

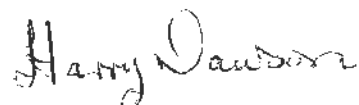
PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

from the secretary : Harry Dawson
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The 53rd meeting of the council will be held in St Marks Church Hall, Portobello High Street on Monday 15th June, 1987 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Minutes of the 52nd meeting
- 3) Matters arising and correspondence
- 4) Sub-committee reports
- 5) Good dog campaign
- Interval
- 6) Non consultation with Recreation Department
- 7) Accomodation for day visitors in wet weather
- 8) Any other business
- 9) Date and place of the next meeting



Harry Dawson
Secretary PCC

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 53rd meeting held in St Marks Church Hall on
15/6/87.

Chair. Mr H W Shepherd

Present. C Alexander, HJ Alexander-Bowen, MC Amos, G Anderson,
K Angelosanto, C Begg, IJ Berry, M Child, R D'Arcy,
HA Dawson, W Henderson, S Hurford, F Jones, C Kilgour,
H Kirsopp, A McDonald, V Middleton, J Scott, HW Shepherd,
MM Shepherd, H Wanless, SM Westwood, W Westwood,

Ex Officio. Cllr D Begg, Ch Insp G Mackay.

Apologies. T Blore, E Brownlee, GA Cooper, W Davidson, BE Heron
AT Murray, K Robertson, RL Sinclair, F Wraith, Dr Strang,
Cllr Ward, Cllr Alexander, Cllr Kerevan, CJ O'Brien.

2/051 The Chairman opened the meeting and suspended the agenda to
introduce Mr D Watson from the Environmental Health Dept
to outline the 'Good Dog' campaign.

Mr Watson said that the campaign would start on the 22nd
June and already every primary school in the city had been
invited to take part in a poster designing competition with
the aim of the winning entries being displayed in the
public libraries throughout the city. Each school had been
sent a teaching pack and display material and, in addition,
each child would be given a letter from the chair of the
Env. Health committee outlining aspects of good dog behaviour.
To launch the campaign the chairman of the committee would
be leading a walk from the City Chambers to Greyfriars
Bobby accompanied by a variety of different dogs eg Guide
Dogs, Hearing dogs etc. In this way it is hoped to accentuate
the positive aspects of the campaign.

The main thrust of the campaign will be publicity aimed at
a wide cross section of the public. Posters, stickers etc
available on request from the department.

Two areas of the city are to be used as a pilot scheme for
'Poop Scoops' and Joppa Quarry Park is one of them. The
scoops will be freely available locally - from Joppa Tennis
Courts - and bins will be fitted in the park.

The dog warden service was now at full strength and would be
adopting a much higher profile. In addition officers from
the department would be prepared to report offenders direct
to the Procurator Fiscal in order that prosecutions could
be made.

As a further positive step, members of the dog aid society
had volunteered to run dog training classes to teach basic
handling techniques to owners. (see report attached)

Mr Watson stated that in order to encourage people to
remove dog mess a change in the law was being considered
so that anyone so removing the mess would not be prosecuted.

CI Mackay remarked that such a change in the law could
create more difficulties than it solved and may create the
same problem as in the Litter Act where persons must be given
the opportunity to pick up their litter unless it is obvious
that the litter offence was intentional. The Litter Act,
as a result, is not as effective as it could be. With dog
fouling, if the mess is removed, the Police almost certainly
would not report the offender but, if people wished
reassurance on this point, perhaps it would be enough for
the Procurator Fiscal to publicly confirm that a prosecution

H.W. SGM

2/051 cont.

would not result if the mess was removed.

CI Mackay pointed out that he would welcome information from ANY two persons about offences and a Police Report would be possible.

Mr Westwood asked if special attention could be given to Bath Street since it was a main thoroughfare to the beach. Couldn't a clean up scheme be operated there?

The problem lies in the law, since it is already an offence to permit the fouling of footpaths, no one can be compelled to clean up after their dog. Mr Watson has been promised full co-operation from the cleansing department during the campaign.

The chairman thanked Mr Watson for his presentation.

The Secretary asked that the officers be given a remit to negotiate with the environmental health department and the dog aid society to initiate a training scheme and this was given with no dissent.

2/052 Minutes of the 52nd meeting. These were accepted as a true record of that meeting, Proposed, Mr Alexander-Bowen, Seconded, Mrs Scott.

