



Minutes of the 376th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 28th September 2020

Present: Mike Leeman, Craig McIntrye, Lee Kindness, Frazer McNaughton, John Cleland, Laurie Berrie, Rhys Nealon, Stephen Hawkins, Geoff Lynn, Ruth Wallace, Miranda Hurst, Catherine Etoe, Esther Gray, Elaine Murray

Apologies: Miranda Hurst, Cllr Mary Campbell

In Attendance: Cllr Maureen Child, Cllr Callum Laidlaw, Cllr Kate Campbell, and 12 members of the public

376.1 Chair's Welcome & Introductions

Lee Kindness welcomed everyone and there were introductions. Mike Leeman explained how the meeting would work as it was online and if anyone wanted to say something to raise a virtual hand and we would work through the questions and statements.

376.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed.

The George – Cllr Maureen Child Has received a note from Daniel Lodge (Planning Officer) to say works had been carried out to explore what needed to be done to make the building safe and they were waiting on results.

Police. Mike reported back that he was in dialogue with Police Scotland on setting up a virtual meeting for the community. The new Community Police Officer, PC Gareth Deering was not able to join this meeting due to a restriction on Police Scotland using MS Teams but had asked for it to be known that Police Scotland have been monitoring traffic speeds across Portobello and would continue to do so. Also in October they plan to roll out an Operation Close Pass (educating drivers on how to pass cyclists on the road with enough space). He also said that if anyone had anything specific that they would like raised to alert the Secretary (secretayr@portboellocc.org) to pass onto him.

Spaces For People – The new markings and parking restrictions have been put at the bottom of Kings Place. This is separate to the ongoing dialogue about and with the caravans. Cllr Callum Laidlaw said he understands that positive dialogue about moving the caravans and helping rehome the occupants was ongoing. Lee pointed out that since the resurfacing on Seafield Road the yellow lines had not been repainted so more vehicles were parking on the entrance to the Prom. Cllr Kate Campbell was going to raise this.

A spokesperson from Spokes Porty wanted it to be known that despite the double yellow lines on King's Place people were still parking so enforcement was needed. Spokes Porty is very please with the marking but still feel the caravans cause a problem of access for all.

Glenn Innes from Portobello Baptist Church asked questions on if hearses would be allowed access for funerals (there are currently Spaces For People Bollards outside of the Baptist Church) and were cyclists allowed inside of the bollards. Lee confirmed cyclists were not allowed and Cllr. Kate Campbell said she would find out the answer to the funeral question.

Catherine Etoe asked for an update on Duddingston Road and Brighton Place. Cllr. Kate Campbell confirmed that Duddingston Road was ready but needed a contractor to carry out the works and that she would look into the Brighton Place question.

Members of the public also raise concerns about lack of enforcement on illegal parking and speeding. Cllr. Kate Campbell encouraged everyone to keep feeding back to the Spaces for People teams so that they can continue to monitor and improve if possible.

Frazer McNaughton brought up fact that continuing discussions needed to keep in mind the wider picture across Portobello discussing placemaking and Active Travel. When a workshop was run in the Wash House the chief architect also agreed this should be in place. Lee suggested that this needed to be an action to look at what other Active Travel points could be addressed in Portobello. Catherine volunteered to run this action



and Lee to help her. Spokes Party have already done some mapping so suggested that they could feed into the project and Frazer pointed out there could be some funding from Sustrans.

ACTION: Catherine to look into Active Travel and Placemaking

376.3 Speeding Issues in Portobello

See above re Spaces For People.

Speeding – Cllr. Callum Laidlaw expects the follow up to what measures can be put in place along the High Street to come shortly and he will chase up before the next meeting.

ACTION – Craig and Cllr. Laidlaw to report back in the October meeting

376.4 Toilets Proposal

No progress on looking at the toilet concession plan but needed to be worked on.

ACTION – Stephen, Craig, John and Frazer to meet virtually to discuss for the next meeting

376.5 a Treasurer's Report

The PCC current account sits at £ 1848.45 with one payment since the last meeting of £420.55 which was reimbursement for the Basecamp fees. It was suggested that these now be claimed quarterly.

The Trader's account is £ 1259.78.

Stephen has obtained a quote of £297.72 to resecure the notice board and also made an insurance claim. The excess will be £100 equally shared between PCC and Portobello Amenity Society. This incident has highlighted that there is not certainty about the number of boards and responsibility for them. Stephen has asked for information from previous PCC members.

There was a question of if we should be paying for Basecamp as there are free options. Consensus was that we have the grant to pay for such things and that it was working so we would keep using it.

There was also a question about holding the Traders Account money. It was agreed that we would contact the Traders in the area to get them involved with coming up with some ideas. Elaine and Rhys agreed to run this and a separate Basecamp discussion could be set up.

ACTION: Stephen to report back on the Notice Boards at the next meeting

ACTION: Elaine and Rhys to contact the traders and set up a discussion around what to do with the funds that the community council are holding for them

376.5 b Neighbourhood Network

Nothing to report. Cllr. Laidlaw has discussed with the Neighbourhood Network team and they will be putting out some ideas soon.

376.5 c Planning

Dalriada – The planning applications have now been withdrawn and the sale has gone to a private individual. The site has been made secure.

Advertising Stance – It was agreed to highlight this application on the website. There were questions on the location and viability but no specific concerns. No commentary was needed from the Community Council.

Boathouse – It was agreed to advertise the application on the website. No commentary was needed from the Community Council. Frazer asked a question about the lack of design on the West Elevation. The owner of the Boathouse went through the process he has been in with the Council re the design and was happy to share with Frazer further documents.

ACTION: Notices of Applications for the Advertising Stance and the Boathouse to be put onto the PCC website.

376.6 d Councillors



Cllr. Laidlaw has confirmed that the bushes around Rosefield Park will be cut back, but does not have timescale.

No other updates.

376.7 Proposed AGM Timing

It was agreed to hold the AGM on Monday 12th October at 7.30pm via MS Teams.

ACTION: Mike to produce Agenda.

376.12 AOB

Lee discussed the fact that Reid's Amusements were now going to run their Charity day event on Thursday 15th October in the Afternoon.

John Cleland talked about Giant Hogweed that had been seen near Brunstane Burn and wanted to highlight for it to be dealt with. The councillors asked him to email the specific location.

Mike talked through that the Council had recently completed an investigation into Code of Conduct about a community councillor in another area. The full report can be read here but the main takeaways were that all Community Councils should be aware of using Social Media and that the investigation process does work.

The 376th PCC meeting was closed at 20:40

The next meeting is Monday 26th October 2020 at 7.30pm

The AGM will be held on Monday 12th October 2020