



Minutes of the 329th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 25th May 2015.

Present: Peter Bradley (Brighton and Rosefield Residents' Association), Mark Cameron, Emma Dempsey, Maria Devoy, Brian Cosford, David Medcalf, Stephen Dishon (Towerbank Parent Council), Lee Kindness, Geoff Lynn, Ben McLeish, Gillian Eunson, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Sean Watters.

Apologies: Max Blinkhorn, Clare Slifer, Thea MacMillan, Lawrence Marshall (POPP), Justin Kenrick (PEDAL), Cllr Mike Bridgman.

In Attendance: Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr David Walker, Sgt John Young (Police), members of the public.

329.1 Chair's Welcome

Geoff Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted the outcome of the You Decide! event and Graham Rowan's request for feedback on the process. He noted an upcoming POD planning meeting for the Village Show and the Big Things On The Beach "Imagine Portobello" event on Saturday May 30th.

329.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed.

329.2a Edinburgh Airport take-off plans (328.5): agenda item.

329.2b Joppa Public Toilets (328.6): a response had been submitted to COEC's consultation.

329.2c SCDC (328.7): agenda item.

329.2d Portobello Station (328.8): agenda item.

329.2e Cycling on the Prom (328.11): the issue had been brought to the attention of the Police.

329.3 Police Report

Sgt John Young gave his report. He noted a reduction in recorded crime, and in particular housebreakings, but that vehicle crime was still a significant problem. He noted the appointment of a new Chief Inspector, Jimmy Jones, and that the updated Multi-Member Ward plan was now available online:

http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/142349/Edinburgh/282424/Craigmillar_Portobello_mmwp_2015.pdf?view=Standard

He noted that the police were aware of concerns regarding cycling on the Prom. The Police had a handheld speed gun that would be used at times to monitor how cyclists were behaving, and there would be an increased Police presence in the busy summer months. He was also aware of reports of anti-social behaviour (such as egg throwing) on social media, but noted this had not been reported to the Police. He encouraged people to report such incidents as resources could not be allocated to tackle problems if unreported. People could use the 101 number or e-mail

EdinburghPortobelloCraigmillarCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk



329.4 Environmental Report

The report had been circulated. Work on the fingerposts was due to start in the next 3-4 weeks. The distance markers on the Prom would be installed in July. The pedestrian crossing at Abercorn Terrace was due to be installed from mid-August. Rosefield Park would be assessed for a Greenflag in June. A five-week weed spraying programme was due to start. There had been positive feedback on street cleaning performance in the last Cleanliness Index Monitoring System assessment.

An issue with lighting was raised about LED lights in general, and a lack of lighting at the Southfield/Brighton Place bridge.

ACTION: Raise matters with COEC

329.5 Scottish Community Development Centre

Emma Dempsey outlined the outcome from the last session and another meeting would be planned to prioritise what the PCC might want to focus on in future meetings.

ACTION: Arrange another meeting

329.6 Baileyfield Retirement Home

Michael Vipond of McCarthy and Stone gave a brief outline of the proposal for a 42 flat retirement home at Baileyfield that would soon be submitted as a planning application. Some discussion took place regarding the appearance of the roof. As part of the design development a pitched roof had been considered but the Planning Department had preferred a flat roof design. It was agreed to undertake a quick consultation on the two alternative designs presented, to gauge public opinion.

ACTION: Undertake a brief consultation on the two alternatives

329.7 Edinburgh Airport take-off plans

It had been confirmed that the new take-off proposals would result in planes passing overhead at around 12,000 feet compared to 3,000-4,000 currently, so noise levels would be lower. It was only a trial at this stage and any long-term decision would be subject to a formal consultation.

329.8 Towerbank Catchment Review

Sean Watters briefly outlined the details of the catchment review consultation. It was agreed that the PCC would continue to publicise it and that the PCC would consider whether a representation would be useful at a later stage, once the results of the consultation were known.

329.9 Local Development Plan

The Planning Committee had approved the draft LDP2, with the inclusion of the Brunstane site allocated for housing. The plan would now go to the DPEA for examination by a Reporter. It was noted that the process was a quasi-judicial one, and that any further submissions were at the discretion of the Reporter. The matter was expected to come back to the Planning Committee in November, and further representations from PCC might be appropriate in advance of that meeting.



329.10 Portobello Station

Actions regarding Portobello Station were ongoing. At Brunstane Station a £600 grant had been secured for new signage, and Nick Stroud and Marjorie Thomas had had a useful meeting with a company promoting stops along the new Borders railway, with a view to highlighting Portobello Beach as an attraction.

329.11 Sandcastle Competition

Brian Cosford put forward a proposal to revive an annual sandcastle competition, possibly tied in with existing events on the beach. Approaching Scotmid for sponsorship/prizes was suggested. Brian Cosford agreed to develop the proposals further.

ACTION: develop proposals further

329.12 Consultation Sub-committee

Brian Cosford and David Medcalf had had a useful session in Scotmid, but it was thought that varying the location might be useful to catch a wider range of views. Emma Dempsey reported on the Youth Consultation that was due to be launched.

ACTION: Youth Consultation to be launched

329.13 Other reports

- a. Treasurer – the account balance stood at £2,185.13.
- b. Neighbourhood Partnership – the You Decide! Event had received around 420 responses via libraries, but only about 40 people on the day. Graham Rowan was seeking feedback on the process and how it might be improved. The PCC would also look at alternative funding for the signage proposals that had been unsuccessful as an application.
- c. Planning – Lee Kindness noted some minor applications.
- d. Councillors – Cllr Child had circulated her report and highlighted Dementia Awareness Week and the upcoming 35th anniversary of the Portobello Reporter.

329.14 Any Other Business

1. New park

Emma Dempsey and Geoff Pearson highlighted difficulties they'd had in finding out what was being done in terms of consultation on the design of the proposed new park on the Portobello/St John's site. Cllr Child agreed to pursue for more information.

2. Library banner

Gillian Eunson requested help in putting up the banner in the library.

ACTIONS: Put up banner in the library.



Portobello Community Council

329.15 Date of the Next Meeting

The 330th meeting of the Portobello Community Council to be held on Monday 29th June at 7:30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are: Monday 31st August (331)
Monday 28th September (332)

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329th PCC meeting closed.