

# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The 57th Meeting of the Council will be held on November 11th at 7.30pm  
in St Marks Church Hall, Portobello High Street.

## AGENDA

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Minutes of the last meeting
- 3) Sub-committee reports
- 4) Community Charge and Portobello. Open debate on the effect of the replacement for the domestic rates. Will YOU benefit or lose? Come along and find out. Members of the public will be especially welcome.
- 5) Any other business
- 6) Date and place of the next meeting.

Harry Dawson  
Secretary PCC

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# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 57th meeting of the council held in St Marks Hall on the 11th November 1987.

Chair H W Shepherd

Present HJ Alexander-Bowen, G Anderson, K Angelosanto, C Begg, K Begg, E Brownlee, M Child, H A Dawson, H Kirsopp, V Middleton, A T Murray, H W Shepherd, M M Shepherd, Chief Insp Watt, Cllr D Begg, Cllr K Ward, Cllr G Kerevan  
Apologies M Amos, I Berry, B Heron, R Lang, A McDonald, J Scott, A Strachan, I Thomson, H Wanless, S Westwood, W Westwood, F Wraith, G Strang MP, Cllr P Nolan.

- 2/081 The minute of the previous meeting was accepted as a true record of that meeting. Proposed Mrs Shepherd, Seconded Mr Alexander-Bowen.
- 2/082 Matters arising. Secretary reported a meeting with officials from the Baths Division re disabled access to the swim centre. There appeared to be no major problems for access at least on a temporary basis until a long term solution can be found. The management will make a recommendation for a time and date to be established for use by groups. No guarantees are possible on Sunday opening due to the present financial situation.  
2/079 Dogs in Rosefield Park. It was pointed out that no notices are displayed warning owners to keep their dogs on a leash. Secretary will check with the department.
- 2/083 The Chairman apologised for the move to Wednesday evenings but pointed out that no other hall appeared to be available on a Monday. Several suggestions were made and these will be checked.
- 2/084 Report received from the sub committee on services to the frail elderly. Main areas of concern are access to buildings and the general suitability of these buildings. Copies of the report can be made available.
- 2/085 The Community Charge/Poll Tax. Discussion on this item proved to be quite extensive and due to pressure of work it is not possible to minute it clearly here. However the discussion was recorded on audio tape and full transcriptions will be available shortly. If you wish a copy please ask the secretary.
- 2/086 Any other business. The removal of the crossing at the top of Brunstane Road is causing some concern. Secretary was asked to write and ask for a replacement. Pointed out that this had already been done at the request of some local residents and the staff at the college. With no success. It is reported that work is due to start on phase 2 of the High Street early in the New Year.  
The secretary reported on a discussion document issued by the Scottish Office which will lead to leisure and recreational facilities being 'privatised'. Sec urged that we resist this and it was agreed to discuss the issue in the December meeting (brief resume enclosed)
- 2/087 There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting  
The next meeting will be December 11th in St Marks Hall.

# PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Environmental project.

Purpose of the report.

To recommend to the community council that action be taken to make local facilities and amenities more accessible to disabled and elderly people.

Background.

Within any community there are architectural barriers which inhibit access for various members of society. Many disabled people, particularly in the younger age range, who are wheelchair bound, wish to live totally independent lives and would argue that whilst they suffer from physical impairment, it is their environment, the physical barriers, which disable them from taking a full part in community life.

Too often a 'tradesmans entrance' solution is considered acceptable but, where possible, there should be no such discrimination. Current philosophy of community care will lead to increasing numbers of disabled and elderly people hopefully being fully integrated into community life and it is surely fundamental that all doors are open to them.

We should therefore endeavour to ensure that unnecessary physical barriers are removed and all citizens have equal opportunity to play their full part in community life.

Proposal for initial improvement.

- 1) Portobello Town Hall : Ramp at front entrance. At present access is via side door
- 2) Swimming Pool : Present arrangement made with desk staff to enter via side door through the laundry.
- 3) Hibs Supporters Club : Present access via rear door, no suitable toilet access inside.

Recommendation.

Representation should be made to Edinburgh District Council and the proprietors of the Hibs Club to improve access to their properties and to the facilities therein.

Local publicity should be sought highlighting the facilities - good or otherwise regarding access.

Vivienne Middleton

pp Frail Elderly sub committee 11/11/87.

## LOTHIAN AND BORDERS POLICE

### CRIME PREVENTION PANELS

In 1985 recommendations were made to establish Crime Prevention Panels, who with the police would discuss and put forward initiatives to prevent crime in particular geographical areas or professional fields. At present there are 7 Crime Prevention Panels in operation in the Lothian and Borders Police area. Owing to the benefits realised and the experiences gained it is intended to increase the number of panels and it is hoped that by February 1988 there will be sufficient support locally to form a Portobello Crime Prevention Panel which would consist of nominations from a number of groups and bodies from within the Portobello and surrounding areas. Obviously the common interest of the members of the panel would be to work together with the police to prevent crime within the Portobello area.

#### OBJECTIVES OF PANEL

1. Generating crime prevention ideas and initiatives relating to identified problems, ie., Housebreaking, Auto theft, Vandalism etc.
2. Promoting a greater understanding and co-operation between the police and the community.
3. Alerting the community to the types of crime prevalent and advising on preventative measures.
4. Stimulating public interest in the prevention of crime.

#### PANEL MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be as widely representative of the community as possible ie., Representatives from community council, tenants or residents associations, traders association, workers groups, amenity groups, statutory agencies, Victim Support Schemes, Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, Youth organisations etc. Also on each panel would be a local senior police officer, a local senior CID officer and a crime prevention officer.

#### QUALIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. An acknowledged interest in the local community in general particularly with a view to preventing crime.
2. An executive or management position in a local commercial undertaking or organisation.
3. Representatives of any section of the community who in the opinion of the panel may be of assistance in furthering its objectives.

#### MEETINGS

The panel will meet on four occasions per annum in addition to the Annual General Meeting which will be held in February or March of each year.

## TRAINING

Training is given for panel members and it is intended that a seminar will be held at a national level at the Scottish Police College, Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine-on-Forth.

Nominations are sought from organisations in Portobello and surrounding district.

For information contact Chief Inspector Watt at Portobello Police Station.  
Telephone Number: 669 0581.

Competition in the management of local authority sport and leisure.

This report, issued by the Scottish Education Department, calls for the range of facilities currently operated by the various local authorities to be put out to tender and is an extension of the Government's plans to privatise local services such as street cleaning, catering, ground maintenance etc.

It is proposed that the legislation should apply to the following :

Sports centres, leisure centres, swimming pools, golf courses, bowling greens, putting greens, tennis courts, athletics tracks, pitches for team and other games, cycle tracks, water sports facilities, artificial ski slopes, skating rinks, indoor bowling rinks, beaches.

It is not intended to include facilities primarily used by schools.

Local authorities would be able to 'buy in' services for the use of 'disadvantaged' groups - the unemployed, pensioners etc.

The Government recognise that there may be difficulties in implementing these proposals and suggest that phasing in may be required. They propose to do this by firstly targetting those authorities currently spending on these facilities. ie the high expenditure attracts the first penalty. This has already resulted in projects being cancelled or at least postponed until the situation is made clearer.

Comments on the proposals should be made to -

Scottish Education Department  
Room 2/19  
New St Andrews House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3SY