). The initial focus was on new Roma families in the area, providing various support, and a Scottish/Romanian evening was planned for 28th February in the Wash House. The programme hoped to expand and any thoughts and ideas on other initiatives, or particular groups to engage with would be very welcome.

315.6 Edinburgh Festival of Ireland

Terry Magill gave a brief outline of the events planned for the Edinburgh Festival of Ireland, now in its fourth year. He highlighted the St Patrick's Portobello Promenade Pageant being held on the Prom, Sunday March 16th at 2pm, beginning at the Dalriada. More information could be found at the following:

<http://www.edinburghsfestivalofireland.org>

315.7 Making Portobello Dementia Friendly

Joanna Senew outline a new pilot project aiming to make Portobello a more dementia friendly community. More information could be found at the following:

<http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/edinburgh/2779.do#>

315.8 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed.

315.8a Fire Control Service (314.5b): A response had been received to the letter regarding the reduction in Fire Control centres. Cllr Bridgman also informed the meeting that the Edinburgh Control Centre was expected to be retained along with Glasgow and Dundee.

315.8b Treasurer (314.5c): There had been some difficulties changing details of the bank account, but the process was now complete.

315.8c Community Empowerment Bill (314.9): The consultation had been publicised on the PCC website and Facebook page.

315.8d Power supply to Prom events (314.10): Issue to be raised with COEC.

✿ Action: To raise the issue of power supply to public events with COEC.

315.8e SESPLAN consultation (314.11c): a draft response had been circulated and submitted.

315.8f Signs & plaques (314.11d): The intention had been to discuss the Signs & Plaques sub-committee in more detail at the January meeting but given the busy agenda Sean Watters suggested there might not be time to discuss it properly. As two members of the sub-committee were in attendance, Margaret Munro and Alison Robinson, it was agreed to discuss the issue later in the meeting if time allowed.

315.8g Budget consultation information (314.11f): information had been placed in the library.

315.8h Newcraighall housing proposals (314.12b): information on the new proposals had been publicised.

315.8i Richard Demarco (314.12c): Sean Watters had contacted Richard Demarco but had been too busy to meet as yet and felt he would be too busy in the immediate future. Brian Cosford agreed to take the matter further.

✿ Action: Brian Cosford to arrange a meeting with Richard Demarco.

315.8i Data Protection (314.12e): Sean Watters had provisionally registered PCC with the ICO as a Data Controller and Geoff Lynn had drafted a Data Protection Policy.

315.9 Consultation update

Max Blinkhorn had produced a draft flyer with a view to displaying ones periodically, in various locations, to raise awareness of the community council and current issues. He asked for a few volunteers to help finalise the format.

Emma Dempsey reported that the first monthly session in Scotmid would take place the following Saturday, and thereafter would be on the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am-12pm. The first occasion would be used to ask people in a very broad way about how they felt about Portobello and what they might like to see improved. More focused consultation could take place in the future but there was more thought required about just how to go about things and what protocols there might be. Jane Milne also offered to discuss the PCC area in the Library to see how it could be best used.

315.10 Edinburgh Festival event

Max Blinkhorn was awaiting further information from the artist.

✿ Action: Awaiting further information.

315.11 Reports

315.11a Treasurer's Report: Current balance stood at £2,602.91, although payments were pending for the ICO registration, rent for the hall, and liability insurance for Joppa Tennis Courts. Once those were processed the balance would be £2,374.26. .

315.11b Neighbourhood Partnership: An agenda setting meeting was due to be held 29th January, and the next full Neighbourhood Partnership meeting was 26th February.

315.11c Planning: No report.

315.11d Signs & plaques: Gillian Eunson and Claire Slifer had attended a recent meeting of the Signs & Plaques committee although it had not yet been decided quite how the ongoing relationship would best work. The valuable contribution of the Signs & Plaques committee was praised, in particular its expertise and hard work, but there were also technical requirements under the CC's constitution regarding how sub-committees operated that were in conflict with the existing arrangement. However, given the value of cooperation to date over items such as insurance, it was agreed to discuss the matter further with the Signs & Plaques Committee with a view to resolving the issue at the February meeting.

✿ Action: Bob Jefferson/Gillian Eunson to meet with members of the Signs and Plaques Committee and the issue to be discussed at the next meeting.

315.11e Joppa Tennis Courts: The AGM would be held on March 3rd in the Ormelie, and new members would be very welcome.

315.11f Councillors: Cllr Child gave information on "Tomorrow's People", a project aimed at helping 16-24 years olds into work. More information could be found at the following: www.tomorrows-people.org.uk
Cllr Bridgman gave more details on the changes to the Fire Control centres.

315.12 AOB

a) Max Blinkhorn advised that, in the wake of the interest in the beached sperm whale, Amy Ferguson of the British Divers Marine Life Rescue organisation was arranging a public talk in the week beginning April 21st at the Wash House.

b) Terry Dobson noted that there was a study of traffic and pedestrian safety being undertaken at the Brunstane Road South/Milton Road junction.

c) It was noted that the new housing proposals approved for Newcraighall were for 270 units, a significantly higher density than previously planned for.

d) Stephen Dishon noted that Towerbank Parent Council were once again looking at traffic issues around the school as there were some concerns. On a positive note the school celebrated its 130 year in 2014 and events to mark this were being planned, including the official opening of the extension.

314.13 Future meetings

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, Edinburgh EH15 1EU.

The next meeting is on 24th February 2014 (316)

Subsequent dates are: 31st March 2014 (317)

28th April 2014 (318)

Portobello Community Council on the Web: <http://www.portobellocc.org/>

Portobello Community Council on Facebook: www.facebook.com/PortobelloCommunityCouncil

Contact Portobello Community Council at: portycc.@porty.org.uk