

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

from the secretary : Harry Dawson

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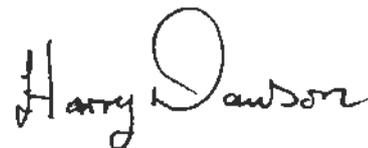
Portobello EH15 2AD

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The 54th meeting of the council will be held in St Marks Church Hall, Portobello High Street on Monday August 10th at 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Mr D Scotney from the Public Transport Study Unit will give a short talk and answer questions on the future of Public Transport in the city.
- 3) Minutes of the 53rd meeting
- 4) Matters arising and correspondence
Interval
- 5) Financial report
- 6) Sub-committee reports
- 7) Any other business
- 8) Date and place of next meeting.



Harry Dawson

Secretary PCC

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 54th meeting held in St Marks Church Hall, Monday 10/8/87.

Chair. Mr HW Shepherd

Present. HJ Alexander-Bowen, MC Amos, K Angelosanto, C Bennet, IJ Berry, E Brownlee, GA Cooper, HA Dawson, F Jones, C Kilgour, H Kirsopp, RR Lang, A McDonald, V Middleton, J Scott, HW Shepherd, A Strachan, I Thomson,

Ex Officio, Cllr Ward, Cllr Kerevan, CI Mackay.

Apologies. C Alexander, G Anderson, C Begg, T Blore, M Child, W Davidson, W Henderson, B Heron, S Hurford, A Murray, K Robertson, M Shepherd, R Sinclair, H Wanless, S Westwood, W Westwood, F Wraith, Dr Strang MP, Cllr Begg Cllr Alexander, Cllr Martin, Cllr Dodds.

2/059 The chairman introduced Mr D Scotney from the public

transport study unit who gave a short talk on the work of the unit.

Mr Scotney explained that the problems affecting the present bus service in the city were not his prime concern but the future of the transport system and the best form it should take. Public transport use in Edinburgh had declined less than in comparable cities elsewhere in the UK. In Bristol only 15% of the working population travel by PT whereas in Edinburgh the figure is 41%. The situation with private cars in Edinburgh is one of "congested stability". The population in the area affected by the study is 480,000. Previous studies have tended to rely on teams of experts making reports on what they would like to see developing. This time IIRC have appointed a team of regional officials with the power to co-opt consultants for specific tasks to carry out the study.

To allow as many people as possible to take part leaflets have been sent out to every house in the area. In addition random sampling has taken place on several bus routes. The results of this sampling will be used as the base for a computer model of the problems. This model will allow the team to study the likely effects of the various options being considered as part of the study. All options are being considered on an equal basis so that no option should be left unconsidered. It is hoped to have a preferred option ready by Spring of 1989.

Several points were made in relation to the study. Mr Strachan felt that, at the end of the day, the deciding factor would be the economics of the situation. This may make the study ineffectual if the bus operators decided to ignore it in pursuit of economic excellence. Mr Scotney acknowledged the problems with de-regulation but pointed out that it was only buses that had been affected. Glasgow underground had escaped the act.

Matters affecting the roads were not usually given a high priority for consultation with the people who ~~MATTER~~ most - the road users. The chaos which often arises in Princes Street was cited as an example. No doubt the new traffic management scheme had looked good on paper but in reality it is a mess.

Mr McDonald felt that the whole thing sounded like a field day for bureaucrats and computer modellers. He was quite

HW. S. M.

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pessimistic about the chances of the study being translated into reality.

Mrs Scott expressed concern about the level of service at present with practically no buses after 10.30pm.

In answer to that, Mr Scotney said that someone else was currently looking at the problems caused by de-regulation. In conclusion the Chairman remarked that perhaps a speaker from LRTplc would be a good idea for future meetings. The Chairman thanked Mr Scotney for his contribution.

- 2/060. Minutes of M 53. Mrs Scott pointed out that she and Mrs Hurford had turned up for the July meeting the cancelation of which was unknown to them and asked that the minute reflect this. The secretary apologised and agreed to alter the minute at 2/058 to include the July date as part of the original pattern. With that alteration the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed Mrs Jones, Seconded, Mr Alexander-Bowen.
- 2/061 Correspondence. Letter from St Marks Vestry asking for our support in their attempt to negotiate an MSC scheme to carry out remedial work on the buildings including the hall. Secretary instructed to write offering our support. The secretary reported some progress with the dog training scheme (see agenda item 6).
The Marine Garage development had been granted planning consent despite our objections and those of the residents at Kings Road. Mr Berry remarked that this seemed like a good case for referral to the local authority ombudsman. After some discussion the officers asked that the matter be remitted to them in order that further advice could be taken. This was granted.
Windsor Place Church. The Church was the subject of yet another application this time for a mixture of sheltered and ordinary housing. After some debate it was agreed to lodge objection on the grounds of insufficient car parking and the finishing materials being unsuitable. PAS have already objected.
No 45 bus. The secretary reported a stalemate with LRT plc and Cllr Ward indicated that he was far from happy about the tone and content of the letter received from Mr House of the company. He will pursue the matter. If there was still no response he is willing to raise the matter at committee. The secretary reported a conversation with Cllr Begg in which Cllr Begg had indicated that he was un-willing to pursue the issue of the 45 and that he was willing to justify that stance. Cllr Kerevan agreed that the letter was outrageous but stressed that under the severe restriction imposed by the Government the region were in an impossible position. Cllr Ward rejected the political argument and re-stated his intention to raise the matter because of his own divisional interests.
- 2/062 Sub-committee reports. JTC. Mr Strachan reported that several donations of a financial nature had been received but there was still room for improvement on the volunteer front. So if anyone has a couple of hours spare the committee would be delighted to hear from you.
- 2/063 Finance. Balances are as follows; General a/c £443.36

HW Shephard

/G a/c £443.36

JTC £439.97,

- 2/064 AOCB. A letter had been received before the meeting from the Fringe at the Seaside committee asking for financial support in line with previous years. Secretary said that, in his opinion, if this money should go anywhere it should go to the Tourism Development Association who provided the entertainment including the Victorian Splash all season. The PTDA had been denied funding from the District Council for the past two years. The motion was seconded by Mr Cooper and attracted no dissent. Accordingly the donation of £100.00 will be sent to the PTDA.
- Cllr Kerevan reported that an art gallery in Dundas Street were currently showing an exhibition of paintings of Portobello circa 1920.
- The Chairman proposed that a sub-committee/working party be set up to look at ways and means of supporting or promoting a Civic Week in the summer. This proposal was supported by Mr Strachan and again, attracted no dissent. Therefore the group will be inaugurated at the September meeting (agenda item 4)
- Mr Cooper reported that the long awaited resource centre had opened in King Stables Road and that PCC had joined at a cost of £50.00. Quite apart from the money PCC had also contributed the services of our secretary and he offered his congratulations to the secretary on his appointment and asked that it be formally minuted.
- 2/065 Date and Place of the next meeting. AGM and M55 St Marks Church Hall Monday, 14th September, 7.30pm.

IN WSKM