

# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

from the Secretary: Gordon Cooper

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There will be a Meeting of Portobello Community Council on Monday, August 27th in Portobello Town Hall at 7.30pm.

You are cordially invited

## AGENDA

- 1) Apologies
- 2) a) Minutes of 20th Meeting held on June 18th 1984  
b) Minutes of 21st Meeting held on August 7th 1984
- 3) PORTOBELLO BY-PASS AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT  
There will be a presentation by staff members of Lothian Region Highways Dept covering:-
  - a) Construction Phase
  - b) Traffic ManagementAfter the presentation there will be ample opportunity for discussion and questions on all the issues involved.
- 4) Edinburgh Community Council Joint Forum - 29 September 1984  
Attendance and Representatives
- 5) Any Other Competent Business including Matters arising from 20th and 21st Meetings
- 6) Date and Place of next Meeting

17th August 1984



Secretary

# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE 22nd MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27 1984 at 7.30pm

Chair: In the absence on business of Mr Sinclair, Mr J.D. Hosie (Vice-chairman) took the Chair.

Present: Mr R.M. Aitken, Mrs S.S. Brown, Mr G.A. Cooper, Mr W. Davidson, Mr H.E. Fitzsimmons, Mrs J. Hepburn, Mr D.N. Herd, Mrs B.E. Heron, Mrs M. Jenkins-Thomas, Mrs H. Kirsopp, Mrs C. Kilgour, Miss R. Lang, Mr W.S. McDonald, Mr S. Macintosh, Mr C.J.A. O'Brien, Mrs M.M. Shepherd, Mrs I. Thomson, Mrs M. Waugh, Mrs S.M. Westwood, Mr W. Westwood, Dr G. Strang M.P., Cllrs I.J. Berry, Hon. I.R. Hoy, G. Kerevan, P.C. Martin, K.F. Ward. Messrs A. Blakey, B. Ireland and D. Campbell from LRC Highways Dept were also present and approximately 100 members of the public.

Apologies: Mrs M.C. Amos, Mr A. Bryce, Mrs J. Scott, Mr R.L. Sinclair, Mrs M. Whitehead, Chief Inspector Brown.

Chairman: The Chairman explained that the primary purpose of the Meeting was to consider the effect of the by-pass on Portobello; however, as the Meeting was a duly constituted Meeting of the Community Council, the Minutes would be taken first and other matters pertinent to the Council would be discussed at the end of the Meeting.

192 MINUTES OF 20th MEETING ON JUNE 18 1984  
On the proposal of Mrs Jenkins-Thomas seconded by Mrs Waugh these were approved as a true record.

193 MINUTES OF 21st MEETING ON AUGUST 7th 1984  
These were amended by adding the name of Mrs Waugh to those present, with this change Mrs Waugh proposed and Mr Westwood seconded their approval as a true record.

- 194 a) The Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillor Berry for organising the attendance of the Officials from the Highways Dept and asked him to introduce the speakers. Councillor Berry acknowledged that a great deal of inconvenience was being caused in the area but expressed the hope that when the road was completed the difficulties would be seen to have been worth-while.
- b) Mr Blakey then explained the course of the road and the present state of contracts and the considerations of cost and the effect on Baileyfield Rd that had led to the decision to substitute a roundabout for the underpass at the west end of Baileyfield Rd. He also described the position over Asda N. and S. roundabouts and that a lorry park with access confined to the by-pass would be constructed S. of St Mark's Place.
- c) Mr Ireland outlined proposals for reducing the width of the highway east of the Kings Rd roundabout and offered alternative proposals for treatment of the town centre which involved considerable enlargement of the pavement on either the N or S side, tree planting, etc. It was anticipated that traffic density would be reduced to 7000 vehicles per day with a peak of 600 per hour, some large vehicles would still need to use the centre for deliveries, etc. but there would be no vehicular access from the lorry park to or from Portobello.
- Mr Ireland defined traffic essential to Portobello as residents, shoppers, traders and those who supply them. He drew attention to the problems that other by-passed towns had experienced.
- d) The Chairman thanked Mr Blakey and Mr Ireland for their very clear presentation and invited questions and comment from the audience.

