



Minutes of the 395th Meeting of the Portobello Community Council held on 29th August 2022 DRAFT

Present: Mike Leeman (Secretary), Craig McIntyre (Chair), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer)(PAS), Frazer McNaughton, Esther Clayton, Lee Kindness, Catherine Etoe (B&RRA), Geoff Lynn (Towerbank PS Rep)

Apologies: Laurie Berrie, Cllr. Jane Meaghar

In Attendance: Cllr Tim Jones, Cllr. Alys Mumford, Cllr. Kate Campbell & 23 Members of the public

395.1 Chair's Welcome & Introductions

Craig McIntyre 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.

395.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes agreed

On the school pitches: Kate highlighted the hatch allowing public use at St Johns has been locked again due to vandalism of the goals. Discussion- not sure what the next step is but we should explore the issues and keep them open for the community. Portobello High School- not sure what the state of play is with access.

Meetings - will talk about in AOB.

No update on 20 min neighbourhoods

No update on Abercorn Terrace as yet

5G Masts - Craig seeking info from the agent but no reply yet. Watch this space.

Mike still to put the MOU up - Needs to connect with Frazer

Minutes Approved.

395.3 Southfield Place Development - Presentation by Wardell Armstrong

Welcomed Neil and Rob to the meeting.

It is a local scale development so the designs are not finalised yet. Showed a video of what will be happening.

Neil - Director at Wardell Armstrong and a planner and Rob is the architect. HL Architects in Joppa. Looking at the scheme for a few years with no progress, Covid got in the way. Scheme now in progress with more development and close to the final solution which will be put to the planning department soon.



Video is here:

https://youtu.be/-L9i0f_Q6hs

There will be a little more development but this is close to the final 7 private houses with parking for each of the houses.

Questions : Tim Jones on the planning sub committee so cannot participate in the discussion but can listen in to the discussion.

Craig : Constraints of the site are challenging. The approach seems funnel-like and picked up on the electric parking and we are trying to promote active travel and 20 min neighbourhoods so interested in the thought around bike storage.

Neil - it is a constrained narrow site, ideally would be broader but does meet the required standards. In the access statement talking about the plans, the idea is that this would be different and not high density. Active travel there will be electric charging on each lot and the bike storage is there in the video. Conscious there is a bus stop directly opposite the site. Anticipating 1 car space per house. Rob - it is a narrow site. Keen not to have the buildings too far off the footpath but give some distance. PLanners are keen to have zero cars but the reality is not quite there yet. On the roof will be solar power.

Frazer - Frazer- comfortable with proposal in massing and layout, but disappointed at street frontage and the high panels of the wooden fence inserts, which offer little to the streetscape and decay over time. The surrounding typology would suggest houses with front gardens to the street and low boundary walls. Any junction across the existing pavement should be carefully considered and a 'raised table' crossing proposed if possible. Where will waste collection be stored?

Rob - Everyone has a garden store and responsibility. The bin lorry can go up the vennel. Looking at different areas and the planning process is still something for them to think about. Trying to stay away from white render and into brickwork. The fences want to introduce privacy to the gardens. Do need to address some of the details. Trying to be an individual. The client originally wanted high density but they disagreed with this. Aiming for a high end, not quick money making scheme.

Stephen - following from Frazer about the pavement this is a thin pavement - will you think to increase the space on the pavement. At the moment the builders' vans come out but you can see them in and wonder about the blocking of the view. 2 In the discussion with the planners was there talk about the new railway stations?

Neil - In respect of the pavement not currently the intention to do this but take the point re the pedestrian visibility and they are having a good think about it. Thinking if we can lower and can get something that everyone is happy with. If allowed to raise the pavement cannot see it being a problem.



Member of the public - Looks very beautiful - saw a number of solar panels. What kind of energy source can be used to heat?

Rob - It will not be gas but electric. Not at the point of deciding on quite what construction method is there. The whole ethos is to be environmentally aware and energy conscious.

Lee - picking up on the same point about the public transport safeguard on the neighbouring railway site. So given the history of the site the only way of access replacing it with access for a few houses.

Neil - There is not a defined candidate railway site.

Lee - historic site of the station is on the site.

Cath - Reiterate about the pavement as this is a route to 2 primary schools and a high school so a raised plinth is a good idea but the worry about bins on the bin day. Working hard to get the double yellow lines on Southfield Place and to try and make it a safe route to school.

Rob - Time to put pressure on the transport department is now. It is a restricted road and quite fast. Bins will have a discussion later. During construction there will be a degree of disruption in the street - the idea is to get off the street as much as possible. Inclusions of double yellow lines.

Members of the public. Vast improvement on the site and a little concerned on the car parking. Southfield Place is not in the CPZ so there will be more problems with parking and wonders if 7 townhouses will have one car per house when flats do have 2. Also concerned about the access and traffic management when construction is happening.

