



Minutes of the 333rd Meeting of Portobello Community Council, held 26 October 2015

Present: Geoff Lynn, David Medcalf, Maria Devoy, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis), Justin Kenrick (PEDAL), Clare Slifer, Graham Elliot (Towerbank)

Apologies: Sean Watters, Ben McLeish, Gillian Eunson, Thea MacMillan, Emma Dempsey

In attendance: Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr Mike Bridgman, Cllr David Walker, Ash Denham (SNP), David Manson, Stephen Hakwins, Diana Cairns, Gillian Dunn, Damian Killeen (BTOTB), Juliana Capes (Our Forth) and other members of the public.

333.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed; with the correction that Justin Kenrick had sent his apologies.

333.2a Our Forth (332.5)

A more general consultation on views on underground coal gasification had been carried out. Agenda item.

332.2b SES Plan MIR (332.10)

Representation sent on SESPlan MIR, also published on website.

333.3 Police Report

Parking on zigzags – being targeted. Bonfire Night – police approach for fireworks and bonfires was discussed.

Discussed possibility of setting up regular meetings between community police officers and resident groups.

333.4 Environment update

No report.

333.5 Portobello High School

Update from Portobello High School pupils was well received and much appreciated.

333.6 Beach Wheelchair Project

Jackie & Robin from the North Berwick Beach Wheelchair Project introduced their project:

- Would like to support other communities
- Setup between October 2014 and July 2015
- £21k funding, mainly from large donations
- Also runs over winter, not just summer; 11 hires in the last 2 weeks
- Run from beach hut at the harbour; free to use, booking required



- Expecting more demand summer 2016
- Their area partnership helped logistically, not financially
- Hope to build on success with own building, store, office and changing facilities

Action: PCC to run a mini consultation to gauge interest in a similar scheme for Portobello and more importantly to note interest from people willing to coordinate and volunteer to run such a service.

333.7 Big Things on the Beach

Damian Killeen summarised outcomes from the most recent “Imagine Portobello” event and the recent “ideas into action” meeting. Reports distributed.

333.8 Underground Coal Gasification

A survey was carried out to gauge local feelings to underground coal gasification. A sample was randomly selected from those subscribed to our mailing list and asked to complete the survey. We received 129 responses, 117 from people resident within the PCC area. Overall 90% objected:

- Strongly support: 1.6%
- Support: 1.6%
- Neutral: 7%
- Object: 16.3%
- Strongly object: 73.6%

Action: Lee Kindness to share our results with Our Forth and publish online

Action: Justin Kenrick to look into options for a more general survey on attitudes to unconventional oil and gas extraction in general.

333.9 Membership

Colin Cuthbert was an unsuccessful candidate in the last PCC election (receiving the most votes for unsuccessful candidate) and had been agreed at last meeting to approach him to gauge his interest in being co-opted to the community council to replace the vacancy created by the resignation of Max Blinkhorn. He had indicated he was open to this.

It was agreed unanimously to co-opt Colin Cuthbert to Portobello Community Council.

Graham Elliot is the new group representative for Towerbank School Council.

Bob Jefferson has resigned as a member of PCC. There was a discussion on the merits of the various methods this vacancy could be filled.

Action: Lee Kindness to ask CEC Community Council Liaison Officer about feasibility of an interim election to fill the single vacancy.

333.10 Themed meeting

The next scheduled PCC meeting is cancelled, replaced by a special themed meeting on “Portobello for Young People” to be held at Portobello High School on Monday 30 November. This meeting will be informed by recent consultation undertaken by PCC and CEC Community Learning & Development.



333.11 Consultation sub-committee

Meeting held with SCDC on writing up a couple of case studies on consultation work undertaken by the community council.

333.12 Reports

333.12a Treasurer

No report.

333.12b Neighbourhood Partnership

No report.

333.12c Planning

Mews housing on Regent Street Lane approved.

15/02624/AMC (approval of conditions) for ALDI supermarket development approved by CEC Development Management sub-committee:

- 94 parking spaces (incl 5 disabled and 8 parent & child). Parking management plan to allow their use for neighbouring facilities in Portobello for up to 2.5 hours; plus freely usable outwith operating hours.
- “3. Prior to the foodstore becoming operational, details shall be submitted showing the final design of the public artwork (in the form of totems and paving). The artwork will then be installed and maintained, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Planning Authority.”

333.12d Councillors

Maureen Child: Report circulated. Edinburgh Solar Partnership are selling shares: Edinburgh Community Solar is a Benefit for the Community Society and is seeking to raise £1.4 million to fund the installation of 1.5MW of solar panels on up to 25 public buildings in Edinburgh.

Mike Bridgman: Highlighted budget consultation and parking consultation.

David Walker: Towerbank Primary School catchment review concluded, with decision to opt for option 4 (smallest catchment, sibling guarantee) effective for 2016 registration.

333.13 Any Other Business

1. Brighton Place - The question of whether a final decision had been taken on the resurfacing of Brighton Place was raised. It was agreed to write to Lesley Hinds to seek clarification and request notification of the reasons behind any decision.



333.14 Date of the Next Meeting

The 334th meeting of Portobello Community Council to be held on Monday 25 January 2016 at 7:30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are:

- Monday 29 February (335)
- Monday 28 March (336)

Portobello Community Council online:

- Email: secretary@portobellocc.org
- Web: portobellocc.org
- Facebook: [facebook.com/PortobelloCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/PortobelloCommunityCouncil)
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