The questions and discussion came under 2 main headings,

a) Baileyfield Rd Roundabout

Dr Strang, supported by many members of the audience, advocated the replacement of the roundabout by an underpass as originally envisaged. He argued that an increase in cost of a mere £ 6½ million was a cheap price to pay to benefit Portobello for the next 100 years. Mr Mason of the Highways Dept had made it clear that there was no question that technically the houses in Baileyfield Rd could survive the creation of an underpass. Councillor Berry and the officials from the Highways Dept argued that the Edinburgh District Council (EDC) had already given planning permission for the roundabout; there could be no guarantee to the residents of Baileyfield Rd that their house could survive an underpass; if it was decided that an underpass was necessary, the slip road access to Portobello would be very difficult, and the project would be delayed for a number of years; during this time the by-pass would terminate at the E. end of Baileyfield Rd near W. Brighton Crescent.

In answer to a question from Mr Westwood, it was made clear that the proposed environmental improvements in Portobello High St were intended to be funded from the savings in not having an underpass.

b) Other aspects of Traffic Management

Other matters discussed included the proposals for traffic management and discouragement of through traffic, particularly heavy vehicles. Fears were expressed over the loss of some of the very limited kerb-side parking and suggestions made for off-street parking sites. It was established that 'Asda' N. roundabout was an essential link on the A1 between Musselburgh and Edinburgh. It was also made clear that from Milton Rd to Baileyfield Rd, the by-pass would be subject to a speed limit of 40 mph. As far as possible, the new road would be shielded by the old railway embankment from the houses, but there might be some environmental impact where the road rose to cross the main E coast line of B.R.; if noise was above 86 decibels there would be grants available for double-glazing.

c) The Chairman closed the discussion due to pressure of time but assured the Meeting that the Community Council would take on board all the views expressed and pass them on to the appropriate people. He thanked all those who had participated either as questioners or responders.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL JOINT FORUM

The Chairman reported on a proposed forum of Community Councils in the Edinburgh District to be held on Saturday September 29th, 10 am to 4 pm. It was hoped that Councillor Alexander would chair the Meeting. The Council could send up to six people and he asked for volunteers to get into touch with him. If sufficient names were not forthcoming, the matter would be raised at the next meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 20th and 21st MEETINGS

- 1) Para. 182 (ii) Cllr Martin reported that it was now known that it was intended to close Craigentenny Rd Sub P.O.. He had already written to the EDC and Head Postmaster. It was also reported that Southfield Place Sub P.O. was also threatened. The Secretary reported that the FOUC could only consider particular closures. It was agreed that he write to FOUC objecting to these closures.
- 2) Para. 182 (vi) A report on the informal meeting with the District Council reps to discuss the formation of an EDC Liaison Cttee had been circulated with the Minutes. The Report was approved and it was agreed that the appended draft letter be sent to the Director of Administration. Mrs Jenkins-Thomas was thanked for her report.
- 3) Para. 188

3) Para 188

The Secretary reported that Chief Inspector Brown had notified him that he felt unable to remove the cones in Bath St at present. If manpower permitted they would be uplifted every evening.

4) Para 190

The Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Mr Bryce, on behalf of the Illuminations Sub-committee asking that the full Council:

- a) give agreement in principle to the Sub-committee circulating all traders;
- b) consider their attitude to a door to door collection;
- c) give agreement in principle to the proposals for the High St for Christmas 1984.

The Chairman pointed out that the Council had already agreed that the Sub-committee would be responsible for all fund raising and that full proposals would be brought to the September Meeting. However, the Meeting agreed, in principle with items a and c but some disquiet was expressed about the problems of a door to door collection.

Mr Westwood drew attention to the number of lights extinguished on the Promenade. It was understood that Mr Sinclair might have some knowledge of the position over repairs. The Chairman agreed that a letter be sent to the Director of Highways, if appropriate, after the return of Mr Sinclair.

OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- a) Sunday opening of Baths: Cllr Martin drew attention to the decision of EDC to open Dalry and Glenogle Baths for an experimental period on Sunday. Councillor Kerevan stressed that it was an experiment but agreed to look into the possibility of doing this for Portobello. Secretary to write.
- b) Community Council Noticeboard: Mrs Kirsopp asked for a progress report. It was understood that Mr Sinclair had the matter in hand. It was also suggested that there should be Noticeboards at Craigentimny and Joppa.
- c) Dog Fouling: Attention was drawn to the very few notices visible. Mrs Waugh reported that these were available from the Environmental Health Dept, but were not very striking. Mr Westwood felt that more should be done to wash the pavements and streets. The Secretary reported that in response to a questionnaire from the Cleansing Dept he had made this point about all 'caked-on' rubbish. Secretary to try and get a supply of posters.
- d) Walls at Figgate St, etc.: The Secretary reported no reply to his letter about pedestrian access. To write again.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that this should take place on Tuesday 25th September 1984 in Portobello High School. This would be the Annual General Meeting.