

PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE FOR SIGNS AND PLAQUES

Minutes of meeting held **Tuesday 15th January 2013** at 8.15 p.m. at 35 Bellfield Street.

Present: Celia Butterworth, Margaret Munro, Alison Robinson, John Stewart, Nick Stroud.

1 TOURIST INFORMATION BOARDS - John freed lock on Pumping Station board with WD40, will check other two boards.

2. INTERPRETIVE BOARDS

Bird Board: Viewed recently & OK.

Geology Board: Viewed recently & OK.

Seaside Board: Viewed recently and OK.

Pottery Board: no report.

King's Road Horizon Board: Celia inspected November 2012, some dirt at top between board and polycarbonate. Lacks contrast compared with John Street; prints of both boards made from transparencies produced by two different companies were of equal contrast, suspect McRobb's scan of King's Road (2009) not as good as John Street (2001).

John Street Horizon Board: Graffiti (?marker pen) appeared about one week after renewal of polycarbonate in early November. Former graffiti remover (Wailes Dove) no longer available, Tygris (£7.80) bought from same company removed graffiti but some crazing of polycarbonate, don't use again. Internet search gave several graffiti removers including DeSolv.It (Screwfix) which can be used on polycarbonate. Alison to look for white Blutac for corners.

Seashore Board: Viewed recently & OK.

3. PLAQUES FOR BUILDINGS

Laing Plaque: Nick brushed gently and washed, dirt removed, looks cleaner but needs Renaissance Wax and a warm, dry day for true clean. Celia checked information from Arkell and Hurcombe and concluded don't touch patinated dark brown background; apply abrasive paste to upstanding letters and edging before applying wax.

Tower Plaque: cast aluminium plaque erected April 2010 is corroding around edges, faces east on Beach Lane ?subject to sand from beach. Other aluminium plaques, placed 2003-2006, all facing south away from beach are OK. Sub-committee to inspect, discuss at next meeting.

Possible other plaques:

Eric Lomax: Lived in Portobello, wrote "Railwayman" which is being made into a film, proposed by Nick. After considerable discussion the Sub-committee by a majority decision decided not to pursue a plaque to Lomax.

Wm Hay architect built Rabbit Hall and renovated St Giles Cathedral. Sub-committee to read about Hay in “Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1840-1940 “ (Internet), visit St Giles and discuss at next meeting. In July 2006 (a busy time) Sub-committee decided against a plaque to Hay.

4. COADE STONE PILLARS & GARDEN

Scott Thomson has ordered new plants for triangular border at front of garden which has been weeded.

5. FINGER POSTS

CEC Environment Report (CC meeting November 2012) : work anticipated to start early 2013, blacksmith to determine how much can be done in situ and if some posts will need to be removed for repair.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 5th March 2013 at 8.30 p.m.
at 35 Bellfield Street.**