

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss P	Comment
100676			Strongly support	
103424	Support	wide variety of proposed community uses and activities	Neutral	
108560	Strongly support		Neutral	
110837	Strongly support	Ensures the building will remain a community asset that supports a wide range of activities and opportunities.	Support	Impressive track record and ability to attract cultural performances to Porty would be very welcome.
114658	Strongly support		Neutral	
130647	Strongly support	This sounds like a great, much needed resource not just for Portobello but the whole Edinburgh community .The city is very much lacking in a community accessible theatre venue of this size .	Strongly against	Peter Schaufuss already owns 2 Edinburgh venues, neither of which he has renovated/restored to anything like his proposed plans for them. I fear the same will happen to Portobello Town Hall. He needs to concentrate his efforts into delivering results on the properties he already has and making them "world class" assets for the city of Edinburgh.
135732	Strongly against	Finance - where is it coming from and should Portobello get any more money from the public purse to finance another Community Right to Buy when neighbouring areas such as Craigmillar, Niddrie, Northfield and Lochend have far greater needs. We have not seen in this last year any creativity from the Board at Bellfield on how to support the local Community. The link with them is uninspiring. The reliance on volunteers does not have any foundation. Where is this army of volunteers - that's also not evident at Bellfield. My other concern is the reliance on Anchor tenants that could then have a stake in the running of the building. The anchor tenants at Bellfield are also on the Board there is a risk that I think this bid will again be based on Chumocracy.	Support	This will be a self financed project from a man that has a track record of running businesses/ageing buildings and a community commitment has been pledged. There will be opportunity to hire the venue for other events. The project can get off the ground as soon as the lease is signed. The building will still remain with the CEC.
140396	Strongly support	I love that this project will have lots of community engagement. I believe it would be a wonderful hub of cross generational activity with a big range of activities and uses. It would be the Town Hall that Portobello deserves.	Neutral	I am a Professional Dancer and therefore welcome the venue becoming an arts venue. However, I do not believe that it will allow for much (if any) community engagement and I think there is a danger that it will take business from other arts organisations already running in Portobello such as Lothian Dance Academy and EYT. I think this proposal means The Town Hall would become a private 'elite arts' building rather than encouraging the much needed narrative that the arts should be accessible to all.
155582	Neutral	The case is weak economically and unconvincing.	Strongly support	With a convincing track record it looks a more viable option and still retains a community involvement.
162171	Strongly support		Strongly against	
165803	Strongly support	This proposal comes from the local community for the local community. It's based on what people really want and need. It's taken an approach of listening from the beginning — and that ethos will not only take it forwards as something that responds to and involves the community, but will help ensure the long-term success as so many locals feel invested in it. I like the mix of different activities and enterprises too. I feel excited about this proposal and would happily volunteer time to help out at the town hall if this goes forward. It embodies the kind of community-driven approach that we really need for this vital local building — please choose it even though it may have less money behind it.	Strongly against	This feels, despite the assurances about time given over to community use, that it would be first and foremost a single-purpose, specialist (possibly elite?) ballet venue which is not what our community needs. It feels also like it would be about increasing the profits of an already successful businessman. There has been precious little effort made to engage with the local community — this concerns me and I feel actions speak louder than words: this would not really be a community-owned or community-responsive project. I appreciate Peter Schaufuss's track record and the finances he has available, but that alone shouldn't be enough to choose it. Please take the braver choice instead.
176526	Strongly support	Portobello Town Hall was originally built to provide a space for the community to hold events. Portobello Central's proposal plans to do exactly that involving community members to decide what its future uses should be. The Council did not market the Town Hall with any enthusiasm, leading to its under-use and decline. With community involvement there could be a great future for this building, allowing all community groups to use it and hopefully open it up to touring theatre groups, for example, as I remember in the 1970s and 80s. With the will and enthusiasm, this building could be a positive, thriving community asset as was the original intention.	Strongly against	On reading the responses to your questions, it appears to me that community use would be secondary to the needs of Peter Schaufuss and his dancing school. He has shown no interest in inter-acting with the community and entering into discussions with Portobello Central for a combined plan to take the Town Hall forward. This does not bode well for the future as it would become a private property and the community would have no influence whatever on the way forward for this building in the heart of their town centre.
178309	Strongly support	Community led . Interested in preservation for Portobello for the long term .	Neutral	Unsure of the long term aims
179036	Strongly support	There is great need for a multigenerational place which all ages of the local community can make use of. A community owned enterprise is more likely to continue and thrive as it involves and is held by the heart of the community.	Neutral	This enterprise would serve a very small part of the local community. There is already a large and flourishing dance school nearby in Musselburgh and others in Edinburgh.
190574	Strongly support	The community town Hall should stay just that. As per its very being for the community.	Strongly against	Not a community based company.
193429	Strongly support		Neutral	
200671	Strongly support		Strongly against	
218870	Support		Support	
242032	Strongly support	Feel that the community should benefit from this resource. This proposal illustrates how this happen	Neutral	
245438	Strongly support	Well thought proposal based on community consultation and realistic approach to bringing Town Hall back into use.	Neutral	These are also helpful proposals based on knowledge and experience. Less detail but Rose St and St Stephens are good venues which are well used. Less community input.
245676	Strongly support	Community based.	Strongly against	Non-community based
254686	Strongly support	This is an opportunity to create a strong community hub run by the community for the community.	Strongly against	The proposal seems very short on detail and there is a lack of commitment to true community engagement and involvement. The lack of willingness to engage in the process with the Community Council does not bode well for engagement in the future if the project were to go forward.
