[354th PCC Meeting] [29/01/2018]

DRAFT Minutes of the 354th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 29th January 2018.

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Present: Geoff Lynn, Lee Kindness, Sean Watters, Miranda Hirst, Marjorie Thomas (Joppa Tennis Courts), Frazer McNaughton, Madeline Begg, Colin Cuthbert, Esther Clayton, Donald Bloxham, Justin Kendrick Onyema Ibe (Towerbank Parent Council), Catherine Etoe (Brighton and Rosefield Residents Association).

Apologies: Paul Lambie, Elaine Murray, Tara McCarthy, Tommy Sheppard MP.

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

354.1 Chairs Welcome

Miranda Hirst welcomed everyone to the meeting. A special welcome was extended to Catherine Etoe, who has taken over from Peter Bradley as the nominated representative of the Brighton and Rosefield Residents association.

354.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes were agreed.

354.3 Police report

See attached.

354.4 Pitz Development – update on developments

An evaluation session took place on Thursday the 7th of December 2017 that Frazer and Geoff attended. 10 bids for the site went to the final submission and these bids were scored against a range of criteria. The bid by Cala Homes has come out as the preferred bid by CEC.

The work of Action Porty goes on and the Scottish Government has awarded £12,000 to the group so that they may undertake a community led placemaking exercise in respect of the site. Action Porty are holding events on the 3rd and 4th of March 2018 in Portobello Town Hall, where they will encourage the public to participate in generating as much information on the site including the views of the site's current users.

CEC are due to submit a report to the Finance and Resources Committee on the 27th of March, where they will recommend that Cala Homes is appointed the preferred bidder for the site.

354.5 Promenade Improvements - Update

Friends of the Prom are holding an event on the 10th of March from 1pm – 3pm in St John's Church Hall that the public are encouraged to drop in on. The purpose of the event is to garner public opinion on issues and opportunities for Portobello Promenade.

The group can be contacted at: friendsofportyprom@gmail.com

354.6 Straiton Place Park - update

The new instillation is expected to be completed in early spring. The equipment will include: Kids play apparatus, gym equipment and a fully accessible (Mirage) swing.

354.7 You Decide

All valid applications were granted and there was a big spread of applications across both Craigmilar and Portobello. Despite this, there are still £1,500 of funds (of a total fund of £21,737) still to be allocated. Timings seemed to be a bit of an issue this year, but discussions are underway to see when it might be better held in the future.

354.8 PCC Fundraising Options

See Treasurer's report

354.9 Other Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – see attached

Colin has renewed the insurance for Joppa Tennis Courts and in doing so has saved PCC £179 annually. JTC's are covered under PCC's insurance, so the second policy was unnecessary.

An additional £28.21 came from the public collection at the Town Hall Meeting – once overheads were covered.

£500 was secured from Colin's application to You Decide.

PCC's current balance is - £1482.44

It was agreed that PCC need not undertake any additional fundraising at this point in time.

b. Neighbourhood partnership – The next Neighbourhood Partnership meeting is on Wednesday 31st January at 6.30pm in Craigmillar Library. There will be a presentation on housing developments, mostly in Craigmillar.

You Decide is likely to be the main topic of discussion.

PCC needs to send a representative to attend Neighbourhood partnership meetings which take place every quarter. Marjorie has historically attended Environmental meetings and offered to do so again, going forward.

Actions: Miranda to email Mary to discuss PCC representation.

c. Planning -

The George - On Wednesday 21st of February at 10am, CEC are holding a Development Management Sub Committee hearing on the planning application for the George. PCC need to inform of representation by the 8th of February.

Actions: Sean will try to attend the hearing.

Newcraighall Primary – new modular classrooms, plus extension of the existing playground.

Portobello Sands, Pipe lane – Application for 5 (+ 1 storey), 10 3 bedroom flats, plus 1 2 bedroom flat. Previous application had 5 plus 3 storey 18 flats.

Actions: Portobello Sands development to be included in next month's agenda.

Portobello Town Centre Supplementary Guidance – This is a public life street assessment carried out by the CEC planning department. This is an extremely large, but important and interesting piece of work, so it was agreed that PCC spend some of its budget on printing out the document and potentially having it available to access and read in the library.

Actions: Colin agreed to print out the document.

d. Joppa Tennis Courts – JTC's annual rent will increase from £50 to £1200 as of April 2018. JTC is currently seeking assistance from local councillors on how best to manage this large increase. A CEC representative had been in touch with JTCs looking for a copy of the original lease, but nothing has changed hands thus far. JTCs are still looking into the possibility of charitable status, but it was agreed that the club should remain under the umbrella of PCC for the foreseeable future.

It was agreed that it would be helpful if a PCC representative emailed Peter Watton to highlight that JTC had been discussed at the meeting.

Actions: Marjore agreed to draft an email. Lee agreed to send this on behalf of PCC.

e. Councillors – Councillor Callum Laidlaw planning a walk around with a CEC representative to assess problems with waste and bins. He noted that the caravans at the bottom of King's road were adding to the waste problems.

Community police officer Matt MacPherson did issue 21 day parking notices for the caravan's at the start of the summer, but these had not been followed up or acted upon.

354.10 AOB

Portobello: People and places Editathon event is being held in the library on 3rd of March from 10-4pm. This event is held in partnership with Portobello Heritage Trust and Portobello library and is due to be a day of editing Wikipedia pages to help improve the online encyclopedia, to best reflect the people and places of Portobello.

City wide Community Council Meetings - Onyema agreed to attend if necessary.

Portobello Beach clean-up Event – taking place on Saturday 24th of February from 12:30pm to 2:30pm – Meeting outside Porty Swimming Pool.

Community Greengrocer for Porty – Meeting in the Wash House on 1st February from 19:30 to 21:00.

Portobello Reporter - Actions: Justin agreed to write a piece for the Reporter

The 355th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council is to be held on Monday the 26th of February 2018 at 7.30pm in Portobello Baptist Church Hall, 185 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are: Monday 26th March (356)

Monday 30th April (357)

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354th PCC meeting closed