



“Young People in Portobello” Event Report

Portobello Community Council and City of Edinburgh Council Community Learning and Development worked together over the summer of 2015 to ask young people in Portobello (10 -16) what they liked about the area and what would make it even better.

PCC hosted an event on the 29th of November to enable people working and interested in young peoples services to come together to look at the results of the consultation.

The aim of the evening was to

1. Share the findings from the research and discuss results
2. Facilitate discussion about how Portobello can be improved for young people as identified by the research

The presentation is included (appendix 1) as are the results of the research (appendix 2).

There were six main themes identified from the research. After the results were shared all those present (approx. 45) joined six different tables to explore the themes further. The facilitated discussion was action focused with each table identifying two or three clear actions to take forward after the event.

The tables / themes and actions are listed below. To be followed up and reported back at PCC meeting in April / May.

Physical Activity

Currently plans from SFA + other local interested parties to create a Portobello Community Football Club.

Action: SFA to update at PCC meeting in April / May

Discussion around proposed Volleyball courts at Straiton place, all wondered what was happening as felt it would be a positive thing for Portobello.

Action: Marjorie Thomas to follow up with Mel Coutts from CEC

Discussion around local cycle club and whether it could be opened up more to teenagers, seemed to be a need for more “things to do”

Action: Rona Grey to investigate a Porto Velo for teen's option

Sports Hub - currently a plan in place for a community sports hub to be based out of the new high school. Emma Dempsey to get update / more information from Paddy Dearlove (Active Schools coordinator)

Outdoor Spaces

Looked at the idea of a further mapping exercise with young people – Thea McMillan to follow up

Changes to built environment consultation; can we involve more young people routinely? – Maureen Childs to flag any relevant issues

Floated the idea of doing up a Shipping container with young people to use as a hang out in summer - Scott Taylor / Mark Cameron to investigate.

Young people gravitate towards light, not away from it. Group to look at what lighting changes could be undertaken to encourage young people – Thea McMillan to look in to it.

Indoor spaces

Needs to be a more detailed survey of what teens want in terms of venues- Emma and Fiona from Jack Kane centre to look in to it and report back

Look at licensing issues – Maureen Childs can help?

Look at funding sources - Emma / Fiona from JK

Organised activities

Youth Cafe – Andy Scarcliffe and Michelle Brown discussed the possibility of a youth café in the Baptist church café. Brian Cosford will liaise with them to develop the idea.

Youth Night at Library – Paul Hudson to think about this and report back to PCC.

Contact PHS for discussion around creating a Young Person Committee to empower them to get involved. Get in touch with Scottish Youth Parliament rep to have further conversation around this? Also discussed at communications table (see actions from there)

Communication

The discussion focused on the idea of establishing a Youth Cafe and how that might be communicated to the young.

Thoughts included although youngsters are great at communicating with each other, do they avoid channels or methods where 'Adults' lurk? Some might use Facebook, but are they friends with any parents / guardians?

Young people themselves would best be able to communicate so can we work with PHS to establish a Portobello Young Committee? A group of young volunteers who would find out what young people want and work with stakeholders to make it happen. The PYC could be supported by adults and the PCC. Geoff Lynn (PCC) to contact PHS with a view to exploring how this might work. (Whilst preferable to make this not exclusively for PHS pupils, would be simpler to shape the idea with one school to start with).

Next steps

Report from evening to be shared with all those present and also email addresses for people to communicate. Feedback from event and proposed actions to be presented at PCCs April / May meeting.

More information about Portobello Community Council can be found at

Web:<http://www.portbellocc.org/>

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