264048	Neutral	Previous comments on the site say the hall was loss-making when in Council use - the proposal by Portobello Central does not say how many years worth of data it has had access to, but I fear it is deeply ambitious to think this project can be break-even without help. In the current economic climate, help is in short supply, and given we already have Bellfield as a community space which also needs help, there are too many demands on limited resources.	Support	If this is self-financing, let them get on with it - Portobello needs new amenities, it already has community space
268308	Strongly support	There is a lot of detail and local involvement	Against	I dont feel people would have the same access and affordability
270383	Strongly support	The variety of usage intrinsic to the PC bid serves the community. Mr Schaufuss is offering us next to nothing and 99.5% of Portobello residents will have no reason to enter it.	Strongly against	He's an empire builder and not interested in Portobello
273925	Strongly support	The Portobello Central group have asked the community what the community wants to use the Town Hall for and are willing to work with anyone who will help to meet the community's goals and aspirations for their Town Hall.	Against	Peter Schaufuss claims to have consulted the community but there is scant evidence of that. He failed to attend the PCC or even to have a nominee attend the meeting on his behalf even although it would have been relatively easy to dial into the online meeting. His planned daytime use of the Town Hall could fit into a broader community plan of use of the building but it should be part of something under the community's control and not result in someone outwith the community dictating how the community uses its Town Hall. So far his level of engagement with the community has been disappointing and does not encourage any confidence that his control of the Town Hall will be in the community's best interests.
281177	Strongly support	many different reasons for using this great facility	Support	

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss P	Comment
288773	Strongly support	This is a well-informed and realistic proposal, and given the ongoing surge in residents in Portobello, let alone Bruntsane and then, projected, Seafield, can provide community resources for the area, on a high street with excellent bus access, for the coming decades. There is lots of energy and expertise, and a track-record of success in the area and with the people involved. I'm no push-button supporter of community-led projects. This is excellent, and I strongly support it on its merits.	Against	Sketchy and lacking in any detail apart from a plan to turn this into a ballet school, despite a successful dance school next door. There's a sense of lazy entitlement in this document, referring to previous projects which are not described in detail either. It's badly written, rushed, and vague. The previous projects seem inappropriate for Portobello, so what are we supposed to infer from the references to this track record? Rose St Theatre is in the middle of the New Town is indeed a suitable corporate hire venue and festival venue. It's in an excellent location for those uses. The St Stephens "vision" has so far failed to deliver anything, despite being declared "open for business and bookings" on the internet. This is not a COVID issue - it's about location and appropriateness. It seems that these projects, intended to provide positive evidence for this proposal, instead show that Portobello would be unlikely to supply similar customers to those locations, so this new vision on top of the others cited (still too early to judge fairly) would not be risk-free or "safe" commercially. It is clear that the plans will be detrimental to the community, even if the building is maintained in the short term. I am particularly worried by the scanty nod to community access in an idea to "enshrine the minimum of 200 hours of free community usage as part of the legal terms attaching to my bid." That's almost an insult - what if the project enshrined half an hour a day at 8.30am? This proposal is a pig in a poke, delivered with what will seem to some to be reassuring waves of the hand but all I see is the hand-waving. Let's hope, if this is indeed a serious contender, that this proposal will take the council and the community more seriously than this.
294060	Support	Support future use of building but wonder about the organisation of management and finance.	Support	Not very detailed proposal but the company seem to have created 2 other good going businesses without resorting to community fund raising.
347264	Strongly support	It meets a lot of the local community requirements and most importantly it will be kept in the hands of our community to benefit the community. It will also help to create jobs for people locally as well.	Neutral	I think it is a fine proposal but just not for this community as it does not put the community needs and requirements first but his business objectives which is fine but not for this building and community.
357257	Support	Their aims are admirable if they can access sufficient monies to implement their plans including ongoing management costs.	Neutral	I am concerned with the paltry amount of public access in this submission and the lack of in depth detail associated with the building's usage.
364637	Strongly support	This bid is community led and shaped by people who live and work here. The town hall belongs to the community and the Party Central bud should be given the opportunity to work with the council to deliver their vision.	Strongly against	A fully [private] commercial solution to getting the town hall back in to use. There is nothing to stop the Schaufuss company from being an anchor tenant of Party Central. There is absolutely no reason why this bid needs to control the building to deliver the activities their 2 page outline describes!
375510	Strongly support		Neutral	
382311	Strongly support	This offers the greatest potential for community access and use	Strongly against	There is not enough information in the proposal to show how it would meet the stated aims that are put forward. The proposal to split the levels is a great concern and would impact adversely on the character and quality of the existing space within the building and its listed features. Are the visualisations provided to the community in any way accurate with regards actual ceiling height and space size..... or are they potentially misleading? Costs and access by the community are completely opaque. It is clear from statements regarding use by the ballet school that this would take primacy over community access and use of a building, a building that is publicly owned and gifted to Portobello.
392243	Strongly support	The plan is more in the original spirit of a town hall. Plus with the expansion of housing in Portobello more community spaces are needed.	Neutral	Much less detailed plan, seems less thought through as a concept. How do we know if this will even work if they haven't planned in detail. Token non-binding commitments for community use. I doubt most residents other than a minority would ever interact with our wonderful building again. But better than it rotting as it is now I suppose.
399783	Strongly support	I think it should remain in Portobello	Neutral	
410530	Support	Would like more detail about the proposal	Against	There is already a dance centre in the Grassmarket
411736	Neutral	I backed the Action Party bid and contributes to the crowd funding and now use Bellfield but I think there is a limit to how many community spaces and community buy outs should take place in one location. Ultimately the majority of the purchase is through public of trust funding and there is a constant need to raise money submit applications and ask the locals for fundraising support. If there is another option that brings in private investment and can bring the town Hall building to life, more quickly (Bellfield took years), then that for me is a more sustainable option	Strongly support	The investment, vision and proposal is different and enhance the local area. It is privately financed and not reliant on a small group of local people and community to ensure success. Another dance option to increase the local competition is also valuable.
