Minutes of the 386th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 27th September 2021 AGREED

Present: Mike Leeman (Secretary), Lee Kindness (Co-Chair), Craig McIntyre (Co-Chair), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer)(PAS), Frazer McNaughton, Rhys Nealon (Duddingston PS), Esther Clayton, Elaine Murray

Apologies: Geoff Lynn (Towerbank PS), Tommy Sheppard MP, Catherine Etoe (B&RRA), Laurie Berrie, Cllr. Mary Campbell

In Attendance:, Cllr Kate Campbell, Cllr. Maureen Child, Cllr. Callum Laidlaw, 11 Members of the public

386.1 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.

386.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes for the August Meeting were agreed.

From the previous meeting the following was discussed.

Notice Boards - A decorator will start in October dependant on weather

Parking Zone – We sent an update out on all social media

Abercorn Terrace – A design consultant has been engaged and the initial survey will be done by 11th October and 6th December to be the final design and construction to start early 2022. This will be closely monitored.

386.2 (Additional) - Portobello Community Energy

A space was given for Portobello Community Energy to talk about a survey that they are conducting between residents and businesses (separate survey due to the understanding of different needs) about the decarbonisation of the Portobello area and how this can be achieved.

Lee Kindness said that we would share the survey on our channels. Frazer McNaughton asked what the results would be used for.

Portobello Community Energy will be using the results to engage with local councillors to see how some suggestions could be implements and where potential problems could arise.

Frazer pointed out the Local Development Plan and that results can be used to link into this.

ACTION: Promote the surveys

386.7 b Police

There was no one available from Police Scotland but they sent a presentation which Lee went through and is copied below.

Rhys Nealon talked about a notice that came from Duddingston Primary School that the Police were going to step up patrols in the area (and around St Johns Primary) at drop off and pick up times and start issuing more fines.

386.3 King's Place

Lee Kindness pointed out that this should have been King's Road but updated on the fact that three caravans in King's Place so the majority have dispersed.

On King's Road there have been further discussions with Councillors, Council officers and Spokes around the options that will be presented to the Transport Committee for consideration. Option 1 is the burn off the cycle lane lines from Aldi and replace with a dedicated left turn lane. Option 2 is to ban left turning for HGVs from the High Street. Whilst neither represent anything great he proposed that we support Option 2; Frazer

McNaughton agreed and asked what the plans were for monitoring. Lee replied that traffic surveys on Brighton Place and Northfield Broadway would continue. Frazer then asked if these were interim measures to which Lee replied that they would be for up to 18 months and whilst in place a proper rework of the junction would be looked at. Stephen Hawkins asked if cars would still be allowed to turn left after the junction, the answer was yes and he also agreed that option 2 would be the better.

Elaine Murray asked for clarification that HGVs would be required to then go up Brighton Place or Northfield Broadway and what the numbers were expected to be. Lee replied that there had been a traffic survey completed over 12 hours and that 17 HGVs passed in this time.

Craig McIntyre welcomed the additional signage that had been put in place so far and wondered if there was through put into what happens with the signs now we are moving to shorter days.

A member of the public asked if in representation that PCC make to the committee can it be pointed out that it does send HGVs down and past a Safe Route to School and that safeguards be put in place.

ACTION: PCC will present a deputation to committee with a view that Option 2 is our preferred but that this is the best of bad options and that work to improve the junction be taken earlier than the 18 month timeframe given be an ETRO.

386.4 Website and Archived Minutes

Mike Leeman asked that the Community Council consider that in respect of tidying the website and making previous minutes more clear that we only keep Final Minutes on the website and the most recent Draft and Agenda. It was agreed that this would be good and we can also start to look again at the library space.

ACTION: Mike Leeman to tidy the website.

386.7 a Treasurer's Report

There has been one item of expenditure on the business account of £56.68 for the annual registration and hosting fee for the website. This leaves the balance at £ 2,298.81.

There has been no expenditure on the Traders' account. With the monthly interest on this savings account the balance is now £1205.40.

As agreed at the August meeting I have accepted the quotation from The Home Service for the repainting of the sign boards with a possible start date of early October.

386.7 b Police

See above

386.7 c Planning

Lee Kindness pointed out that the Portobello Sands planning application had been approved.

385.7 d Councillors

Cllr. Callum Laidlaw will keep an eye on what is happening with Abercorn Terrace and said that plans were being put in place for Halloween and Bonfire Night for fireworks and anti-social behaviour.

385.8 AOB

Frazer McNaughton asked for the CityPlan to be mentioned. With a particular view on Seafield. Lee Kindness pointed out that the document was 1400 pages and not an easy read. Frazer would like to make something accessible to the community about what the Sea level rise might mean for Portobello. He pointed out that there had been a good talk from a coastal erosion specialist, Professor Larissa Naylor and thought it would be good to arrange a presentation from her specifically about Portobello and Seafield. All agreed this would be good.

ACTION: Mike Leeman to invite Professor Naylor to see if she would be happy to give a presentation which PCC would run and publicise.

Esther Clayton asked about progress on the Joppa Pumping Station toilets as they were looking run down and now the Heras Fencing was blown over. Cllr. Callum Laidlaw said he understood development would begin imminently.

Craig McIntyre said that he met with the person who organised the Winter Wanderland last year and she was hoping to do that again this year.

The meeting concluded at 20.43

The next meeting is Monday 25th October 2021