



364<sup>th</sup> PCC Meeting 28/01/2019

## Minutes of the 364<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**Present:** Catherine Etoe, Geoff Lynn, Lee Kindness, Justin Kenrick, Sean Watters, Frazer McNaughton, Onyema Ibe, Donald Bloxham, Marjorie Thomas, Elaine Murray, Madeline Begg.

**Apologies:** Miranda Hurst, Esther Grey, Cllr Callum Laidlaw.

**In Attendance:** Cllr Mary Campbell, Cllr Maureen Child, and members of the public.

### **364.1 Chair's Welcome**

Lee Kindness welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **364.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

Minutes were agreed.

### **364.3 Police report**

PC Matt McPherson had left his current role but was being replaced by PC Gemma Knox.

### **364.4 King's Place**

Efforts were ongoing to resolve the issues at King's Place. The North East Environment Forum had approved plans for extending the promenade, with funding expected to be signed off on soon. The possible use of TROs was also still being explored although it was unclear what the state of play was. It was agreed to ask Cllr Laidlaw for an update.

**Action: GL to contact Cllr Laidlaw for an update.**

### **364.5 Skatepark**

Dan Thompson had managed to meet with the skatepark designers. However the latest news was that there had been a significant cut in budget for the area, from £70,000 to £30,000. Cllr Mary Campbell had asked Crawford McGhie, the Project Officer, for more detail on this, but the understanding was that additional costs of drainage and SUDS had required cost saving elsewhere. As a result the scale of the skatepark was being reduced. After discussion it was agreed that it was important to future proof the design so that it could be added to or expanded should additional funds be found. It was agreed to contact Crawford McGhie regarding this and to ask for more information.

**Action: MB to contact Crawford McGhie**

### **364.6 Edinburgh Coastal Communities Workshop**

FMcN gave details of an Edinburgh Coastal Communities Workshop to be held at Bellfield on February 26<sup>th</sup>, consisting of an afternoon drop-in followed by a workshop and debate in the evening. The focus of the event was to look at the local area, the provision of facilities, activities and services, and how the built environment could be improved through a process of collaborative placemaking. Places for the workshop/debate were limited so was ticketed but free.



### **364.7 Portobello Golf Course**

Edinburgh Leisure's consultation was planned for the spring, and an initial draft survey had been shared. GL felt the survey as planned was a little narrow in focus and that it would be better to have more open questions and inviting comment.

**Action: GL to contact Edinburgh Leisure**

### **364.8 Seafield/LDP2**

A delay to the regional strategic plan was causing the timetable for the Local Development plan to slip, but it was felt that it was important to have some input into the possible development of Seafield. SW had contacted C&Mcc before Christmas but needed to get back in touch. A joint meeting of the local community councils was suggested, as was contacting Ben Wilson in the planning department.

**Action: SW to contact C&M cc and Ben Wilson**

### **364.9 Christmas Lights**

MT raised the issue of Christmas Lights and whether they could be improved. £1,100 had been raised by local traders, held by the PCC, but it wasn't clear how they wished to use the money. LK offered to contact Jennifer Elliot who had been involved in the fundraising. It was also suggested that Colin Cuthbert might be able to offer advice on cost effective improvements to the lighting.

**Action: LK to contact Jennifer Elliot**

### **364.10 Baileyfield/New Brunstane**

A general query was raised as to the status of both projects. It was agreed to ask for an update from the respective developers.

**Action: FMcN to contact the developers**

### **364.11 Other Reports**

**a. Treasurer's Report** – No report.

**b. Neighbourhood partnership** – An Agenda Planning meeting was taking place the next day.

#### **c. Planning**

**Brunstane** – Architect Iain Gaul gave a brief presentation regarding a 19 house development proposed near Brunstane House. The only issue of note was how the development would tie in with the surrounding walking and cycling network and the adjacent development at New Brunstane.

**Hi-Fi Corner** – Neighbours to the new Hi-Fi Corner on the High Street raised concerns about the signage and strength of lighting, which was subject of a retrospective planning application (not yet registered). It was agreed to publicise the application when it was live, allowing people to comment directly.

**The Burgh Clock** – an application for the reinstatement of the clock had been submitted.



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**d. Joppa Tennis Courts** – The defibrillator was expected to be installed within the next few weeks. It was also agreed to write to the Chair of the Finance Committee expressing concerns about the proposed rent increase.

**Action: LK to write to Finance Committee**

**e. Councillors** – All items already covered in the meeting.

### 364.12 AOB

The PCC had received two request for information regarding the remaining funds of the PCATS and PONGS campaign groups. Stephen Hawkins had already responded regarding PCATS. In relation to the PONGS campaign against the proposed Waste Transfer Station, the PCC had not joined the campaign but participated in the Joint Action Group by representing the local community at the planning public enquiry, and PCC minutes recorded a £1,000 donation to PONGS with the suggestion of a possible additional £500. DB had checked the accounts and could confirm that only the £1,000 appeared to have been donated. However, the other queries raised were not within the PCC's ability to answer. It was noted that all community bodies (including PONGS, PCC, etc.) need to behave in a transparent and accountable way, and it was agreed to forward the queries to PONGS in the hope they would be able to respond. Stephen Hawkins suggested the queries be forwarded to him in the first instance as he had been involved in the campaign.

Albert Strand advised that he was planning another charity day at the Straiton Place Park and was seeking suggestions for a suitable local cause to donate to. It was agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

The 365<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Portobello Community Council is to be held on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 at 7.30pm in Portobello Baptist Church, 189 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are:	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	(366)
	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	(367)

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*364<sup>th</sup> PCC meeting closed*