420320	Strongly support	Portobello Central's proposals put the community at the heart. They have answered any concerns and have drawn on all the available expertise within the Portobello Community.	Strongly against	If the building passes into private ownership then the building will be lost to the community forever. This would be a tragedy and have a huge detrimental impact on the High Street.
424314	Strongly support	Very thorough planning details provided with a great vision, inclusivity, consideration of community, history, values. I would like to see the community hold on to being able to choose and benefit from the tremendous potential this building offers.	Against	Very scant report so hard to tell what is on offer - I love the Rose Theatre and have been to things at St Stephens but neither impress me as creative uses for the venues or attract much variety of community involvement
432535	Strongly support	The Portobello Central committee have researched and worked very hard to prepare and submit their ideas. These include a strong community vision which is preferable to an outside private sector bid.	Strongly against	The proposal from P Schaufuss resembles his plans put forward for The Rose Chapel and St Stephen's Church. Little effort has been given towards a new vision for the Town Hall. This building needs to be managed for community use for which it was originally intended.
434100	Strongly support	I am keen to see the Town Hall used for the local community	Strongly against	I do not have a lot of faith in him due to his previous ventures
434103	Strongly support	It reflects the communities wishes, and can create a hub for all generations.	Against	I don't feel it is as in line with the community wishes.
435541	Strongly support	Lcal people know best.	Against	Against, because it appears to be opportunistic, with concerns over previous ventures.
447092	Strongly support	rooted in the local community, for the local community	Neutral	Seems elitist but if it keeps the building open and running and available for community use at least a bit that is a good thing.
449221	Support	Whilst I support the proposal I question whether it is worthwhile participating in any CEC related consultation as they are (again) likely to simply ignore the views expressed by the residents and then simply do what they want. CEC consultations appear to simply be a of box ticking exercise which they are forced to go through, but which they feel they can safely ignore.	Neutral	Whilst I prefer the other proposal, I again question whether it is worthwhile participating in any CEC related consultation as they are (again) likely to simply ignore the views expressed by the residents and then simply do what they want. CEC consultations appear to simply be a of box ticking exercise which they are forced to go through, but which they feel they can safely ignore.
450177	Strongly support	I support any programme that puts community need before private profit.	Neutral	No guarantees given here that in the event of commercial collapse (an ever-present possibility these days) the project would be given back to the community.
460524	Neutral	Yet another community-run venue in a locality where there is enough already. Vulnerable to future decline in enthusiasm. Unlikely to stand the test of time. Excessively long bid document with unrealistic and unachievable number of uses for the building - reads like a brain dump, not a plan. Budget outline involves tiny amounts of money - seems unlikely that such a building can be run on a shoestring. Provides no proper paid employment, just reliance on volunteers. Would be better to create proper jobs and pay people fair wages.	Strongly support	Applicant with a strong track record in several high-profile Edinburgh venues. Commercial model does not require public funds or donations. Likely to stand the test of time. Not vulnerable to varying levels of community support and volunteers. Would provide paid employment, not just unpaid volunteering. Includes skilled professions. Unique and not "just another tatty community hall". Bid document doesn't contain financial info, but assume City Council would do due diligence on (confidential) commercial plans to check viability.
460977	Strongly support		Strongly against	
466143	Neutral		Support	Proposal is strong
466619	Strongly support	The town hall is one of our most important community assets, we need to retain it and make sure the community has ownership and management over it as a resource.	Against	While I am not against dance halls per say, I suspect there are better locations for this and I would hope that under community management we would be able to rent the space for dance lessons as well as concerts.
471769	Against	I am unclear what the proposal entails. The recent (undeniable) success of securing a future for Bellfield still requires considerable effort to be a fully functioning and sustainable operation. I am not convinced that there is appetite, energy or even need for another similar project and think that local efforts and resources should be focussed on securing the future of Bellfield.	Support	This is a proposal from someone with a track record of operating in similar buildings without recourse to public funds - and who proposes to retain a public access function for the Town Hall. For those reasons it seems more credible and sustainable. I think the priorities should be to maintain the fabric of the building and the public access aspect. This seems the proposal most likely to achieve this.

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss	P Comment
472233	Support	I support community involvement but I'm concerned that Portobello can't sustain this as a community-run space only in addition to Bellfield. The proposal doesn't contain enough about the long-term economics of running the venue (compared to Bellfield proposals right from the start of that process). Of course lots of people have ideas about what they might use the venue for. That doesn't necessarily translate into a viable proposition. Finally on David Calder's podcast it sounded rather as though 'community' and the wider cultural landscape are mutually exclusive. A venue the size of the town hall can't be just a local venue for local people to be sustainable.	Support	Portobello has very few cultural centres. A ballet company creating a venue that could be a festival and arts hub sounds just what Portobello needs. That said, I think it would be good if Schaufuss could work with the community in creating a sustainable space that reflects Portobello's strong community ethos.
479750	Strongly support	Very detailed and has a lot of community input	Strongly against	Very sparse, no detail on availability for community use.
501830	Strongly support	Good comprehensive plan supporting the community and involving the community at every stage.	Strongly against	Is this supposed to be 2 pages long? It tells me nothing about what will happen other than we get a foyer. That's insufficient to meet community needs.
505969	Strongly support		Neutral	
507310	Strongly support	strongly support	Neutral	like the idea but prefer the community proposal
513306	Neutral	Interesting submission but not convinced of the viability. On the figures provided, over £300,000 is required from unidentified "funding sources" over the first two years, and that's while a plan is developed for the future use of the building. Very large sums could be required beyond that. It seems a big ask.	Neutral	Again an interesting idea that might accommodate meaningful community use, but difficult to judge on the limited information available. Worth considering in more detail.
