



Minutes of the 401st meeting of Portobello Community Council held on Monday 27th March 2023 - AGREED

Present: Mike Leeman (Secretary), Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer & PAS Representative), Lee Kindness, Catherine Etoe (B&RRA), Frazer McNaughton

Apologies: Cllr. Kate Campbell, Craig McIntyre (Chair), Laurie Berrie, Cllr Tim Jones, Cllr. Alys Mumford, Esther Clayton

In attendance: Cllr. Jane Meagher, and 4 members of the public.

401.1 Chair's welcome and introductions

In Craig McIntyre's absence Lee Kindness took the Chair's position. He welcomed everyone and there were introductions.

401.2 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes of February 2023 were agreed.

Mike Leeman explained that Raymond Notarangelo is no longer able to attend the community council meetings due to other commitments. Mike will inform the Community Council Liaison officer.

401.3 Website Refresh

After several questions about the current website Mike Leeman explained that he would be happy to do a refresh of the website along with Craig McIntyre. Stephen Hawkins asked about the cost and Mike explained he would be happy to volunteer to complete the task. Mike suggested that we run a questionnaire asking what people would like to see on a refreshed website and will present the questionnaire for approval at the next meeting.

A question was also asked about boosting the posts on the 20 minute neighbourhood on Facebook. It was agreed as the cost would not be a great deal to do this.

ACTION - Mike to draft a questionnaire to be sent out and then aim for the refresh to be complete before the next Community Council elections in September 2023.

Mike to boost the Facebook posting on 20 Minute Neighbourhoods.

401.4 a . Treasurer

There has been one payment made in the past month for reimbursing Basecamp fees of £17.45. The balance for the business account is £1,563.62.

There has been the additional interest of 57 pence applied to the Traders' account which results in a balance of £1207.75.

401.4 b. Police



No Police were able to attend but sent a report summarising that there have been 3 housebreaking and 6 ASBOs issued in March.

A question was asked about the site of the old Dalriada as there have been several break ins and reports of people on the premises. Cllr. Meagher confirmed that an Empty Homes officer has been informed but as it is a private residence this is as much as can be done by the council and the police are also aware having attended.

401.4 c Planning

It was noted that there is a planning application for the Argyle Crescent gap site which has been publicised on the website.

It was also noted that the planning permission for the 12 flats above the old Mccolls site on the High Street has been refused.

401.4 d Councillors

Cllr. Jane Meagher - Main correspondence has been the Bin hubs and dissatisfaction with the placement of them; rollout and process not working well. This is continuing to be monitored.

CAB have started operating again on Bath Street and looking for volunteers. Need to send this out on our social media again.

Question on if Pipe Lane toilets are being closed - Jane had not heard. Cath Etoe asked about what happened with the project that we had consulted on regarding the Toilet block and surrounding public realm. Frazer explained that positive discussions had taken place but currently there was nothing being progressed by the Community Council. Mike has since received confirmation that the Pipe Lane toilets will be remaining open

Dogs on the beach - need legal advice and neighbourhood environment advice.

Schools Streets - Cath Etoe asked can the sign on Hamilton Place please be fixed. Been 2 months now

401.4 e Seafield

- The consultants 7N were now actively working on information gathering- this includes getting out and speaking to landowners, developers and interested groups and other parties
- There was baseline work going on with regards existing infrastructure and future needs- including looking at issues of coastal change, transport, education provisions and so on.
- The timetable of engagement events is shaping up with the programme breaking down into 3 general phases: 1) Research and Vision; 2) Design approach and strategy; 3) Action and Delivery Planning. There will be an on-line survey and a project website too.



- Venues are being considered and dates set for engagement events. Phase 1 will include a venue in Portobello but it is likely that phase 2 and 3 the events will be in the Craigentenny CC area.
- Lee Kindness asked if a masterplan team rep could come along and present to PCC. Frazer would raise this and ask if someone was able to come along- perhaps for the May or June meeting when things are likely to be reaching an interesting stage.

ACTION : Frazer to see if someone could come to present at a future meeting

401.5 AOB

Stephen Hawkins attended an interview with the BBC about community led spaces in Portobello which will be broadcast later in the year.

A question was asked about SEPA and their role in assessing and communicating the quality of bathing water at the beach. The existing digital boards were perhaps reaching the end of their days and there could be an opportunity to look at a new system to communicate when it is advisable or not to use the sea.

Mike confirmed that the next meeting would also be in person.

ACTION : Book the Baptist Church

The meeting concluded at 20.30.

The next meeting is 24th April 2023.