Neil - Take the point on parking but council policy is what it is so there will be. When construction can talk about the construction method and how to engage with the neighbours and CC to find out where engagement would be.

Doreen - would like to enlarge on the issue of pavement, that area is difficult for those with walkers and wheelchairs so this needs to be taken into account. For the railway station this might have to be picked up on. This is a critical issue and highlights there must be enough space and parking will also be an issue if the railway station opens. Do not want to lose the access of the Christian Path.

Cllr. Kate Campbell - TRO process has been chased and the officer is on holiday but it is starting. Also about the railway but a statement to the community council that this would need to be raised and unsure why the planners did not speak about it .

Neil - really useful and very good and note the concerns and will accommodate them. Cannot see any note on the station from the planning authority.

Craig - Any updates will be shared and put out to the neighbourhood.



ACTION : Find out about the Station.

395.4 CPZ and other parking

Acutely aware of parking over the summer. Cllr. Kate Campbell has made a motion. Had a lot of people coming in touch about the bad parking and took a motion with an addendum asking for a workshop with the police, council officers, community and people and businesses. Kate is not a transport expert but needs to be discussed properly.

Have raised this around the 20 min neighbourhood and want this not to drag on to the next session. Linked into the CPZ Kate asked for more enforcement resources. The next step is to follow up with Paul and the workshop and if people have any thoughts. People need to come together to work things out.

CPZ coming back to committee in October. CPZs are in the the day time so we need to think about this and Scott Arthur is happy to come and speak to the community council and feel like it is important that we have a discussion about the CPZ and feels that on balance there seems to be more people for this and thought that the community council would be well placed to have this conversation.

Stephen - clarify coming back in October to committee is this a scheme to be voted on or coming back for further consultation. Is there clarity in what is coming back.

Kate - do not know specifically. Feeling is bringing back to implement. But not sure for certain.

Craig - picking up on Stephen's point there was an online survey which would be good to know if this was distilled down. So is this a new survey or where it sets.

Scott would be good to speak to the Community Council .

Allan member of the public - was going to say came to the consultation to the CPZ as would like it extended out to Baileyfield road and moves away from the high street

Member of the public - Picking up on Stephen and Craig there has been zero feedback and without being able to see what the results are so not acceptable to be parachuted on us to see what is said. The TRO on Southfield PLace has not moved one iota and this is not acceptable with the building and feels like it has been ignored. SPokes saw a 12% increase in Brighton Place.

Kate - Has also not seen the results and would like to see. The ward councillors did not see it at the time so take on board the points. Love to see the results and for Scott to come back to the committee.

Tim Jones - Scottish conservatives have made their views very clear and Tim also looks at the CPZ. This would be the time to debate.



Mike - Separate meeting for the CPZ?

Craig - Bigger piece on this and so solid guidance. So an interim meeting would be a good idea.

Stephen - if nothing else pressing could make the next about the CPZ. But we need to know a little more and could.

Lee- Use one of the next meetings and an ideal one for the next person. More of a workshop. Sit around at the table.

Frazer - Echoing colleagues that a facilitated approach and need a clear approach and not be confrontational. Keep it broad as CPZ would be narrow. Place and traffic and the links

Craig - When discussing face to face can look at. Something to bear in mind.

Diana - On the point if want to have an in person meeting then hire a larger venue to permit more people to attend.

Cath - could have to hire somewhere. A bigger venue would work.

Glenn - On that if I want to use the building the big space would be available and the cinema seats could be there.

ACTION - Kate to find out what is happening. Get the information and check diaries are aligned and can make a definitive call. Likely to the next meeting CPZ only.

395.5 New Brunstane

Extensive application for New Brunstane across everything. Picking up on this. There are a number of submissions and documentation. Chris has suggested putting them all up on line.

Cllr Jane Meaghar had a lot of visits in surgery and emails about it. Awaiting a reply from the chief planning officer and will update as soon as possible.

Follow up from Jane and Dandara.

Kate - Think it has been extended to 30th September.

Chris (member of the public) - found it difficult and that Bauld Drive has been brought in as a secondary access. This is one end street and turned into a major thoroughfare. Curious that they were not there before. This is a flagship development and at the moment they are putting gas into each building and something does not add up. Will there be further questions?



Craig - Thanks for the comments and would pick up on the previous site presentations. Need to feed into the details.

Member of the public - the sustainability question mark is no real assessment and not enough around energy efficiency. Supposed.

Mike - Do we make a submission or just advertise>?

Lee - if we do make a submission should be evidenced. Publicise and pick out the key elements and make people aware of the road and the energy mix etc.