526678	Strongly support	The Community badly needs space for local organisations and functions due to very active and community based groups requiring accommodation!	Strongly against	This person has a very bad track record of his dealings with communities in other parts of the City!
536226	Strongly support		Neutral	
541560	Strongly support	This is a COMMUNITY proposal.	Strongly against	
553196	Support	Ideally, PTH should be retained as primarily a community resource / venue. Porty Central have made considerable progress within a short space of time and deserve to be given more time to evolve and test their proposal. I also believe that a partnership / joint venture between CEC and Porty Central is the way forward.	Against	There is a distinct lack of detail in this proposal and a vagueness about community benefit. I have concerns about the potential negative impact on existing community organisations. I would also be very strongly opposed to PTH being sold to any private operator and believe that it is essential that PTH remains in the ownership of the public (either CEC or the community)
556108	Strongly support	Has always been important hub. Much loved beautiful building and resource. Heart of the community.	Neutral	
561299	Strongly support	We are now so short of community space we really need the town hall	Strongly against	This will revert to private hands and we need to keep facilities like this in public hands
577678	Support	The Town Hall belongs to the people of Portobello and should remain as a community asset.	Neutral	If community access is a significant part of the proposal then it may be 'supportable'
580478	Strongly support		Strongly against	The Portobello Central proposal comes from the community and will be developed with awareness of our long term needs and not just run for profit.
585797	Strongly support	Whole community focus	Against	Single focus
589316	Support	Retention of the building for a broad community use. However, the proposed operating structure and community buyout will be a long process so would like to understand how this can be mitigated. The report is comprehensive but I query the total estimated costs at £14,900 which seem light.	Against	The business case is not robust and does not provide estimated costs and timescales.
595611	Strongly support	Very little support information provided in PS proposal only references to other projects	Against	
596811	Against		Strongly support	This bidder has a track record of successfully transforming similar building into very good projects at minimal cost to the public.
599745	Neutral	I'm uneasy with the dynamic where the community takes over a space (e.g. Bellfield), and the council defunds another public space (Town Hall) as it is then deemed unnecessary. I predict that if Portobello Central gain control of the Town Hall, then the Washhouse will be the next to go the same way. The end game is the realisation of Dave Cameron's Big Society, where public spaces are run by and for a middle-class clique with time on their hands.	Strongly against	The Town Hall was given to the people of portobello for their entertainment, not for the exclusive use of ballet students.
600311	Strongly support	Community run ensures it meets community needs	Strongly against	Not enough info in the response but privately run will prioritise commercial needs over community needs
603558	Neutral		Strongly support	Peter schaufuss will bring opportunities to portobello though the proposal suggested. A ballet school would be a fantastic addition to portobello.
604648	Strongly support	We need community-building as much as we need venues for events in this area, and I fully support this initiative	Strongly against	While a sound commercial proposal I would prefer to support a community endeavour
605663	Strongly support	I had my wedding in the Town Hall, I would love to see it open again and be open for the people of Portobello and beyond. Concerts, Markets, Theatre, Discussion etc - it seems like many people in Portobello (including myself) would be willing to give money and / or time to keep the Town Hall in communal hands	Against	As inclusive as the proposal sounds, it is important that the building and its use stay in the hands of the public; so that not one person can decide what will be done with the building or who can use it.
622934	Strongly support	Portobello has a very strong community ethos, cohesion and identity. The desire of opening the Town Hall for a range of people influenced community activities demonstrated within the proposal is strong. Over the last year the importance of people working and living more closely to their homes and 'living differently' has come to the fore. I strongly believe that this isn't going to go away. I feel that now is the time for a local facility run by local people meeting the needs of the community. I really think it will thrive and it's definitely something I would appreciate. The proposal clearly articulates how the group has talked and listened to the Porty community. It is never possible to engage everyone and in the current lockdown situation a great amount has been achieved. The group is clear that a different vehicle and different skills are needed at various stages of the Town Hall's journey. A SCIO would embed the building and its activities in the community and represents an accountable structure. Such a venture would of course attract a number of people from outwith the community, however the pressure put on the traffic, travel and parking infrastructure feels as though it would be manageable. I really believe that this is a brilliant proposition for the community and fully support it.	Strongly against	I'm strongly against this proposal as I don't actually understand from the documentation what will exist. The proposal identifies itself as a Ballet school, however there is no supporting evidence of need for such a facility here. The two facilities at St Stephens and Rose Theatre are very central city centre venues and can benefit from the infrastructure and footfall that brings. The supporting information about St. Stephens and Rose Theatre articulate that they are used for more than that - however my understanding of engagement done within the community (zero) doesn't make me feel that Mr Schaufuss doesn't have any real feel for community needs here. I also don't appreciate why engagement with Porty Central hasn't happened. We're not in an environment of 'build it and they will come.' We can and should learn from the recent lessons of the Dunard Centre proposal for a new concert hall in the city centre.
627628	Strongly support	Portobello Central is anchored in the community. Those behind the proposal have great knowledge of the community and experience of running organisations here.	Neutral	Had there not been a proposal from Portobello Central this proposal would seem like a good way to get the building back in use. There is clearly experience from running similar venues elsewhere in Edinburgh.
