



[336<sup>th</sup> PCC Meeting]

[28.03.2016]

## Minutes of the 336<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

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**Present:** Peter Bradley (Brighton and Rosefield Residents' Association), Brian Cosford, Emma Dempsey, Maria Devoy, Gillian Eunson, Justin Kenrick, Lee Kindness, Geoff Lynn, Ben McLeish, Clare Slifer, Sean Watters.

**Apologies:** Mark Cameron, Mina Curran (Woodcraft), Colin Cuthbert, Graham Elliot (Towerbank Parent Council), Thea MacMillan, Lawrence Marshall, David Medcalf, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Cllr David Walker.

**In Attendance:** Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr Mike Bridgman, Sgt Gordon Duff, and members of the public.

### 336.1 Chair's Welcome

Geoff Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 336.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed.

**336.2a** Tidal Octopus (335.5): agenda item.

**336.2b** Joppa Toilets (335.6): agenda item.

**336.2c** Hustings (335.10): agenda item.

**336.2d** Old Bellfield Parish Church (334.14.1): agenda item.

### 336.3 Police Report

Sgt Duff presented his Police Report. He noted concerns about anti-social behaviour and stressed the importance of reporting incidents as the Police could only target action on the basis of information received. In instances where an incident was over or those responsible had left the scene, prioritisation meant that officers may not attend, but it was still important to have such instances logged.

### 336.4 Environmental Report

No report. A query was raised about the Brunstane Road fingerpost still indicating the Joppa toilets despite them being closed. Sean Watters to raise with the Environment Team.

### 336.5 Village Show

Brian Cosford reported on a recent POD meeting planning the village show on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The PCC had agreed to run the duck race again and a second set of ducks was to be purchased. The



PCC intended to have a stall and use the Community Wall as last year. There was also a potential shortage of tables and chairs and any suggestions as to where to source some would be welcome. It was also noted that the Sandcastle Competition would be run the previous weekend to coincide with the Big Beach Busk, and a bottle rocket competition had also been proposed. It was agreed to discuss further at a later meeting.

## **336.6 Alcohol Provision**

Emma Dempsey outlined some of the issues around licensing and alcohol provision, including health concerns, noting that Portobello was classified as an area of plentiful provision (not overprovision), and suggested some sort of survey to gauge local awareness and attitudes to the issues. It was agreed that it might be worthwhile although careful thought would be required as to what exactly was being asked and how information was presented. Emma Dempsey agreed to produce a draft and circulate it for further consideration.

**ACTION: Emma Dempsey to circulate draft survey**

## **336.7 Hustings**

The Town Hall had been booked for April 20<sup>th</sup>, although the parties in attendance was still to be confirmed. The balcony was not currently usable which would limit numbers to 250. Colin Cuthbert was arranging the PA system.

## **336.8 Joppa Toilets**

A draft survey regarding the toilets had been circulated and the Joppa Residents Association was happy with it. It was agreed to proceed with the survey after the Easter holidays. It was noted that there were a number of issues that required further investigation.

## **336.9 Tidal Octopus**

Sean Watters and Lauren Fox had met regarding the Tidal Octopus. Lauren would be doing further investigation into costings, as well as possible sponsorship and grants. It was thought the PCC could run a survey to gauge public support for the re-instatement of the artwork, which could help with possible grants and sponsorship, and might also gauge the viability of crowdfunding at least in part.

## **336.10 Old Bellfield Parish Church**

Justin Kenrick gave an update on the current situation. It was expected that the property would be put on the open market in a month or so, and the church authorities would be looking to maximise the value. Possible help through the Scottish Land Fund was being explored. JK had written an article on the subject and it was agreed to publish it on the PCC website and publicise the issue in general.

**ACTION: publish article on PCC website**

## **336.11 Consultation Sub-committee**

No report.



## 336.12 BTOB

No update. It was agreed to remove this as a standing item on the agenda.

## 336.13 Other reports

- a. Treasurer – no report.
- b. Neighbourhood Partnership – details of the You Decide! Event were still being finalised but grants of either £500 or £1500 would be available, and the voting on the day would take place both at Portobello Town Hall and Craigmillar Library.
- c. Planning – The proposals at Telferton Allotments were going to a hearing April 10<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed to check availability with a view to sending a PCC representative. Geoff Pearson noted he would be attending on behalf of Craigentenny & Meadowbank CC.

The Place Standard exercises being arranged by the Planning Department regarding Brunstane had been postponed. A second event organised by EDI as part of the PAC was expected in April. The Reporter's decision on the LDP had been delayed again but was expected sometime in the spring.

The Portobello Conservation Character Appraisal review was still in process, and Sean Watters agreed to contact Daniel Lodge about the level of interest so far. The PCC had had over 80 responses to the photo competition and 5 names were selected for the Prize Draw.

- d. Councillors – nothing to report.

## 336.14 Any Other Business

1. Portobello High School

Cllrs were asked if there was any more information on Portobello High School and the issues with Scottish Water. The information that they had been given was that the problem was being resolved and that the January opening was the backstop, with an October opening still thought possible.

2. St John's and the new park

The planning application for the new St John's was expected to be submitted before the summer, and the general design and name for the new park had been selected. Some doubts were expressed about the choice of name, with a suggestion it should be looked at again. It was noted that the construction and opening of the new park was still some time off, so revisiting the issue might well be possible.

3. Bouncy castle

A member of the public raised concerns about the bouncy castle on Straiton Park, the process by which it had been granted a licence to operate, and that it would be operating over the summer. It was noted that the granting of licenses was a function carried out by the City of Edinburgh Council, not community councils, and that the notification the PCC had received had only granted a licence till the end of April.



4. 19 Promenade

A member of the public raised a concern about the ownership of a particular plot of land on the Promenade. After some discussion however, it was felt that it was not really a matter for the Community Council.

### 336.15 Date of the Next Meeting

The 337<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Portobello Community Council to be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May (338)  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June (339)

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*336<sup>th</sup> PCC meeting closed.*