



DRAFT Minutes of the 326th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 26th February 2015.

Present: Peter Bradley (Brighton and Rosefield Residents' Association), Mark Cameron, Emma Dempsey, Maria Devoy, Stephen Dishon (Towerbank Parent Council), Gillian Eunson, Bob Jefferson, Lee Kindness, Geoff Lynn, Thea MacMillan, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Clare Slifer, Sean Watters (part of meeting).

Apologies: Max Blinkhorn, Brian Cosford, Terry Dobson (Gilberstoun Residents' Association), Lawrence Marshall (POPP), Ben McLeish, David Medcalf, Eva Schonfeld (PEDAL), Sgt John Young (Police), Cllr David Walker.

In Attendance: Sheila Gilmour MP, Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr Michael Bridgman and members of the public.

326.1 Chair's Welcome

Geoff Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

326.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed.

326.2a Coastal Regeneration Alliance (325.5): monitor any developments and await any planning application.

326.2b Brighton Place setts (325.7): agenda item.

326.2c Prom/Marlborough Street plaque (325.8): agenda item.

326.2d Public toilet report (325.9): report submitted.

326.2e Bath Steet annexe planning application (325.10): response submitted.

326.3 Police Report

Sgt Young had sent his apologies.

326.4 Environmental Report

No report.

326.5 Big Things on the Beach – 'Imagine Portobello' event, May 30th

Damian Killeen presented Big Things on the Beach's event planned for Saturday 30th May, an all day event in the Bellfield Church halls. The last 10 years has seen great growth in creative cultural activity within Portobello and Big Things on the Beach's working group are looking to connect with interested groups within the wider community of Portobello and Craigmillar neighbourhoods, to encourage their active participation in the event as a means to explore the potential of Portobello as a Creative Place.



Big Things on the Beach are keen to engage with the Portobello Community Council's Amenity space register to help examine the problem of loss of amenity space for creative use on the closure of the arts spaces and church halls.

Big Things on the Beach will use the £1500 funding to publicise the event through posters, leafleting and have set up a Facebook page. All enquiries to go to enquiries@bigthingsonthebeach.org.

326.6 Volleyball courts – update on the consultation

Lee Kindness stated that the consultation on the proposal to build permanent beach volleyball courts had concluded and the consultation had been published on the PCC website.

There had been an overall response of 158, with 92% in support and 6% against, showing overwhelming support for the proposal.

Mel Coutts stated that the council was investigating whether the proposed site of Straiton Place Park was "Common Good Land". Funding solutions were also still being sought.

ACTION: Send Mel Coutts the consultation and comments.

326.7 Brighton Place Setts – update on the consultation

The consultation on the Resurfacing of Brighton Place ended on Friday 20th February. Results and the report will be published on the PCC website.

The results show 48% support full sett reconstruction with 42% against.
57% support asphalt reconstruction with 36% against.
81% were against asphalt overlay.

Geoff outlined the common themes expressed in the consultation comments.

Andy Matheson of Roads Manager of CEC made apologies for Sean Gilchirst's absence. He stated that it remained the policy of CEC to retain setted streets but praised the consultation and that he will take it to the council for consideration in the decision.

There was a discussion on the state of the existing cobbles and what the council would do to prevent future setts deteriorating.

Andy Matheson stated that if full sett reconstruction was to be undertaken, new high specification jointing materials provided a higher longevity for setted roads. A robust maintenance programme and future proofing of the construction (all utilities to be fully instated prior to relaying the setts) would all help to create a stronger, more long lasting surface. Should utility companies require to dig up the setts for maintenance, a reinstatement specification would have to be followed with permits required prior to works being done.

Thea MacMillan queried what would happen to the remaining budget should setts not be the choice.

AM stated that the monies would stay within the Roads Department budget but not specific to Portobello.

Peter Bradley queried the programme of road closures and knock-on effects to the high street traders.

AM stated that the traffic management and programme of road closures had yet to be finalised but they predict two phases of works beginning January/February 2016. The first ca 37 weeks and the second ca 21 weeks avoiding the Christmas period.



John Stewart stated that he had received an email from Sean Gilchrist of CEC stating different expected lifetimes for the reinstatement options which may have impacted people's choices in the consultation.

Andy Matheson stated that he did not know why Sean Gilchrist had given contrary expected lifetimes for the construction types.

Geoff stated that the consultation was wholly based on the figures provided by Sean Gilchrist and the CEC Roads Department presented both at the previous PCC meeting and in documents sent to the PCC.

ACTION: Peter Bradley to attend the meeting with Roads Department when decision being made. Andy Matheson to query Sean Gilchrist's conflicting information and return to PCC. CEC to advise on traffic management, project phasing and trader consultation.

326.8 Prom/Marlborough St Sign – update on the proposed replacement.

Lee Kindness and Clare Slifer met with Celia Butterworth, John Stewart and Margaret Munro of the Signs and Plaques group to discuss the existing board's condition, content and the application for funding through the 'You Decide' community funding project.

It was agreed to meet with Paul Lambie to discuss the possibility of his input in the board's redesign. Comparative costs have been sought for the technique of printing on aluminium to progress the funding application.

A further meeting with the Signs and Plaques group and Paul Lambie is scheduled for 24th February where Paul would present his ideas for approval.

326.9 Portobello Station

SESTran have been in touch to say they are keen to meet to discuss the possibilities of moving forward with a plan to reopen Portobello Station and related issues.

It was suggested that Lawrence and Max would be the most logical delegation to attend the meeting (both absent).

ACTION : Confirm that Lawrence and Max can attend.

The public opening of the Waverley Line is proposed for September, with Brunstane one of the stations on the line connecting Edinburgh with the Borders.

ACTION : PCC to publicise on the website.

326.10 Consultation Sub Committee

Emma Dempsey outlined the Communication & Engagement sub-committee's ongoing exercises including Scotmid consultations. The sub-committee will be meeting again in March to discuss engagement priorities over the next period.

326.11 Other reports

- a. Treasurer – see attached report.
- b. Neighbourhood Partnership – nothing to report
- c. Planning – see Maureen Child's report on LDP2
- d. Councillors – See Maureen Child's report



326.12 Any Other Business

1. Joppa Tennis Club AGM

Marjorie Thomas stated that the AGM of the Joppa Tennis Club was coming up in the Ormelie Bar at 7:30pm on XXXXX

2. Prom Mile Markers

Bob Jefferson invited Alison Robinson to show the members the proposed mile markers. Small prototypes were shown and agreed generally.

320.13 Date of the Next Meeting

The 327th meeting of the Portobello Community Council to be held on Monday 30th March at 7:30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are: Monday 27th April (328)
Monday 25th May (329)

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326th PCC meeting closed.