633528	Strongly support		Support	
647032	Strongly support	Because I have faith in the power of the Portobello community to transform the town hall into a vibrant hub to serve locals and the city	Strongly against	I'm more interested in keeping the town hall in the hands of the local community
653358	Strongly support	The building should be used in a way that benefits as much of the community as possible	Against	A private, profit-making group will always put its own interests before the interests of the community

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss	P Comment
653910	Strongly support	<p>From Porty Central we have a 38 page outline of their proposal, and in-depth 10 page answer to the many many questions submitted to them.</p> <p>From Porty Central's communications it is clear that it remains open to working with Peter Schaufuss or any other commercial partner. That is to their credit, however it is really clear that the community needs to be in control of how the Town Hall is used rather than it being in the control of an external party that has other motivations than community well-being. Those motivations can be aligned with what the community needs, but only if the community is in control of what happens. It is our Town Hall, which Edinburgh promised to build and maintain as part of the 'bargain' that brought Portobello into being incorporated into Edinburgh. If that bargain is broken by one party (Edinburgh) then the other party (Portobello) can rethink whether it wants to maintain its half of the bargain. The Town Hall can be an excellent and financially viable venture that can welcome Edinburgh-wide, national and international events. If it is run by those passionate to make it a success for the community then all that activity can feed back into the community and support home grown and inclusive community arts, music, drama and many other ventures.</p>	Strongly against	<p>From Peter Schaufuss we have a one and half page vague proposal on his ballet school, and a half page non answer to the series of questions that have been asked of both him and Porty Central. These were the questions asked of both Schaufuss and Porty Central - http://www.portobelloc.org/pccpn/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Questions-for-Both.pdf - Schaufuss failed to answer any of the questions.</p> <p>Key here is that he neither turned up by video link, nor sent someone else to turn up, to the Porty Community Council to discuss his proposal, when Porty Central and many many members of the community turned up. Nor do we have any evidence of his consulting anyone in the community, nor of his responding positively to attempts by Porty Central to work with him. The impression I get from the 2 pages of response, is of someone who may or may not be very personable, but definitely sees the community as something that can benefit from his wonderousness, rather than something he is interested in seriously engaging and working with. So the likelihood is of a venue that is parachuted into Porty and his little connection with the needs of Porty - with its only offering being 4 hours of free use a week, plus the chance to hire space from him that would be entirely at his discretion.</p>
665813	Strongly support	This proposal is detailed, they have spent considerable time consulting the community and the community will get much more access to use the building - in fact most of the use will be by community organisations that already exist locally and which need the space.	Strongly against	Peter's proposal is very scanty, he has not consulted the community at all, he seems to be planning to use it for a very limited number of activities which he is going to run himself and the community will only get 4 hours access each week which is very poor. It was very concerning that he did not even bother to turn up to the community meeting about the proposals or send anyone to represent him. He seems to not be concerned at all to engage with local people. I am very concerned that his proposal will result in some local businesses going under such as a local dance/ballet school and drama groups. He will be competing with local activity not complimenting or facilitating it. I hope the Council does not let him have the building.
666357	Strongly support	The town hall needs to be for the whole community on a long-term basis. Portobello Central offers the best chance of this happening.	Strongly against	This option does not put the local community first. It offers almost nothing for the community in terms of use and represents a huge loss to Portobello. Peter Schaufuss has shown in the past that he doesn't care about people beyond a very few elite dancers and he certainly won't care about local people. The loss of the town hall to the people of Portobello and beyond will be permanent with this proposal and that goes against the original gift of the town hall.
666567	Strongly support	Community equality opportunity	Strongly against	Non consultation
669180	Strongly support	I have lived in Portobello all my life and having this site as a central resource is essential. This proposal has emphasised its opportunities and how it will bring more opportunities to the community. I have plans for craft classes and taking part in other people's projects	Against	I did not find them particularly focused on the local community or having spent any time to understand what the community want or require. I was not impressed with the short document with very little detail.
676778	Against	We have seen really successful community and trust run buildings in Portobello with Bellfield and Tribe Porty. Also other buildings such as the wash house. I feel now would be a perfect opportunity to invite a commercial buyer into the centre of our strong and vibrant town, to work alongside and compliment our community run buildings.	Support	Exciting prospects of live entertainment from internationally renowned acts alongside the opportunity for community hire.
687642	Strongly support	The town hall needs to be run by the community, for the community.	Strongly against	A commercial enterprise from outside of Portobello in control of a major facility is not right. Once control goes it will be gone forever, and then who knows what it may transform into over the years.
692175	Strongly support		Support	
695519	Strongly support		Support	
701803	Strongly support	As someone who grew up in Portobello and enjoyed attending events at the Town Hall in my teenage and adult years, and who then had the privilege of having their wedding party in the building in 2012, I support wholeheartedly the proposal put forward by Portobello Central. It strikes me as a substantial and thought-through document that, if supported, will see the Town Hall retained as a community space for generations to come. I hope the initiative receives the backing it deserves.	Strongly against	
714255	Strongly support	Supported by Portobello community.	Strongly against	Vague in community support
722991	Strongly support		Against	
724173	Strongly support	Much stronger proposal and keeping asset for community use	Against	Less benefit to community. No guarantee future use will be in line with community needs.
728142	Strongly support	It seems to have the best interests of the community at heart	Strongly against	Very centred around a ballet school which massively restricts use for the bulk of the community. Also what does the 200 hours actually mean. It's all a bit woolly.
732608	Strongly against	This proposal seems to be for personal gain rather than community benefit	Strongly against	
732918	Strongly support	Porty Central have produced an impressive proposal and have shown that there is demand for a community space of this size in Portobello. Keeping the building in local hands would mean local people would be involved and it would allow local organisations and people to thrive. Portobello has a strong community and I am convinced that Porty Central will be able to make this a thriving place along with the rest of the community.	Neutral	While Peter Schaufuss has experience running venues I was disappointed by the lack of detail in the proposal. From attending the CC meeting I did not get the impression he had spoken to many community members about what they wanted. It is a commercial proposal so I can imagine would be expensive to hire so would cut out many small (local) businesses wanting to operate in the town hall. Portobello already has a popular dance school so I am worried that they will be outcompeted by a bigger company.
