



Minutes of the 399th meeting of Portobello Community Council held on Monday 30th January 2023 - DRAFT

Present: Craig McIntyre (Chair), Mike Leeman (Secretary), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer & PAS Representative), Laurie Berrie, Lee Kindness, Catherine Etoe (B&RRA), Ray Notarangelo, Geoff Lynn (Towerbank PC Rep)

Apologies: Esther Clayton, Frazer McNaughton

In attendance: Cllr Kate Campbell, Cllr Tim Jones, Cllr. Jane Meagher, and 13 members of the public.

399.1 Chair's welcome and 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 speak they could raise a virtual hand and we would work through the questions and statements.

399.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes of November 2022 were agreed. There were no actions.

399.3 Presentation Cullross Ltd & Orbit on New Development Proposal at Newcraighall

Alastair Ross and Mark Beaton attending.

CM: Proposed development sits just outwith the Community Council boundary but there is an interest as it will have impact on the local area.

MB : Have a website www.newcraighll.com with all of the presentations and overviews- held first consultation on 11th January and next one is 8th February where people can come along and the update will go onto the website on the morning.

The site is already allocated for housing. There are constraints on site. Overhead lines and the pylon tower have restrictions. Looking to develop as a place first approach (this was shown on the presentation). Form a linear park across the site. A mood board on how you can design around pylons. A slide on sustainability and running costs. Had 60 attendees at the physical event and also online. Main concern was around access and then construction traffic. Speaking with QMU about being able to work with them to allow access from the South. Looking at putting in a 4 way junction on Newcraighall Road. Linear park was well received and the mix of affordable and private housing.

CM : Thanked and thought it was an interesting presentation. Is there consideration for the amount of cars onsite and buses.

MB: In terms of buses, Maingate Medway is the intended nearest bus area. Not sustainable to get a bus through the site. Looking to get an active travel route to Musselburgh. Every property will have



cycle storage. 60% of current residents of New Craighall travel by car to work and so looking at the right numbers for site. Focus is making active travel as good as possible.

Member of the public - question around passive house and what heating being put in place.

MB: 75% affordable and 25% private. Will not be passive house but will be beyond the current building regs. Heating solution is not determined yet but likely to be heat pumps rather than a community one. 'Exhaust air heat pump'. Definitely not gas.

Member of the public - Any self builds?

MB - No plans

Stephen Hawkins : Linear park, to the south is Musselburgh not Edinburgh council - have they agreed to this?

MB: We are in discussions with them.

CM : Would it be good to connect the dots with other developers? Seems a good chance to create a strong travel corridor.

MB: Innovation hub to the South is where we need to get onboard more with. Next Weds sharing more 4pm - 8pm.

ACTION : Share the new meeting on our site.

399.4 Presentation by Porty Community Energy

Hazel Darwin-Clements and Ellen Grunewald in attendance

HDC : Plans for Porty Community Energy - Organisation focused on reducing carbon emissions from a travel and heating perspective.. Have Completed Bike Fest and a heat library and a 6 month bike library.

This year - Active Travel hub - from travel surveys and the bike library. Had 365 people try out the cargo bikes. There is a demand in Portobello to borrow bikes. The electric bikes make things possible to help. Looking to fit out a shipping container outside of the town hall to let out bikes and also a community hub to talk through everything around active travel. Have also started a car share club in Portobello and also lift sharing and last mile link ups. Also looking to do a new travel survey and coordination with CEC to collect and share the information.

Why is it important: Commitment by the Scottish Government to reduce car kilometres by 20% by 2030. Want to look at stopping living in a car park and more of a park. What can we do to incentivise using active travel?

Also thinking about what we need - safer streets for cycling, joined up thinking, exemplary commitment to change.



Open to lots of ideas and conversations about how people can help to influence this. Portobello is in a unique position and an amazing pool of people and so much for ahead and ground breaking to pave the way and make any mistakes to help fix.

The other thing is Cosy Homes. Think there is an opportunity to learn different techniques and get advice on their properties to help make them more energy efficient. To do this are looking for groups of people to take on word and provide a case for shared projects.

For this looking for clear local leadership, joined up thinking, and an exemplary commitment to change.

Cllr. Tim Jones - what are the 3 most important things in respect of energy literacy.

HDC - An opportunity for people to collaborate with their neighbours, understand the future of heating systems and an understanding of the realistic implementations of putting in a new system. Finally Heat pumps that insulation comes before anything else. This is for both private and public buildings.

Cllr. Kate Campbell. - Thank you for seeing how much you are doing. 2 questions. Cannot agree more about the challenge around existing buildings. How much engagement with council officers and how much can the local councillors help with this?

HDC - Make a plea to understand how much communities can get into discussions. Have had talks with the 20 minute neighbourhoods. At the moment there is no money for Porty Community energy and it is completely run by volunteers. There has not been the audience with the council that there could have been. Any communication and help would be wonderful.

KC - Please email all of the councillors to arrange further meetings.

Member of the public - What training is being offered for cyclists?

HDC- Intensive for volunteers who will then train for each person that will borrow a bicycle. Also training for bike shops and mechanics to use and maintain them properly. We do not condone any law breaking and would make sure that anyone who does would not be able to borrow bikes again.

Cllr. Jane Meagher - Thanks, Love the energy from Hazel. Re energy efficiency for homes. What are the possibilities of having different housing types for Portobello as examples. Make a further plea for anything that as councillors they want to do what they can.

