



Minutes of the 414th meeting of Portobello Community Council held on Monday 29th July 2024 - DRAFT

Present: Craig McIntyre (Chair), Mike Leeman (Secretary), Lee Kindness, Frazer McNaughton, Catherine Etoe (BRRRA Representative), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer & PAS Representative)

Apologies: Esther Clayton, Cllr. Kate Campbell,

In attendance: Cllr. Tim Jones, Cllr. Jane Meaghar, Cllr. Alys Mumford and 6 members of the public

414.1 Chair's welcome and introductions

Craig McIntyre welcomed everyone and there were introductions.

414.2 Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

PHS - Shared contacts with the high school

Road safety - Latest Drawings shared to the website. There is a new scheme developed.

Further action plan for meeting on Kings Road Safety.

Toilet Provision - Will share once completed

Groyne Repair - been on site to meet with contractors.

Seafield - Promote awareness of the community event

Question on Bus Gates - Need to re invite the transport convener.

Hustings - Took place and happened. Glo productions filmed.

Toddler Hut - A presentation needs to happen at a future meeting

Minutes were agreed.

414.3 Kings Road Safety Update

Meeting in July with all concerned groups. Brought up to speed with the development. Enhanced proposals added extra layers of safety across all of the junctions and Lead ups

Highlighted by Craig and others that the timescale has slipped again and that the meeting was frustrating as funding and modelling have still to be done. It has been 4 years that we have been calling for this.

They need to cost and then model. There is no information on under the ground Facilities. Still No timescale on it.



Councillors asked for a timescale but they were not able to give any.

Member of the public asked if this was linked to 20 Minute Neighbourhood scheme

Craig answered no and we did not want it blurring and wanted it to be complete but future-proof.

Frazer Seafield masterplan the consultation is ongoing but pushing for infrastructure. MasterPlan for 2030 there should be something done. Must be an element of future-proofing.

Lee - important to realise that this is a medium-term fix/development so this should be done.

Frazer - For Seafield the infrastructure is a key element and this needs to be worked well.

Question asked about consultations about the 20 minute neighbourhood - would this happen

Craig - long overdue and we have not had one since the original meeting.

Frazer - Message is that further travel modelling is ongoing and there is funding issues. They have not met with us at all.

Action for the PCC :

Find out where the funding and modelling is - councillors to find this out.

Need to find out when the next meeting is. Push from the councillors

What else on the legal framework needs to be put in place.

414.4 Groyne Repair update

Progressing well. 3 and 4 almost complete and 2, 5 and Gabion has started.

The works have been more extensive due the problems below the sand.

Contractor progressing well though.

Asked to consider Community led projects for what the old timber can be used for.

Soul Water Sauna and Jock Tamson's Garden have asked if they could.

Also the Head teacher at the High School asked so his details have been passed along.

Pointed out that the contractor has been great at keeping disruption to a minimum and keeping the site tidy.

Frazer pointed out that the access ramp at Seafield has been repaired

414.5 Portobello Neighbourhood beach



New food and drink offering at Pipe Lane. The CC was approached some time ago by the owner to bring this to Portobello. We asked them to present at a meeting. They were unable to attend. Craig did meet and filled in gaps of knowledge about the area.

Think we should push for a presentation after the event to find out how it went from their perspective.

ACTION

Tim to ask Preston to present to us. Important for us to give any feedback to Tim/Licensing (good or bad)

414.6 Sewage spill into sea and Duddingston Road

Recent weather events caused sewage to go into the sea. SEPA investigated but found that it was wastes from dogs and birds. It was not found to be human.

Frazer - Corner of Duddingston Road and Mountcastle Drive a manhole was being pushed up and raw sewage was coming out. Reported it to Scottish Water and NWCC - Scottish Water came within 24 hours and inspected again after 48 hours. Raising as a silted drain.

Jane - three separate agencies depending on what was found in the water.

Craig questioned why are the digital screens not being used more. There were lots of people in the water.

Another reason for showers to be put in so that people can rinse off afterwards.

Jane will continue to feedback to the Community Council

Frazer - will follow up re the Duddingston Roa

414.7 Closure of the Bank of Scotland

BOS is closing their Portobello Branch.

Craig found a document and can share it to the wider community to look at.

Cash machine is not being kept.

Stephen - Over the years there are so many banks being closed. Reducing as society changes but there are still times when need to go into the bank.

BOS suggest that people use the Post Office. However, it does not offer the full service.

If 20MN a useful service is a bank to have in the local neighbourhood.

Are they jumping the gun as footfall is moving upward.

What will happen to the space?



Cllr. Alys Mumford wondered if she can look at the assets for empty building and what they can do to offer something.

Member of the public emphasised that we are going to miss this. Especially the cash machine.

ACTION:

Cllr. Jane Meaghar will get Chris Murray MP to look into the losure

414. 8 Future of Portobello Community Council

As there will be changes to the CC due to the AGM putting in

Need to try and look at ways to bolster numbers.

Tried to advertise. Had people come along and looked at co-opting but people decide it is not for them.

Stephen - a point to throw in. Bad feeling created due to the lengthening of the term. When are the Community Council elections due?

Elected members have not had any further information.

Cllr. Alys Mumford feels that we are doing well and that we 'suffer' the same as other community councils

Should we bring in as a forum for the community groups to be on the agenda.

Asking the communities minister what the review of the role of a community council.

Cllr. Jane Meaghar pointed out that the knowledge retained is invaluable. Also excitement is where there are tangible and achievable goals.

Has to be a theme or project which makes a difference to the community. Show something tangible that makes a difference.

Can we get more council officers along and how and what the leadership looks like. See what the council's are doing with communities outside of Edinburgh.

414.9 a. Treasurer

Basecamp fees and boosting of a Facebook post since the last meeting have cost £53.56. We paid £150.00 for the hire of the Town Hall for the successful hustings in June but were reimbursed a half-share of £75.00 by Northfield and Willowbrae Community Council. This leaves a balance of £640.42.

There has been the additional interest of £ 2.65 added to the Traders' account which results in a balance of £1225.84.



414.9 b. Police

There was no police report this month

414.9 c. Planning

Nothing major to report. Put planning out on the website

414.9 d. Councillors

Cllr. Jane Meaghar - Toilets, lots of problems with the temporary toilets. We need a real solution is long term and various options are being considered. REcommendation of sites for

Chris Murray MP was unable to join us but Jane passed on that he is grateful to being elected and wants to start as hard as he can. Lots of people engaging via email. Everyone will get a response. Spoke about the amazing attributes of Portobello in his Maiden speech. Worried about the lack of monitoring of the water here. Planning to open a constituency office on the High Street. Will be around to meet the constituency the whole of August so is happy to go to any events highlighted.

Cllr. Tim Jones - There has been reports Noise levels and disturbance in Bath Street. Tim will take up again when back from Recess.

414.9 e. Seafield

The Sounding board is coming up. Will be taken to planning. Asked for updates about the masterplan. 177 responses to the consultation. Major themes: Transport, density, social housing, education, mixed-use provision all coming through. Masterplan needs to be clear on what the mixed use is. The council have appointed a new urban designer who is working on this.

414.10 AOB

Cath Etoe asked about the Hamilton Terrace sign as it has been 18 months and still no repair.

Craig mentioned that gates are still not open at the High School pitches. Could we find out why.

Meeting concluded 21.16