738710	Strongly support	They have been clear and concise and transparent since day one. They have the community at heart and have engaged them at every step of the way. They have listened to them and have their support. They want to support local businesses, not put them out of business. They want to provide a facility that people can use, managed in a fair and honest way.	Strongly against	He has shown a complete disregard for the community he claims to want to invest in. He claims to have engaged them - but can show no proof of that. His 'answers' to a very long list of questions running to pages of A4, which the community took the time and effort to submit - were, to be blunt, appalling - barely half an A4 page. He didn't even take the time to submit the paltry reply himself - member of staff replied. He has a reputation for biting off more than he can chew. Various very well known and well respected Ballet Schools/companies, do not rate him/his dance school at all. And the 2 other sites he has in Edinburgh are nowhere near the world class venues he claimed he would create. Portobello neither needs nor wants a world class venue - they want a venue they can use as and how and when they need it.
742910	Neutral	I am not sure Portobello could sustain 2 large community led projects (inc Bellfield). Its a massive undertaking which would involve the cash strapped council. In an ideal world its a great choice but I can foresee funding and viability and sustainability issues in an uncertain world	Support	Peter Schaufuss has a proven successful track record and I think this could be a viable option and an asset. As long as there is definite commitment written into a contract to allow other regular long term community use on a competitive rental basis, I think it would relieve the community of constantly needing to fundraise and worry about upkeep
756115	Strongly support	The town hall is a community building, Portobello Central has the community at the heart of the running of the town hall, to bring it back to being a central, vibrant, key building/location in Portobello. This is evident in the amount of work they have put into the proposal so far, the amount of involvement with the community in terms of keeping us informed of progress, consultations, questions and answers - they are doing it for the community and involving the community in the clear vision for the future of the building.	Strongly against	Portobello town hall is a key community building and should not be in the hands of a private enterprise. This proposal will have a severe detrimental impact on many local businesses and the community. Schaufuss has failed to communicate at all with the community, has failed to answer any of the questions put forward. He has a lack of empathy and complete disregard for the community that is Portobello which will be exacerbated should his proposal be accepted.
765574	Support	It should not be in the hands of a private enterprise as it will be lost forever to the community.	Strongly support	This proposal should NOT be accepted.
768335	Neutral	Keeping the building as a community resource is a noble aspiration and the team behind the proposal have a lot of experience.	Strongly support	Mixture of commercial and community use with an arts focus and money to invest sounds very promising as a way to secure the future of the building.
	Neutral	It's a very well-presented comprehensive bid with much to recommend it but there may be a danger of spreading community enthusiasm and resources too thinly - there are also the Wash House and Bellfield already as community hubs. Mention is made of the possibility of partnership with a commercial enterprise and this would appear to be the point at which the Peter Schaufuss proposal should enter the picture.	Strongly support	This would be brilliant - to have an outstanding international ballet school/company operating here which is also willing to share the facility with community groups seems to me to be a no-brainer. The record of Mr Schaufuss at St Stephen's and the Rose Theatre should inform the decision in spite of the brevity of the proposal. This really would put Portobello on the map while, hopefully, achieving much, if not all, of what Portobello Central is hoping to achieve.

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss P	Comment
788578	Strongly support	The proposal is well thought out and seems to be based on a clear plan for the future.	Strongly against	The proposal is vague, and contributes very little to the community.
777018	Strongly support	I live local to the Town Hall and feel that a community space would be most welcomed. I am a parent of 13 and 10 year old boys and feel that the suggestions of the youth activities would enable teenager to go to a safe space to have fun and be more independent. I like the community involvement in this proposal and that the space will be used for the Older generation too. I also like the idea of the space being used for cinema and theatre events as Portobello is a creative environment. I certainly would go to events at the town hall under this proposal.	Neutral	I feel that this proposal would limit the Town Halls use to a small section of the community. I would prefer the space to be used more by the Community. I personally, and my family, would be unlikely to go to the Town Hall if the building is used for this purpose.
785615	Strongly support	Porty Town Hall should be kept for the use of the local people and groups	Strongly against	The locals will lose use of this building and it will only be available for use of the elite or rich groups who can afford to pay inflated rent as has happened to Peter Shaufuss's other ventures in the city. (St. Stephen's church and Rose Street) I believe plans to renovate those centres were put in and they have still not happened! Peter Schaufuss seems to have no interest in Porty community otherwise he would have been represented or attended the last Portobello Community Council meeting!
785731	Strongly support		Against	
787746	Neutral	I can't help thinking that we have quite a lot of community space provision in Portobello already (Bellfield, Adelphi Place, Tribe Porty) and that these existing enterprises have some trouble keeping financially afloat and realising their ambitions as it stands. What makes this idea different, what will guarantee that it has a self sustaining future? There is no doubt its a great building and that it should be at the heart of the Porty but I'm not convinced that the business plan offers anything that is not available elsewhere in more appropriate buildings (apart from maybe a cinema - which is another issue for debate around The George on Bath St). The size of the Town Hall does not strike me as suitable for the multitude of activities being proposed as its essentially one enormous space. I prefer the alternative proposal of a ballet school which (as I understand it) offers community access as part of its remit. Porty actually needs some successful businesses that might give secure employment opportunities and bring footfall and turnover in to the area. Your work in pulling together the proposal is to be applauded but I think the suggestions therein might be better brought to existing community projects identified above.	Support	I think this proposal offers strong possibilities and the financial means to make for a sustainable future for the Town Hall in the Community. Undertakings regarding community access should be made mandatory as part of the offer so that there remains a community access element. I also like the idea of a business in Portobello that might give employment to people and bring footfall in the form of parents spending whilst kids are at lessons etc.
