

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 60th meeting of the council held in St Phillips Church Hall on Monday May 16th 1988.

Present. HW Shepherd (Chair) H Dawson, A McDonald, H Alexander-Bowen, MC Amos, E Brownlee, K Angelosanto, H Kirsopp, K Begg, H Wanless, V Middleton, M Child, C Kilgour, F Wraith, J Scott, AT Murray, S Hurford, ~~etc~~
Apologies Dr Strang MP, Cllr Kerevan, G Anderson, T Blore, MM Shepherd, EE Heron, I Thomson, C Begg, W Westwood, S Westwood, Cllr Ward, Cllr Berry ~~CLL R NOLAN~~
Ex Officio CI Watt, PC Jeffery, Cllr Herald, ~~CLL R BEGG~~

2/093 The minutes of the previous meeting were held to be a true record of that meeting. Proposed A McDonald, Seconded Mrs Amos.

2/094 The secretary read some correspondence. The resource centre annual fee was now due and it was agreed to take no action meantime pending a report from the treasurer.

Straiton Place. New proposals were on view from the special measures dept and it is hoped to start work this financial year.

Anti- nuclear festival. Plea for funds or support. Secretary was asked to write offering our support in ways other than financial.

Windsor Lodge. Sec reported that the site owners Thistle Properties had been reported to Procurator Fiscal for repeatedly refusing to take action requested by Environmental Health and for non-compliance with the statutory notices.

2/095 Sub Committee reports. Joppa Tennis Courts will be subject of a full report at the June meeting.

Portobello Community Festival. Brief outline of progress to date. Hoped to have draft programme ready within weeks.

No other reports to hand.

2/096 Open air pool site. Sec reported that Anchor have now lodged a planning application with the District Council and that it would be advertised in due course. EDC are starting to talk to the SDA on plans to landscape parts of the site but PCC will be formally consulted.

Secretary, Mrs Kirsopp and Mr Abbott (PAS) had met with Mr Connolly (EDC Director of Recreation) in an attempt to discover exactly what the state of play is with the EDC development. The department have NO FUNDS in the current financial year to design or build a recreational facility on this site. When money does become available it will take 9 months to one year to design and prepare the planning brief for the site. From the starting point to conclusion will be approx 2½ years.

Several members of the public asked about the clear commitment given by Cllr Kerevan that, " the money is there!" The sums mentioned by Cllr Kerevan appear only on the capital plan and do not feature in the actual budget. There is a world of difference between the capital plan and the budget. The capital plan is what the department would LIKE to spend money on not what they are actually going to spend money on.

Local residents reported problems with demolition, vibration, noise and actual physical damage to property. Sec noted this and will contact relevant departments.

Mr Abbott reminded council that our agreement to the Anchor proposals was conditional on EDC building their facility at the same time and that that was a clear commitment from EDC.

Concern was also expressed at likely light spill, hours of opening particularly late night and inevitably car parking in the adjoining housing development. Secretary noted all of these points and promised to monitor the situation.

In conclusion the secretary was instructed by council to write EDC and ask them to prioritise their development.

Cllr Begg stated that the car parking implications may be commented upon by the Highways department who would most likely insist on adequate parking.

- 2/097 Ammendment to Constitution, The Chairman read the proposed ammendment and outlined the reason for it and asked for comment. Several members felt that it went a bit too far. Members should be given the opportunity to defend their non-appearance if, for example, the nights chosen for meetings were not suitable.
- Much discussion centred on how do we replace members who have left for any reason. It was agreed that, in the case of elected members, the secretary would check the voting list and offer the vacancy(ies) to the next highest unsuccessful candidate. In the case of nominated members the group should be offered the opportunity of nominating another member or, if that were unsuitable due to the group having disbanded, the vacancy be offered to the next group on the approved list of local interest groups. It was also agreed to take no further action on the ammendment meantime_ but to raise it again in the future.
- 2/098 Existing vacancies. There were two vacancies on the council caused by onemember representing a local interest group leaving the area and the group subsequently folding up and by another elected member being elected to another council. In accordance with the general principles established above, it was agreed to offer the nominated vacancy to Gordon McRae of the History Society. Gordon accepted the nomination and henceforth becomes a full voting member of council.
- 2/099 Mrs Kirsopp drew councils attention to the lights in the Daisy Park which were hanging loose. Sec agreed to raise this with Lighting Department. Mrs Kirsopp informed council that PAS had been notified that the beach improvement works were due to be started in June. Its hoped that the work can be completed in three weeks.
- His Child raised the matter of skateboarding and pointed out that a group of local youngsters had raised a petition calling for decent facilities. Council were asked to receive a deputation from the youngsters involved at the next meeting and this was agreed.
- Chairman intimated a desire to suspend council until September to allow the Offic Bearers to concentrate fully on the Festival since it was extremely time consuming. After discussion it was agreed to hold the June meeting and thereafter to suspend activities till September.
- Gordon McRae asked for councils view on the closure of the Jewel Road at Asda. Sec will check as this was debated some time ago.
- 2/100 Date and place of next meeting. Monday, June

Dear Member,

Please accept my sincere apologies if you did not receive notification of the above meeting. This was caused by a problem in the Post Office which did not come to my attention until it was far too late to do much about it. Despite that, however the above meeting achieved a quorum.

with best wishes



Harry Dawson
Secretary PCC