



365<sup>th</sup> PCC Meeting 25/02/2019

## Minutes of the 365<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**Present:** Catherine Etoe, Lee Kindness, Justin Kenrick, Sean Watters, Frazer McNaughton, Donald Bloxham, Marjorie Thomas, Esther Grey, Miranda Hurst (part of meeting).

**Apologies:** Onyema Ibe, Geoff Lynn, Elaine Murray, Madeline Begg. Cllr Mary Campbell, Cllr Callum Laidlaw.

**In Attendance:** Cllr Kate Campbell, Cllr Maureen Child, PC Gemma Knox and members of the public.

### 365.1 Chair's Welcome

Lee Kindness welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 365.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Stephen Hawkins suggested a correction to the minutes to make a distinction that whilst PCC had been part of the Joint Action Group, it had not been part of the campaign against the Waste Transfer Station. It was agreed to re-word the item to that effect.

Catherine Etoe raised concerns from an unidentified individual that the minutes had not recorded some things that had been said. Lee Kindness explained that the minutes were not a verbatim record of meetings and only summarised discussions, noting points relevant to PCC business.

### 365.3 Police report

PC Gemma Knox introduced herself and gave the Police Report (see attached).

### 365.4 Hi Fi Corner

The owner of Hi Fi Corner gave a brief summary of where things stood with the signage. He acknowledged that the signage was far brighter than he would've liked but that dimmers had been ordered to reduce the lighting levels. The lights would also be put on timers to go off at a reasonable time in the evening. Lee Kindness reported on the consultation results that showed a considerable number of objections, with the most common concerns being the brightness of the lighting and light pollution for neighbours. As such, dimmers and timers might address many of the concerns raised, although that would depend on the effect. It was agreed to submit a letter of comment highlighting the issues raised and suggesting conditions be attached, should approval be given, to address those concerns.

**Action: LK to submit a comment to Planning**

### 365.5 Skatepark

A final design for the skate park had been submitted to Planning for approval, and Crawford McGhie expected the work to start soon. There had been conflicting information circulating about the budget for the skatepark, and the extent of cost savings made elsewhere to keep the project on budget. However, a Special Meeting was being held at St John's on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February by Northfield and Willowbrae Community Council to discuss the matter, and Council Officers would be on hand to



answer questions. PCC had already publicised the meeting. Sean Watters had spoken to Dan Thompson who had indicated that, whilst he'd prefer a bigger skatepark, what was proposed was welcome.

### **365.6 Straiton Place Charity Day**

Albert Strand outlined his ideas for a Charity Day event, probably in May, and subject to approval by the Council. Thoughts were to invite a number of local charities to participate, setting up stalls to publicise their activity. PCC agreed to support the initiative and liaise with Albert further.

### **365.7 Portobello Golf Course**

The final content of the survey was still in discussion and GL had written to Edinburgh Leisure with further comments, in particular that the survey had got more complex and was perhaps too orientated to Edinburgh Leisure's commercial concerns. It was understood the golfers were writing in similar terms. It was unclear if the timing of the consultation for the end of March was likely to slip, or whether COEC's budget settlement would lead Edinburgh Leisure to a further review of facilities.

### **365.8 Seafield/LDP2**

SW apologised that he had only recently tried to contact Craigintinny Meadowbank CC again and had not yet received a response. He offered to follow up and bring the matter back to the next meeting.

**Action: Agenda Item for next meeting.**

### **365.9 PONGS**

Following the last meeting Lee Kindness had written to Stephen Hawkins requesting the following: PONG'S constitution, a summary of their current financial position, historic accounts, and AGM minutes. Stephen Hawkins had been in touch with Donald Bloxham and had confirmed that the PCC had only donated the £1,000. Stephen Hawkins had also responded to Lee Kindness that his request for information went beyond what had been agreed at the last PCC meeting, but offering the opportunity for a PCC representative to view the consultants' invoices. After discussion it was agreed there was little to be gained by viewing the invoices and Lee Kindness noted that he had no doubts that the PCC donation had been used properly. As there was nothing further the PCC could do to obtain the information requested of PONGS, it was agreed to forward Stephen's letter to the original petitioners and consider the matter closed.

### **365.10 King's Place**

The long running issues at King's Place had not been resolved although various measures were still under consideration. Cllr Kate Campbell noted that another meeting involving local Cllrs, Transport & Environment, Environmental Health and the Police was required to move things on.

### **365.11 Edinburgh Palette**

Stephen Oswald and Andrew Chainey from Edinburgh Palette gave a brief update on the plans for artist studios at Stanley Street, noting that a further permissions were required before they would be fully operational, and offering to come back to a future meeting at the appropriate time. PCC welcomed the proposals as a very positive development.

### **365.12 Other Reports**

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



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**b. Neighbourhood partnership** – Neighbourhood Partnerships were to be replaced with Neighbourhood Networks, hopefully involving wider representation, but the details of how they were to operate were still to be developed.

**c. Planning** - No items

**d. Joppa Tennis Courts** – AGM would be held next Tuesday evening in the Ormelie.

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

### 365.13 AOB

No AOB.

The 366<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Portobello Community Council is to be held on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 at 7.30pm in Portobello Baptist Church, 189 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU.

Subsequent Dates are:	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	(367)
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	(368)

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