789329	Strongly support	I have lived in Portobello with my partner and children for 16years and we have been to the town hall on numerous occasions for different events. It's a beautiful building and one that we all feel proud of - I would very much like to see it stay at the heart of the community.	Against	There is already a thriving dance school in Portobello. I would like the Town hall to be at the heart of the community and not just hired out to us.
791100	Strongly support	The council should be working with the council to support the community to take this one and not enter into a community vs commercial bid. Portobello community can and will make this proposal work.	Strongly against	By handing this building over to a private leasee the council are essentially privatising what is public space. Even if public access is written into the terms this stops being a community building and increasing becomes a privately owned space where the owners have little or no interest in doing what is right for the community.
795002	Against	The proposals do not seem financially sustainable, relying on time limited public grants. The proposals are very similar to other community spaces in Portobello, such as Bellfield, and therefore will actively compete with the existing provision of community spaces.	Support	Given the success of other Peter Schaufuss ventures in Edinburgh this seems like a viable option, giving Portobello Town Hall a new lease of life with the investment it needs. It would be exciting to have such a cultural centre in Portobello.
797004	Neutral	There is not sufficient (if any) public finance available.	Strongly support	Private finance but still some Community use.
810565	Strongly support	Keep the building for community use	Strongly against	Not enough detail provided. Does not sound as though it would be available for use in the community very much.
817113	Strongly support	Members of Portobello Central have a proven track record in establishing and running highly engaged community spaces - for and by the community, as evidenced by Bellfield and The Wash House.	Strongly against	To date, Peter Schaufuss has provided no evidence of community engagement track record from his other venues or data on community consultation on Portobello town hall.
821155	Support	Community control, rather than commercial control in accordance with the intended use of the building.	Against	Community control, rather than commercial control in accordance with the intended use of the building.
832119	Strongly support	Detailed proposal which shows consideration of community needs	Strongly against	No idea what this proposal is about, seems so vague
851478	Strongly support	This is just the sort of venue that would benefit greatly from being run by and for the community. The Portobello Central proposals look very comprehensive and well thought out.	Against	It's not at all clear how much say the local community would have in terms of having access to the town hall.
855175	Strongly against	During initial lockdown a friend of mine had seen that they were doing unnessacery work on the Bellfield community centre, when they approached them about the disruption this caused including building material's been left in open space's and why this was taking place, they met with that Bellfield saying that they had deemed it nessacery, not acknowledging the disruption they were causing local population.	Strongly support	this person seems to have experience and a sound understanding of supporting the local community
867443	Strongly support	It's a public building and I'd like it to be kept under the control of the local community.	Neutral	A bit of an unknown quantity. His proposal lacks detail.
876913	Strongly support	For the community, by the community.	Against	Previous background in taking over buildings, not great, as far as I can tell from news articles. Proposal is very basic and lacks detail or clarity.
885120	Strongly support	With the success of Bellfield, portobello has shown that community run buildings are needed and can thrive in Portobello. There is an overwhelming want from the community to have their town hall back. Portobello is a growing community full of talent and an increasing demand for meeting places which the town hall provides.	Strongly against	The failure to show up for community consultation and vague, emotive replies to specific questions from the community about the future of this project proves that Peter Schaufuss will not work with the community and this will be a private venture that will not benefit the local community. The lack of transparency and reluctance to disclose plans should not warrant the pass over of a community space to an entrepreneur, who claims that the community have been consulted and who support this project. This blatant lie and subsequent avoidance of local conversations and engagement proves this will NOT benefit Portobello.
886403	Neutral	Seems like we have a lot of venues offering similar things in Portobello	Support	Has track record and will deliver a single, clear idea - interesting proposal and could attract visitors from all over the UK, potentially.
888832	Strongly against	The proposal's funding figures seem unrealistic and vague. The Facebook page set up to gain support had comments mudslinging and personally insulting Mr Schaufuss and his family because his proposal is for a dance school and there is already a small dance school in portobello owned by one of the People proposing the community takeover of the town hall. Despite the other proposal being from an internationally acclaimed ballet school which would target a completely different customer base to the one already there the gentleman was accused of destroying local businesses before his proposal had even been heard. This coupled with the vague and unrealistic funding they say they will have for Q1 and Q2 2020 makes me think that their proposal might never happen. I also don't understand how the council stated the town hall required a huge amount circa 1000000 pounds to make it safe but the community bid proposes to spend circa £250000 then start to let it be used for functions etc. I'm not sure that they will be able to get public liability insurance if they haven't spent the money required to make the building safe.	Strongly support	Mr Schaufuss has a tried and tested business model which he has completed twice already on beautiful buildings in Edinburgh. This proves that he has funding and a business model that will restore the town hall building to its spectacular former glory. The ballet school is internationally acclaimed and will bring vibrancy to the high street and a much needed boost to the high street traders by bringing a new customer base and regular custom to the high street. The allowance within the proposal to allow time for community use is wonderful and I'm sure will be well utilised. Sometimes change is good and I really think this will be a welcome addition to portobello.
891802	Strongly support	Full information provided.	Strongly against	Questions which were forwarded were not even answered. Limited information provided and inadequate supply of community resource from this community space.
909452	Strongly support	Community control is essential for equity of access and inclusive use for all portobello residents	Strongly against	Inappropriate to have one main private enterprise profiting from dominating a resource that should be available for a range of uses for all.
