

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Agenda for the 4th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council on
Tuesday 11th January 1983 in Towerbank School Annexe at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous meeting.
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Correspondence.
5. Items for general discussion.
 - I Towerbank Playfield.
 - II Poster and Logo Competition.
 - III Open Forum.
6. AOCB.
7. Place and Date of Next Meeting.

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the fourth Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held at Towerbank School Annexe, on Tuesday 11th January 1983 at 7.30pm.

Chairman

Mr. George Rendall

Present

Ms. N. Smith, Mr. G. Rendall, Mr. J. D. Hosie, Mr. W. S. McDonald, Mr. A. Bryce, Ms. R. A. Bullen, Mr. H. E. Fitzsimmons, Mr. D. Herd, Ms. S. S. Brown, Mr. J. Dykes, Ms. J. A. Hepburn, Ms. I. Thomson, Ms. B. Heron, Ms. C. Kilgour, Ms. S. M. Westwood, Mr. W. Westwood, Mr. T. Kyle, Mr. P. Elliot, Mr. H. Dawson, Mr. D. Third, Mr. R. Sinclair, Ms. M. Jenkins-Thomas, Ms. M. Whitehead, Mr. G. Cooper, Cllr. P. Martin, Ms. M. Shepherd, Ms. H. Reid, Cllr. I. Berry.

Apologies

Ms. J. Scott, Mr. R. Aitken, Ms. S. Lawrie, Ms. M. Amos, Mr. W. Davidson, Ms. L. Davidson, Cllr. K. F. Ward, Cllr. Rt. Hon. I. R. Hoy.

34. Minutes of the third Meeting of Portobello Community Council held on Monday 13th December 1982 were approved with the following amendment:

Mr. H. Dawson pointed out that the second last line of section 31 should read: '...possible community use of now vacant premises in Portobello High Street.'

Ms. Audrey Bullen said that there had been an error in procedure at the last meeting when a proposal concerning cycling on the Promenade was overlooked by the Chairman. The Chairman said that this should have been dealt with as a point of order at the last meeting. Ms. Bullen agreed that the outcome of the discussion was accurately recorded but in order to avoid a similar error in future the Chairman outlined future procedure in this connection which he would like to adopt with the approval of the Council.

Rather than that a discussion be terminated prematurely by a proposal from the body of the Meeting the Chairman would in future endeavour to draw the discussion to a conclusion and then invite Council representatives to propose courses of action on the subject under consideration, at which point debate would cease and a decision would be made. This was agreed by the Council.

The minutes were then approved by the Council.

35. Matters Arising

The Secretary had written to Edinburgh District Council applying for the keys to Joopa Tennis Courts. A Letter had also gone to the Lothian and Borders Police on their use of patrol cars on the Promenade. A tree had been bought and installed at the side of the Town Hall decorated with Edinburgh District Council's illuminations. The tree had been put up by Mr. Westwood and Mr. Dawson with help from members of the community. Thanks were expressed to Frieghtliner and to Mr. Alan Murdoch for thier help in transportation of the/

the tree. The District Council had been asked for information on grants and legal obligations of shop and house owners to keep property in good order. A check had been made on the availability and price of premises for possible use by the Community Council.

36. Correspondence

A letter from PADCA complained that the enquiry from the Community Council concerning Jona Tennis courts could not be answered due to the late receipt of the letter which allowed only three days in which to reply. The Secretary explained that the letter had been wrongly addressed and only recently returned to her. The Chairman agreed that the time was short but considered that a local organisation could still have replied with a brief note in answer to the enquiry.

37. Towerbank Playfield

The principle point of concern was the lack of a wire netting around the playfield. It was considered to be clearly inadequate as a playfield without a fence for protection. The PTA of Towerbank had tried without success to have the fence replaced. One suggestion was that the playfield should be upgraded rather than simply restored to its original condition but it was pointed out that the present surface was an all weather surface and it was considered to be better than a grass surface in general. Although it was reported that Mr. Jackson, the Headmaster, felt it was safer for children to cross the field rather than to walk around the field this could easily be avoided by repositioning the access gates. The Council agreed that the Secretary write to the Education Department of the Regional Council urging that the fence be repaired.