Frazer - The whole site has planning permission in principle, so this application (for part of the site) is for the fulfilment of the planning conditions that were attached to the consent of that application. Scope for influence over the proposal may be small, but worth noting that the detailed designs will be judged against the Council's policies and Design Guide.

Craig - Picking up on the comment that this is a flagship development so it should not be a carbuncle. We need to engage from a community perspective.

Kate - 2 things - definitely extended to 30th and it is online as well. Also Frazer is right that the masterplan was approved over 5 years ago. The access on Bauld Drive was on the original masterplan as a secondary. Think we can share. Cover the history and where we are.

Geoff - To say as a community council cannot make any representation unless we do data gathering but worth highlighting and putting something on the website and bringing it to light.

Member of the public - Extraordinary that we can put gas boilers in

ACTION : Publicise the application and highlight key areas.

395.6 High Street Proposals

This evening Jane was going to give an update on the High Street Proposals. This will be at the next meeting.

395.7 Current PCC Membership

Miranda has resigned due to time commitment. Thanks were given for her work over the years.

Lee - membership is what the membership is. Elections in a year.

Stephen - Run through to the elections in 2023. Raised about the difficulty being quorate. Are the wash house still a member or not?



Geoff - Support the suggestion to encourage new membership. The main thing is that we gather the views.

Craig - agree and be proactive in advertising membership for next year. Build toward next year.

ACTION Mike to find out about the Wash House for the next meeting,

395.8 a Treasurer's Report

One reimbursement for two month's Basecamp fees has been made during the preceding month for the sum of £35.42. We have also received this year's grant from the City of Edinburgh Council which is £756.74. This is approximately £150.00 less than last year. The total amount in the business account now stands at £1,869.99.

There has been no movement on the Traders' account other than the additional monthly interest resulting in a balance of £1205.54.

395.8 b Police

Kieran Dougal - Area commander, invited by councillor Jones to put a face to the name and introduced himself and talk about what been doing. Have been 9 months, prior was city centre, CID before that. It is important that staff allow people to enjoy Portobello. Good to be at a meeting with so many people. The staff enjoyed the dog population. It's really good to be down there.

A large partnership working alongside the council RNLi and police dogs, motor bikes, horses, started planning 3 months prior to summer and meeting with businesses, schools and talking about responsible behaviours. Lots of intervention visits with previous offenders and also a lot of work with licensees. Had officers deployed on a daily basis but not just on the prom.

Saw a dramatic reduction in calls than previous years. All covered on the Twitter page.

Also a big 27 arrests 136 charges and recovered 76 bikes and £600,000 worth of bikes recovered.

Craig - Just wanted to say a great speech and the activities that have been conducted.

Geoff - thanks for the update. Know police have a system of asking the public for - is the enforcing of the 20 mph on

Kieran - we do look at these and give advice and roads policing was a factor and a number of things were issued. Parking there is limited.

<https://biteable.com/watch/3718098/e0a4ae345148f9a5203a5b6c8a95eb09>

ACTION : Mike to share the biteable on the websites.

395.8 c Planning

Nothing extra to report



394.8 d Councillors

Cllr. Kate Campbell - Another motion was about Edinburgh Leisure making their toilets accessible again. 20mph there was a report that was due to go to the committee and includes Duddingston Park but there is a consultation about where the recommendations are. If anyone would like to get in touch would be keen to hear about the thoughts of the community.

395.8 e Seafield

MOU notified that willing to sign it but working through some technicalities about signing an NDA. Going to the Scottish government for a funding bid to engage in the processes. Putting in a proposal that Malcolm Fraser (advisor to Community Councils) gets a payment for his work. The sounding board is getting put in place and get a face to face meeting to give feedback.

ACTION Mike to put up the MOU onto the website.

395.9 AOB

Community Council to ask about Groyne 4 - Lee was raised earlier in the year, fixed then went back to where it was.

ACTION Mike to write to the Council to see what is happening.

Dalraida - Jane looking into

SHL/Kings Road. HGVs going around the bollards but not heard any more.

Bin collection. Recovery plan to return the city to normal

Portobello Book Festival Tickets from 3rd September from local businesses, the library and Portobello Bookshop. Runs 29th September to 2nd October.

Doreen - the bus stop move has caused concern about the area and cars coming into Aldi and a blind spot has been created. Still a problem. Throw in the idea that the pedestrian crossing if this was moved may solve the problem. Was that considered at all? A solution has to be found.

Kate - such a bad problem which should have been built out. Can see the logic but can see that it would be very difficult to change. Will look into it.

Meeting in person - Craig - Show of hands show that in person. Face to face. Details about the CPZ and diary alignment.

ACTION Mike to write to Glenn to arrange.

The meeting concluded at 21.31

The next meeting is Monday 26th September 2022