



Minutes of the 372nd Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 25th November 2019

Present: Mike Leeman, Craig McIntyre, Lee Kindness, Frazer McNaughton, Catherine Etoe, Elaine Murray, Esther Gray, Paul Goodwin, John Cleland, Laurie Berrie, Stephen Hawkins, Geoff Lynn, Marjorie Thomas

Apologies: Miranda Hurst, Rhys Nealon, Ruth Wallace, Elaine Murray, Cllr Mary Campbell, Gordon Duff (Police Scotland)

In Attendance: Cllr Maureen Child, Denise Pentland (Brunstane Parent Council), 8 members of the public

372.1 Chair's Welcome & Introductions

Lee Kindness Welcomed everyone and the Community Council Introduced themselves. Laurie Berrie Was nominated as the Engagement Officer and Seconded so it was agreed that Laurie would take on this role.

372.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed after revision (Stephen Hawkins added to attendance, wording on Safer Routes to school and wording of AOB)

As a General Election has been called PCC has organised a hustings to take place with all parliamentary candidates confirming attendance. This will be on 5th December at 7.30pm in the upstairs of the Baptist Church. Stephen has organised this and he suggested that those that can meet on 4th December to ensure that everything is set up and ready to go. Mike Leeman has already received some questions which he will collate and pass on to Stephen before the hustings take place. Craig has produced posters to be displayed locally and online.

King's Place Update. Frazer had a call from Evelyn Kilmurry. The next steps that she sees is to arrange a meeting between residents and local groups and businesses to have a discussion. She wanted to reiterate that they have not forgotten about King's Place.

ACTION: Stephen to arrange meeting before the hustings and confirm a chair. Mike to send all received questions to Stephen.

372.3 Police report

As no police could be in attendance there was no report this month.

372.4 Town Hall Update

There is a meeting arranged between Peter Watton and a selection of local groups of which PCC is one. This will take place on Thursday 28th November where a discussion will be had about next steps so that the wider community can be informed.

ACTION: Lee Kindness to attend on behalf of PCC

372. 5 Other Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – £1811.66 in the account. Only movement was a reimbursement of £56.88 for domain name registration. In the savings account there is £1259.31 which is the lights fund. A question was asked about Christmas – (see AOB) so an action is taken that PCC to get in touch with the businesses that raised the money to see how they would like it to be spent.

b. Neighbourhood Network – nothing much to report as the Neighbourhood Network needs to the ones that instigate a meeting.

c. Planning – Nothing significant to report. The meeting for the LDP 2030 has been delayed until the new year due to the general election. However see AOB for the Straiton Place Park decision



d. Joppa Tennis Courts – There is a plan in place to resurface the courts and an application for funding is in at the moment

d. Councillors

Nothing further to report from Cllr. Child

372.6 Safer Routes to School

Catherine and Ruth drafted the letter which was sent by the secretary to Cllr Lesley McInnes at CEC. The letter will also be published on the website. Whilst there has not been an official reply Cllr Kate Campbell was able to speak to Cllr. McInnes's policy advisor who said the following

MOTIONS

9.1 by the Green Group – Safe Cycle Journeys to School

- Request for more double yellow lines – Road Safety to check suitability/progress
- Review and update Duddingston's Travel Plan – Road Safety to actively engage with the school and request greater enforcement of 'School Keep Clear' and double parking
- Duddingston Road to be incorporated into the ATAP commitment to review on street cycling facilities (within existing 5-year plan) – Phil Noble
- Agreement made to provide a written update to both deputation and Committee as to what will be done in response to the issues raised – Road Safety / Active Travel

The road safety and active travel manager also gave Cllr. Campbell this information:

The Road Safety team is in the process of reviewing all 40mph speed limits in the city. An update on this was provided to the T&E Committee on 11 October as part of the Business Bulletin. It is intended to report to T&E Committee on the outcomes of the review in February next year.

Denise from Brunstane Primary asked about the implications and asked to be sent details.

Catherine met with parents from Duddingston school and talked to Cllr. Claire Miller and Lorna Henderson. They were told things are moving but slowly as it may need to take place in the next budget so meaning that there could be a long delay of many years. Parson's Green are involved with Sustrans and looking at cycle links and also working with Places For Everyone to help design this. Places for Everyone are keen to speak to PCC about how they can help so Catherine is meeting with them on 17th December where she will invite them to the January meeting.

It was also suggested that a separate project is built on Basecamp where all of the parent councils can work together to share what they are doing and help expediate any plans.

ACTION: Mike to send details to Denise. Catherine to Invite Places for Everyone to the January PCC meeting. Lee to set up a Basecamp project and invite the parent councils from local schools to become involved.

372.7 Brunstane Road Drop In

It was well attended (approx. 250 people) As well as Brunstane Road there was also discussion about the new houses that were being built of Milton Road East and what that would mean for traffic. Cllr. Maureen Child said that all of the thoughts that were taken from the drop in were currently being reviewed and this should hopefully lead to some more concrete proposals. She will chase up Evelyn Kilmurry to find out timescales.

Lee Kindness asked if we should be putting something together before this or wait to see what the proposals came up with.

Stephen Hawkins suggested that we need to take a holistic view of the whole of Portobello as whatever the outcomes there will be a knock-on effect across the area.

ACTION: Wait to hear back from Cllr. Child and then take a decision on next steps as a Community Council.

372.8 Feedback from Induction Session and Communication from PCC



Everyone that attended felt that the induction session was worthwhile and it would be good for all to attend the next time. In general it was good to see a breadth of people there but there was still a lack of younger people. This is also reflected in PCC so Esther will invite pupils from Portobello high School to attend the next meeting. It also brings up the point about how proactive and reactive we should be as a community council. It was also asked about should we be more involved with the EACC (Edinburgh Association of Community Councils). Lee said that he had been to some meetings and will post the next meetings when he is advised of them as anyone can attend.

Communication. There was discussion around what happens to communication that comes into the main mailbox. It was explained that anything non-relevant is deleted, anything else is either placed onto Basecamp for review or straight to the website.

It was asked about sending official correspondence from the Community Council. At the moment the procedure is to send a PDF copy of any letter from a personal email address and CC in secretary@portobellocc.org. The question was asked if this could be sent from an office bearer email address. After some technical discussion it was agreed that Lee, Geoff and Mike would discuss to find out cost and time implication of this so a decision could be made at the next meeting. Until then Mike is happy to send out any letters from his email address.

It was asked that a treasurer email address be set up as well.

ACTION: Esther to invite pupils from Portobello High School to the January meeting. Lee, Geoff and Mike to report back on feasibility of sending from an office bearers email address.

372.9 AOB

As part of the treasurers report a discussion was had around the Lights Fund and Christmas decoration provision in general. It was confirmed that there will be no tree from the council. Whilst PCC holds the light fund for local businesses it was felt that this year it may be too late to get permission and spend it correctly. An action was taken to put in the March meeting a discussion around Christmas 2020 and how PCC can help the community to arrange something more than the present lights. John Cleland will ask a contact of his if they could provide a Christmas tree for this year but may well be too short notice to arrange.

ACTION: Mike to put Christmas on the agenda in March. John to see if his contact can provide a tree for 2019.

Straiton Place Park. The fact that the license for a new van had been awarded was discussed and it was felt that whilst there was consultation on the licence there was no consultation or even advance notice of the awarding of the pitch provision. Frazer felt that as a community council we need to write a letter to the Head of Parks to represent our dismay at the process involved.

ACTION: PCC to draft a letter to be sent to the Head of Parks

The 372nd PCC meeting was closed.

There is no meeting in December

The next meeting is Monday 27th January 2020