[349th PCC Meeting]

[26.06.2017]

DRAFT Minutes of the 349th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 26th June 2017.

Present: Geoff Lynn, Lee Kindness, Sean Watters, Miranda Hirst, Elaine Murray, Donald Bloxham, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Fraser McNaughton, Ester Clayton, Madeline Begg, Onyma Ibe (Towerbank Parent Council).

Apologies: Paul Lambie, Tara McCarthy

In Attendance: Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr Mary Campbell, Cllr Kate Campbell, Cllr Callum Laidlaw and members of the public

349.1 Chairs Welcome

Geoff Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

349.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Draft minutes of the May minutes to be carried over to the August meeting.

349.3 Police report

No report.

349.4 Pitz Sale

Participation Request – The council's feedback on how they managed timeline for consultation and focus groups is expected by the 6th of July. The proposal by the council was broadly accepted, but the timings were problematic. It was suggested that there would be a need to see the bids before a survey for the community was geared around them or indeed a focus group. Focus group was also considered in terms of size and scope and satisfying diverse demographics. Onyema lbe agreed to draft a letter pointing out a few key points to influence the council's proposal.

349.5 The George

Still waiting for updates on this process.

349.6 General Survey

Agreed there has been a low turnout in submissions of survey especially in the younger age bracket. It was suggested by a member of the public that paper copies should be left in the library and should be posted in the suggestions box. Lee Kindness was happy to input any responses. Schools were to be chivvied to submit responses by Onyema Ibe and Frazer McNaughton. The winner of the draw for the £100 pound prize survey will be announced at the village show on Sunday the 3rd of September.

349.7 Participatory Budgeting

Lorraine Duckworth (COEC) attended the meeting to discuss how Leith Community Council managed their Participatory Budgeting bid. Lorraine explained that Leith Community Council is the first so far to have applied successfully for the grant. This is public money which comes from the Scottish Government, but solely for community groups. The criteria are set by those applying for funding and decisions about the end goal are left up to the community group. Therefore this process remains very open and ultimately wants to address particular community needs. The application deadline this year is 21st of July, with the outcome at the end of August and the money to be allocated and spent by the end of March. Lorraine also announced that she will be stepping down imminently, but would be happy to train a new office bearer.

If PCC wanted to apply, it was just about the application first, then the criteria later. There was a suggestion that some of the funds could be allocated to Christmas lights or a Christmas theme in general. Lorraine agreed that she was happy to facilitate a workshop to help PCC in their application. It was suggested that a representative of the Leith CC could attend workshop – potentially the project manager. Tara, Fraser, Onyema and Geoff agreed to attend a workshop to discuss PCC's application.

349.8 AOB

Baileyfield update: The junction at Harry Lauder Road is to remain without signalling. Transport department say that they are keeping it as is. 7 changes will be made to the development in total including lowering of units, wider spaces between existing properties and expansion of parking spaces. It was agreed that in light of these changes, the original representation from PCC would be presented again. The changes are to be publicised and then it was suggested that any personal objections could be submitted separately, in light of the public opinion that the PCC had already garnered.

Car parking at Aldi: Concerns from the public were raised about the enforcement of a reduced parking time in their car park. Miranda agreed to write to Aldi expressing these concerns, including original agreement with the store that customers could park then use the high street. It was noted that there was an ongoing problem with LRT drivers using the car park, but that was something that needed to be resolved between LRT and Aldi.

Beach Wheel Chairs Update: An agreement has been made to store the wheelchairs for Portobello Beach in a container to be situated in Tumbles' car park. There was a meeting planned in St John's school (Hall) on 20th of July 2017 for those who wanted to offer to volunteer. A competition to design the artwork for the outside of the container is to be open to P4's and a graffiti artist is to then interpret the design on the outside of the container.

349.9 Date of Next Meeting

The 350th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council is to be held on Monday the 28th of August at 7.30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU

Subsequent Dates are: Monday 28th August (350) Monday 25th September (351)

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349th PCC meeting closed