2/053 Matters arising. 2/045, Coat of Arms, the secretary asked for councils opinion on the best site for the Coat of Arms and after some debate settled for Kings Road. The secretary has written to SSEB asking if they will supply a display board outlining the history of the power station to be erected beside the Coat of Arms. SSEB have approved this. Secretary will also write EDC and advise them of the site decision.

2/045 Marine Garage and 67 Promenade. After examination of the applications objections have been lodged to both. The letter from Fraserburgh CC (previously circulated) had attracted no comment and the sec asked for instructions. CI Mackay said that under age drinking was not a big problem in the area but the situation was kept under review and if anyone had information it should be passed to the Police so that the appropriate action could be taken. Sec will write FCC noting their comments.

Several local establishments have applied for late licences and the list was read out. Decided not to make any objection at this time but sec will write to Licensing Board and inform them that we will keep the situation under review.

Mr McDonald had a leaflet from the Co-op asking for nominations for local charitable groups to receive assistance. Two groups discussed were the Tourism Development Association, who provide the beach entertainment each year and who are not funded from any source, and the churches day care centre for the frail housebound elderly. On a division it was agreed to put forward the frail elderly. (PTDA 8 FE 11).

2/054 Sub committee reports were as circulated previously.

2/055 After the interval the chairman again suspended the agenda to allow any members of the public to speak.

Mr McKenzie stated that the beach was in need of replenishing as the groynes were clearly visible at the Joppa end. In reply, Cllr Begg (LRC) stated that a study had shown that the sand had decreased by 18% and it was intended to replace it. The options for replacing it were, 1) by lorry with all the resulting environmental problems or 2) by dredging from Fisherrow. The cost was likely to be in the region of £½m. However, before replenishing remedial work would be done on the groynes.

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2/056 The secretary outlined areas where the consultation process with EDC had broken down. It is essential for EDC and this council to keep each other informed of areas of mutual interest. This is provided for in the scheme of administration for CCs drawn up by EDC. Unfortunately in some cases officials are unaware of the scheme and one or two politicians are equally ignorant of it.

With regard to the projected Panto in the Town Hall, the sec asked all members - particularly those representing local interest groups, to write to the Director of Recreation giving support.

On Joppa Tennis Courts, the sec asked for the officers to be given a remit to act as necessary to resolve the repair situation. The work needed may cost about £1,000 and help had been sought from various sources. Remit given, no dissent. Negotiations will be conducted in tandem with the sub-committee. In defence of EDC Cllr Begg, pointed out that a great deal of money had been spent in Portobello by the present administration. He listed Rosefield Park, the Fringe at the Seaside, Jessfield Bowling Green now open on Sundays, indoor baths renovated and open on Sundays, the Town Hall used more than ever before, the crazy putting had been re-opened and the golf course was also open on Sundays. We have to appreciate the severe financial penalties facing local government. In reply the secretary said that Fringe at the seaside was a direct replacement for the summer programme formerly run by the PTDA using EDC finance, the baths had not been committed to Sunday opening beyond April of this year and the Town Hall seemed to be used for more Jumble sales than ever. Scinting the hint of political in-fighting the chair terminated the discussion there.

2/057 Secretary explained that several letters had been received asking if wet weather accomodation was available for day trippers to Portobello. In the absence of a community centre this posed a problem. So far the local churches have been more than generous with their halls. This was not ideal as the churches still had to foot the bill for heating etc. School shelters would be available since the playgrounds were open. The Toddlers Hut was another possibility during the Holidays. PADCA was mentioned but the problem of expense arises again.

Possibly the Council of Churches could organise a rota of their halls with the information held at a central point eg the Police Station. Sec will write and ask if this is possible.

2/058 Date and place of next meeting. St Marks, Monday AUGUST 10th at 7.30pm. NB July meeting cancelled.

Some acrimony has been apparent in recent months on the question of the interval. The purpose of the interval is two fold :-

- 1) To give those who wish to smoke the opportunity to do so.
- 2) To give those who wish to speak to other members the opportunity to do so and also to obtain any leaflets, further information etc

No minute of this decision exists as it was taken at an officers meeting where the agenda is set. The majority of opinion so far expressed to the officers has been in favour. However, if any member wishes to raise this, or any other matter, please contact me.

Handwritten signature: H.W. 587