Member of the public - There are grants for people to help make their homes more efficient and can you help make people aware so that money is not an object for this.

EG : Home Energy Scotland or the City of Edinburgh Council are there to help.



HDC - Porty Community Energy are looking to help with the smaller side and can point people toward the larger side of things.

SH : Point re Brighton Place - the speed of traffic there is no 20 mph sign coming down from Southfield Place and were you part of the consultation on making things down to 10mph and have you lobbied the parliament on this.

EG : The transport hierarchy needs to be put in place.

CM: If anyone has any questions for Porty Community Energy please feel free to send them through the Community Council.

399.5 Seafield Sewage Discharge

CM: In the latest large rainfall there was a lot of sewage that went into the sea. SEPA advises that bathing is not advised up to 2 days after swimming.

Cllr. Jane Meagher - There was no proof but someone did become ill after bathing in the sea. Officers raised the issues with SEPA. Jane will check with them on Tuesday 31st to see what action can be taken.

Cllr. Tim Jones - I learned there is an app which gives the most up to date info on the area where you are bathing. Suggest this is advertised more.

Member of the public - For balance there are hundreds of people who have not gotten ill so no need to panic.

CM: Agree that this is about raising what can be done to make people aware.

399.6 Plans for a joint event with CEC on mobility across Portobello

CM: There was discussion about some kind of workshop and CM and Frazer McNaughton met with the 20 minute neighbourhood team to talk about if a meeting can be put together. Looking at Mid-March for an event. Also thinking about the Town Hall opening and doing it in April. Comments from the meeting in October have been fed back to the council.

No action but need to decide before the next community council meeting what the timelines will be.

399.7 a . Treasurer

There has been no items of expenditure since the last report at the end of November 2022. The balance remains at £1,686.00 in the business account.

There has been the additional interest applied to the Traders' account which results in a balance of £1206.57.



399.7 b. Police

PC Steven Patterson attended. Not much to report. Most crime has been acquisitive (opportunistic break ins to sheds etc). There are some more plain clothes officers patrolling. There have been more motorbike thefts across Edinburgh but not necessarily Portobello. There have been more complaints about parking; whilst the police cannot do anything except ask the person to move along and alert the council wardens they are happy to take any calls.

A member of the public shared that they had problems with Craigmillar and Portobello Stations not being open.

PC Patterson apologised and said Craigmillar should have someone available Mon-Fri 9-5.

399.7 c Planning

CM - Posted a number of planning events.

SH - With planning applications only have 3 weeks in which to comment sometimes there has not gone on and other times that they have not had. The notifications only go to close neighbours. At the moment what we post is subjective and we should publicise everything except household applications. There has been around 40 that we could publicise and as applications come in then they go onto the website.

Geoff Lynn - reminder on Planning - CCs is only on major planning apps and not getting involved in smaller scale applications.

ML - Suggested that rather than post each individually we post a summary for people to click through. Highlighting any major developments separately. Also suggested that rather than rely on the secretary someone could take this on as an action and send it to the secretary to post.

Action - Discuss on Basecamp and implement.

399.7 d Councillors

Cllr. Kate Campbell - Community Grants are open for application. Transport committee as an update for Kings Road and that works are progressing. Lifts at Coillesdene House have been sporadically broken but hopefully now have a resolution. Bin Hubs are still causing lots of inbox issues.

Cllr. Jane Meagher - Bin hubs. Figgy Burn and breach the banks and 2 local people cleared the grid. This Needs to be kept clear. All local councillors were approached by people concerned about dogs on the beach and anti-social behaviour. An issue that will come to us and rekindle the question of if there should be a dog free stretch of the beach.

CM : Touched on it on Basecamp before this meeting



ML : One thing we said is that it would be useful to find out what action the council can take.

SH: Last consultation the council officers said that there was not a bylaw - it does bounce back to the council to bring in the by-law.

ML : Here is the last consultation. Before we prod the hornets nest and conduct another we would want to hear from the council what their solutions would be.

KC : We were hoping to hear what the public thought first as views may have changed from the previous time.

ACTION - Find out from the Councillors what the by-laws actually are and then consider if another PCC consultation would be beneficial.

Cllr. Tim Jones -One issue. Visited a resident to find out about the impact of the bin hubs and the glass recycling bin. Sat in the living room and when the bottles were dropped Tim was appalled by the noise of the crashing glass. Tim is raising this with council officers and will take it to the highest level.

Cath Etoe - Is it possible to get the traffic light on Duddingston Road and Mountcastle, the traffic lights reinstated but the bike lights have not come on.

TJ - I'll Volunteer to do that and will get back to us.

399.7 e Seafield

CM: 1) 7N architects have been appointed as masterplanners. They are leading a multi disciplinary team to work on the project, including Cundall as infrastructure advisers and Rankin Fraser as landscape architects. There is meeting planned with them on 1st February.

2) Ewan Aitken has stepped down as the chair of the Seafield Sounding Board- a new chair is to be appointed

3) Malcolm Fraser is now appointed to work with the 4 community councils on matters of place design and engagement.

399.8 AOB

ML : Asked if the next meeting should be in person. There was agreement that it should so ML will email The Baptist Church to secure a room.

CE: Gave an update that the Brighton and Rosefield Residents Association walked along Brighton Place with council officers to point out where there were issues, particularly with traffic, and are continuing to work with them to push for improvements

The meeting concluded at 21.18.

The next meeting is 27th February 2023.

