



Minutes of the 388th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 29th November 2021 AGREED

Present: Mike Leeman (Secretary), Lee Kindness (Co-Chair), Craig McIntyre (Co-Chair), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer)(PAS), Frazer McNaughton, Elaine Murray, Catherine Etoe (B&RRA), Laurie Berrie, Miranda Hurst

Apologies: Cllr. Maureen Child, Geoff Lynn (Towerbank PS)

In Attendance: Cllr Mary Campbell, 12 Members of the public

388.1 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.

388.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The letter about Southfield Place was written and sent

The three sections of the ECC Consultation re CityPlan 2030 were filled in and agreed and submitted.

The action of Traffic with reference to Abercorn Terrace was to be brought back at the January meeting.

Frazer met with the Parks Maintenance and grass cutting team. They have finance for new machines and a better way of managing the meadows process in places such as Trevelen Park. He also mentioned the lack of litter bins and they will look into this.

388.3 Presentation by Elizabeth Robson on Newhailles

Elizabeth explained that she has been brought in by Newhailles House to find out what message people are getting and what it means to be an historic building in modern times. Her aim is to get as many voices as possible. She has placed a questionnaire for people to fill in at

<https://wrestlingsocialvalue.org/newhailles/>

ACTION: Publicise the questionnaire.

388.4 Presentation by Steve Kerr EACC

Steve Kerr from the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils presented on what EACC was about and where he wanted to take things from now. The core message was that EACC would like to reform themselves as an advocacy body and to get a more involved remit with the relationship with the City Council and Edinburgh Partnership.

There was a question from Stephen Hawkins about the time commitment which would be needed. Steve answered that they would meet no more than once per month.

Craig McIntyre said that there was a lot of data to take in from the presentation and would like to see the presentation. Steve said that he would send this over.

A member of the public who was also a member of PAS said that they had sat on meetings with the Cockburn Association and had not seen Portobello Community Council there so wondered if there was scope to have more collaboration. Steve is very keen for as many community councils to collaborate with the plans for EACC.



388.5 Roles & Responsibilities of Community Council Officers and Conflicts of Interest

Lee Kindness explained that this was to clarify some points after some recent confusion. Community Councils make decisions in the public view and discussions take place in public. Actions then need to be agreed so there is accountability. There is the code of conduct which we must adhere to as Community Councillors.

Craig McIntyre emphasised about the code of conduct and that we should all be supportive of each others comments and sympathetic that there will be other points of view.

Catherine Etoe asked, to clarify, if we would bring up where we lived in case it was a conflict of interest. It was agreed that this was not necessary.

Stephen Hawkins asked that on Basecamp people be as welcoming as possible as the more people that got involved there the better.

Craig asked that to build on the spirit of collaboration if everyone can give responses when questions are asked.

388.6 Traffic issues across the Portobello Area

Lee Kindness started by saying that it is felt what is missing is an overall look across the area.

Craig McIntyre said that we should be building an holistic view of traffic management with local knowledge. Stephen Hawkins said for information what he presented at the recent Heart Talk Party event on pedestrianisation of the High Street.

A member of the public asked if it would be worth having a special meeting to discuss the issues. Lee pointed out that we did one just before lockdown in the library in conjunction with local councillors but that it would be good to get a post lockdown view.

Steve Kerr talked about what they had found in Corstorphine Community Council and that whatever was discussed, a clear message to the public was key and the approach was also fundamental as there are always strong feelings for and against such things as LTNs.

Craig said that there had been a lot of good ideas and data from the previous event.

Lee agreed to draw up some visual proposals of what different LTNs may mean for the Portobello area.

Catherine Etoe echoed Craig in that we should use the previous discussion as a base to start from.

ACTION : Lee to bring visuals to the January meeting to discuss the idea of an LTN further.

388.7 14 Bath Street

As this was going to the planning sub-committee again on 8th December it was discussed that in the previous consultation run by the community council 85% of people objected to the proposals and nothing had fundamentally changed. PCC have been invited to attend and present. Stephen Hawkins agreed we should present. Elaine Murray asked if the Friend's of the George could be involved and Lee said that they had a separate invitation.

ACTION: Lee to represent PCC at the sub-committee and present previous findings re public objection

388.8 Pumping Station

Kim Kean represented 19 residents on Esplanade Terrace who want to make sure that the area around the Pumping Station is kept as a public space when the previous toilet block is changed to a restaurant. She emphasised that they were not against the development but wanted to ensure that the well used public space. She wanted to see if there was any way that the Community Council could be involved.

Lee Kindness pointed out that we do get involved with all developments and publicise them and run consultations if necessary. We also publicise all alcohol licence applications. We do not get informed of any outside seating applications.



Stephen Hawkins pointed out that at the Heart Talk Party event the subject of the prom and its use as a public space came up and Craig also noted this as a hot topic and one that needed balance between business and public needs.

Cllr. Mary Campbell said that Cllr. Callum Laidlaw sits on the licencing board so he would be able to inform of such things as outside table application.

Kim asked if the Community Council would support their group with such things as consultations like 14 Bath Street.

Lee said that we were here to find out all of the views of the public and what the broad community view on topics was. Historically we always publicise and that we did not take a view unless a consultation was run.

388.9 a Treasurer's Report

There have been no items of expenditure or income during the month so the balance remains at £ 2,298.81.

There has been no movement on the Traders' account other than an additional penny interest leaving a balance of £1205.42.

388.9 b Police

No one from Police Scotland was able to attend the meeting

388.9 c Planning

The Boathouse have a new planning application in for a new design which is open to public consultation until 15th December. We have already shared this.

New Brunstane are looking to do a local consultation. When we have details in January we will publicise.

388.9 d Councillors

Cllr. Mary Campbell is chasing what the situation is with the damaged groyne.

388.10 AOB

There has been a meeting with the Police about Operation Drift (antisocial behaviour and vandalism) and they learned a lot this year so will be looking to start earlier and be more proactive.

Pipe Line project is still ongoing and not much movement as there have been some internal restructures.

The meeting concluded at 21.13

The next meeting is Monday 31st January 2022