38. Poster and Logo Competition

The Chairman said that the need to advertise the meetings of the Community Council to the Public might best be done by a poster placed in premises around the Community Council Area. Rather than simply draw from amongst themselves a poster advertising meetings the Council might organise a poster competition drawing on the ready talent of the local schools. Some discussion centred around how the prizes should be awarded—in cash or in kind. It was agreed that the prizes must be in kind and for the purpose of organisation and judging, a sub-committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. David Herd was established, the members being: Mr. D. Herd, Ms. M. Whitehead, Ms. J. Heburn, Ms. M. Jenkins-Thomas, Ms. N. Smith. Many thought that the logo for the Council should be considered separately from the poster competition and either the Portobello coat of arms or another symbol should be used on headed notepaper of/

of the Council. It was agreed to use the Portobello coat of arms with the suggestion that the sentence 'Portobello, the Capital's resort'. Offers of a photograph of the coat of arms from Mr.G.Cooper and a print from Mr.H.Dawson were gratefully received. It was agreed that the Secretary write to the schools asking for their preliminary agreement to participate in the competition.

39. Open Forum

The Chairman said that the purpose of this section of the agenda was to allow representatives to raise problems or aspects of Council functioning that they might consider were not adequately treated. Many considered that it was a little early to analyse the direction the Community Council was taking but felt that publicity and public involvement could be improved. Mr.H.Dawson said the Portobello Reporter would be printing details of meetings and reporting on discussion on a regular basis thus reaching a considerable section of the community. Some mentioned that the Evening News might write about Community Council activities if contacted and copies of minutes in the library would go some way to publicising Council activity. However, many people still might not get to hear of what was happening and a suggestion that a monthly or six-monthly report delivered to all houses in the area would be most effective. Cllr.P.Martin pointed out that the cost might be great when notice of a project he knew of cost approximately £150 for a run of 10,000. It was decided to investigate the cost of printing and distribution by various means including delivery by post or possibly by the Edinburgh Advertiser. No progress had been made with the P.O. box and a suggestion that mail might possibly be sent care of the Town Hall was made and it was agreed to investigate the possibility.

Mr.H.Dawson asked that a copy of the minutes of the Council be sent to the Community Education Department of the Lothian Region. this was agreed.

Mr.A.Bryce informed the meeting that no tenders had been received by the District Council, by the due date, for the pool.

The Chairman mentioned that he intended to go to the Edinburgh Community Council Joint Forum meeting on Community Council elections.

40. AOCB

A report from the Lights Sub-Committee was read to the meeting after which the chairman called for nominations for position of Chair of the three sub-committees. Mr.Robert Sinclair was agreed as Chairman of the Lights Sub-Committee as were Ms.Hazel Reid of the Community Program Sub-Committee and Mr.David Herd of the Poster Competition Sub-Committee. Ms.H.Reid mentioned that work had already begun on the Community Program Sub-Committee and they were soon to have talks with an official concerned with the Community Program.

The Treasurer, Mr.W.McDonald, asked for approval to open an account titled 'Lights Account' for donations and contributions towards the

Lights Project. This was agreed. A suggestion that withdrawals could be made by the signature of the Treasurer and the Lights Sub-Committee Chairman was not taken up after reference to the minutes of the first AGM of the Council in which it is stated that only the Treasurer and another Office Bearer were so empowered. The Chairman of the Lights Sub-Committee asked for agreement to approach various organisations for help and also to start media coverage. The Council agreed.

41. Place and Date of Next Meeting

Of the places mentioned at the last meeting all were already used on the Monday and Tuesday on which the Council met. PADCA servery was considered too small, Towerbank Annexe being more suitable in comparison. However, after some discussion a move to Portobello High School, where the House Rooms were larger than the present room, was agreed with the proviso that other premises should be investigated including a suggestion that Ramsey Technical Annexe might be used.

Mr. H. Fitzsimmons asked that the Council contact the Post Office to complain about the lighting at Portobello Post Office. The Chairman, declaring an interest as an employee of the Post Office, suggested that the Community Council should take no action in comparatively minor matters where no member of the public had first complained of the matter and that this should be the policy of the Council in future instances. This was agreed by the Council.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.55pm.

The next meeting of the Portobello Community Council will be in Portobello High School (House Room) on Monday 7th February 1983.

*These are a correct record of the
proceedings. A Kendall
(Chairman)*