



Minutes of the 368th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 27th May 2019

Present: Lee Kindness (vice chair), Catherine Etoe, Geoff Lynn (part of meeting), Frazer McNaughton, Elaine Murray, Marjorie Thomas, Catherine Etoe

Apologies: Donald Bloxham, Miranda Hurst (chair), Onyema Ibe, Madeline Begg, Sean Watters, Esther Gray, Justin Kenrick, Cllr Callum Laidlaw

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

368.1 Chair's Welcome & Introductions

Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting and each member of the Community Council introduced themselves and, where relevant, their role.

368.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed.

The Community Council thanked Albert Reid for his efforts in organising the Straiton Park Charity Day which raised £243 for the Beach Wheelchairs project.

368.3 Police report

Local house break ins, rogue traders, bin fires and a card scamming group operating in the area were matters discussed. Catherine raised the issue of parking on the zig-zag lines outside of St Johns Primary during drop off and pick up from school.

Action: PC Gemma Knox would follow up

368.4 Brighton Place Setts

There was general discussion regarding progress of the works. The issues of "rat running" through Lee Crescent was discussed as well as the issues of the accessibility of roads for emergency vehicles

Action: Catherine to ask the Council for a written up-date of progress so that PCC can keep the community informed of issues arising and progress with the works

368.5 Oscar Group Community Grant Proposal

Local business owner Harem Murdoch outlined a proposition that the company would offer an annual fund of £5000 to be distributed to local groups and good causes. The intention is that this would be a fund open to all and distributed by the Oscar Group with input from the PCC.

Action: PCC to bring to the June meeting a proposal, or choice of proposals, for fair and transparent distribution of grant money to local groups and good causes

368.6 Seafield and Local Development Plan

It was noted that the South East of Scotland Strategic Development Plan (SESplan) had been rejected by Scottish Ministers. This provided uncertainty over the Local Development plan- Options proposal which is in early stages of preparation but scheduled to go to committee in August prior to consultation. Things are progressing however and Seafield is still likely to be included in the Options consultation and it was noted that the PCC remains in dialogue with neighbouring community councils and is still seeking a placemaking



exercise with the Council to inform any future development of the area. PCC would bring this issue to future meetings for discussion if progress could be made.

368.7 Kings Place

The on-going use of Kings Place car park by caravans and motor homes was discussed. The proposed Transport Regulation Order (TRO) to restrict overnight parking was discussed and due to objections it would have to go to committee for approval. There was discussion that some felt that this was just a short to medium term solution and that other options for the future use of the site should be explored, including potential to better connect the Portobello and Seafield Proms.

Action: In order to gain greater understanding of the community preferences it was agreed that PCC would propose to run a consultation exploring different options for the use of the Kings Place car park. Esther, Frazer and Lee to put together a consultation proposal in dialogue with Council staff.

368. 8 Other Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – none

b. Neighbourhood partnership – now called the Neighbourhood Networks and in the early stages of formation, there was discussion around how meetings would be run and what local groups could be involved. **Action: Lee to forward suggestion to Scott Neill**

c. Planning – The lighting and signage for the Hi-Fi corner shop had been approved with light levels restricted to 75 candela and operational hours required to be within a half hour before sunrise and after sunset.

d. Joppa Tennis Courts

e. Councillors

368.9 AOB

- a. The ease of pedestrian crossings around Aldi were discussed. Cllr Kate Campbell would further enquire about the introduction of dropped kerbs near Quick-Fit and other possible improvements.
- b. Fish Park- The Council had been in touch about replacement and up-grading of play equipment in the Fish Park. As PCC had previously run a consultation on play equipment it was felt that this could be welcomed but we should highlight to the Council that other improvements, such as improvement of surfaces and painting of structures were also needed.

Action: Lee to email Council contact to above effect

- c. Harry Lauder Road Junction- the Police investigation into the death of a local cyclist was still on-going. Sustrans are working on a Safe Routes to School project for the Royal High Primary and this may inform any changes to active travel infrastructure in the area.
- d. Cllr Mary Campbell highlighted that work would be taking place by the Council to explore whether to introduce further parking restrictions and charging for parking in the Portobello area.
- e. Dates for people's diaries: 31st August- Sandcastle competition, 1st September- Portobello Village Fair.
- f. There was discussion raised by members of the public surrounding a complaint made in February and best practice guidelines shared by the City of Edinburgh Council Community Council Liaison Officer.

The 368th PCC meeting was closed.