909497	Neutral	I'm not sure if this sounds sustainable as a business, but at least it's long term. Peter Schaufuss will have moved on with in a year or two. He isn't really interested in establishing a long term business. The community project must be supported by all!!	Strongly against	Mr Schaufuss has a reputation for slightly scrupulous business practice and so does MGA who will be joining him in the building if he is successful. The other buildings he is associated with, have all been half hearted projects that he very quickly moves on from. He will require a huge business to cover the operating costs of such a project, he does not currently have this and will only be able generate such a business by putting other long established local businesses out of business, such as Morag Philips. He won't be moving to portobello, he lives in France. Don't be duped, he is an opportunist not a philanthropist.

id	Portobello Central	Comment	Peter Schaufuss P	Comment
909718	Strongly support	I believe multi use for the whole community is key and Portobello needs something for all ages off the community to enjoy in particular the elderly to have social groups and clubs and school children having a hub near by to keep them off the streets.	Neutral	I just prefer the other option of the community spirit to get the building used in many ways again.
910899	Strongly support	A huge array of community driven ideas - truly at the hear of Portobello	Support	In lieu of the community proposal failing, this would secure the fabric of the building, albeit with a more niche user base
918750	Strongly support	It should recover its place as the centre of the town	Strongly against	He doesn't care about the community and has no real use for the building
920954	Strongly against	The group has not demonstrated it has the business acumen to manage the site. It's a laudable bid but frankly Portobello has received generous public funding to take over Bellfield, which has made very limited progress as a viable business. The community should focus on running this properly before taking on a more onerous challenge. The reality is, Portobello Central will be looking to the public purse to get their model running & over the next few years public funding will be stretched. Subsidising a community building in an increasingly affluent area does not seem like a good use of public funds & wishful thinking from Portobello Central. It would be a shambles.	Support	It would appear that Peter Schaufuss has the finances to run the building therefore there would be no demand on public purse. He is leasing the building the biggest risk is that he defaults on payments, in which case the council would be able to terminate the lease. The council will still have the asset & will have option to develop it as a community asset in future at a more stable time. In short, this bid is the least risk and will bring new money into public coffers at a time when that's needed most. His business will attract people to portobello, which is good for local businesses.
921076	Strongly support	I believe Portobello Central have the interests of the community at heart and the experience to deliver. They have particularly engaged with the community.	Strongly against	I don't believe there is any intent to support the use of the town hall for the community or that is in any way a priority of this bid.
925115	Neutral		Strongly support	
934443	Strongly support	Growth of Porty means more need for community owned facilities for local people and their families. Success of Bellfield scheme.	Neutral	Would not object to this proposal if it were the only thing available.
937148	Strongly against	Community groups depending on government and council funding to survive. A commercial owner has a better chance of longevity and bring more investment to the area	Strongly support	This will bring more people to the area supporting the wider economy
938165	Support	I support but am concerned about resources required to maintain the building and services	Strongly support	Provides a community service but with an income stream that does not rely solely on volunteers
944911	Strongly against	having preciously volunteered at the Bellfield community buyout, I am aware some of the actionporty board members are also involved in this project, in my view they have neglected their responsibilities to the bellfield and have damaged relationships with their neighbours and volunteers so I would question whether they should be taking on another project	Strongly support	reading the proposal ,they have previous experience of running a venue so would be a better fit for the town hall
951058	Strongly support	The PC bid is the only full proposal that the community has seen. Theirs is a proposal to keep the building, which was given to the community, in community hands for community use. They have consulted extensively and draw on a wide range of expertise and a deep commitment to the local community.	Strongly against	We have had no detail on this bid, the community has not been well-considered, let alone consulted and the plans appear to be for a private interest to line their pockets on the basis of a building gifted to the community.
951277	Support	I am in favour of this building being used by the community.	Strongly support	Given that there is commercial interest in developing this as a venue I would support this and enable the community action to focus on less commercially viable projects.
954420	Strongly support	More than anything else, the community here need to nurture and support our young people. At present, teenagers are not given any or little opportunity to explore their interests and pursue goals outside of school. Portobello central will provide for this need.	Neutral	This feels elitist with less focus on immediate community need
955125	Strongly support	I believe it is important for the Portobello community to have a range of publicly available facilities that can be managed and used in the best interests of that community. The Town Hall is the largest and most impressive building in the area and, with the right management and upgrade, would make a fantastic centerpiece for a range of community and private events. Having read the Portobello Central proposal I think it represents a sound and realistic proposal for how to best achieve this.	Against	I do not think that passing the facility into private hands would align it with the interests of the community. I note that the proposal offers to give 200 hours of free use to the community but this only represents 4 hours a week on average. Also, Portobello already has a popular and thriving dance school in Lothian Dance Academy, there is no need or demand for another. It can expected that with such a facility as a base, any new dance school would be more expensive to attend than the current one.
959239	Strongly support	The Town Hall should be a hub run by the community for the community. It has such great potential!	Against	There isn't enough detail on the proposal and the minimum has been done to engage with the community and explain more details on their vision.
960819	Strongly support	They have a strong vision, community involvement and a plan that looks viable.	Against	There is insufficient information to form an opinion. For instance, 200 hours of free community use, is that per week, per month, per year or over the course of the lease?
975773	Strongly support	This is a wonderful and detailed proposal which shows how they have really engaged the local community to put together a plan which will benefit everyone who lives here with a wide range of activities and events on offer. They are clearly taking the responsibility of running a community venue seriously and want to continue engaging with people here.	Strongly against	Both this proposal and the answer to the questions are short, do not specify what they will do or even respond to all the questions! They are clearly both arrogant and dismissive of the local community here.
979122	Strongly support		Strongly against	
995613	Support	Emphasis on keeping Town Hall as a community resource -detailed and clear proposal	Against	Insufficient information given and no satisfactory response to community council questions.