



Minutes of the 409th meeting of Portobello Community Council held on Monday 29th January 2024 - AGREED

Present: Craig McIntyre (Chair), Mike Leeman (Secretary), Frazer McNaughton,, Stephen Hawkins (Treasurer & PAS Representative), Catherine Etoe (Brighton & Rosefield Residents Association Representative), Esther Clayton, Lee Kindness

Apologies: Cllr. Alys Mumford, Laurie Berrie

In attendance: Cllr. Tim Jones, Cllr. Kate Campbell, and 47 members of the public

409.1 Chair's welcome and introductions

Craig McIntyre welcomed everyone and there were introductions.

409.2 Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the November 2023 meeting were agreed.

Actions from the Previous Minutes - all had been completed.

Meeting for Beach place took place on Friday - Update to Follow

We received no questions regarding Pavement Parking

Community Consultation response submitted

Vegetation on Brighton Place signs - signs disappeared so no letter was written

Stephen Hawkins will draft up the poster for the CEC councillor surgeries and contact details

409.3 Edinburgh Leisure / Portobello Swim Centre

Background that there were reports that possible closure of Edinburgh Leisure facilities including Portobello Swim centre. The chief executive confirmed that nowhere is going to be closed.

Councillors and officers working on funding for Edinburgh Leisure.

Cllr. Kate Campbell - Cash injection for 3.2m put into the budget. Cross party united on keeping the facilities open.

Cllr. Tim Jones - In terms of toilet provision there are further talks happening with regards to the Edinburgh Leisure facilities being opened to the public again.

409.4 Portobello road safety updates

It has been revealed that the Improvements to the Sir Harry Lauder Road Junction will now not take place until FY 2025/26 at the earliest. There is huge frustration about the timescales for delivery of improvements. These come from the Community Council, the Ward Councillors and SPokes Party. There were also several members of the public at the meeting who voiced their concerns.

Spokes Party submitted a deputation to the Transport and Environment committee signalling their extreme disappointment and concern.

It was revealed that the recent Seaview Terrace/Milton Road resurfacing works was £940K and it would have been £750K - 1m for SHLR Junction medium term measures to be implemented.



Kirsty from Spoke Party - Wrote the deputation sent to the TEC meeting. They do understand that the council is very stretched in terms of resources. However no one told them about the delay and all was expected to start in the Summer. Very disappointed and shocked. 7 years since the fatalities.

Cllr. Kate Campbell has written to Gareth Barwell (CEC) to ask about road safety as there has been a budget of £10m. They have agreed to recruit some staff.

Abercorn Terrace. Team are taking forward as a speed reduction site. It is another frustrating one and this has been put back to 2025. Scheme for Abercorn Terrace presented in 2020.

Brighton Place. New signs have disappeared. They were battery operated and move around the city. So going to ask about what is happening in the future in attempts to reduce speed in Brighton Place.

ACTION: Mike Write letter to the CEC regarding the situation at SHLR Junction.

Consolidate the letters on the other areas and Craig will submit.

409.5 Promenade Etiquette: share with care

A member of the community asked the Community Council to look at ways in which congestion and inconsiderate cycling could be alleviated at various cafe pinch points on the prom. It is felt that a wider debate is needed about how we all use the promenade together.

Suggest that the person would be best speaking to the Councillors, considered for a broader share with care messaging.

Cllr. Kate Campbell : Gareth Barwell is looking at setting up a Prom group to look at the wider problems.

ACTION: Ask Gareth Barwell for a meeting about issues on the Prom.

409.6 Promenade infrastructure is deteriorating

The Community Council and Ward Councillors met with a team from the Council re the Promenade infrastructure.

It was confirmed by the CEC Flood Management Team that a brief for the groyne works is being prepared and once approved, will go out for tender. Tender Returns will be reviewed and a main contractor appointed to deliver the groyne repairs in FY 25/26. A solution to repair or replace groyne 6 is also being considered. At the site meeting, Cllr. Jane Meagher has requested CEC repair the dangerous metal cage urgently, as this poses a safety issue. CEC Flood Management also awaits the delivery of the Coastal Change Adaptation Plan.

Cllr. Tim Jones has asked for more information about the wider issue of coastal erosion. He has asked for the studies to be put in from Musselburgh, Flood Management, SEPA.

409.7 Police Station Closure Consultation

Police Scotland look at the proprietary disposal. The Community Council have shared the online consultation and survey related to Portobello Police Station.

409.8 Pavement Parking Update from Councillors



Cllr. Kate Campbell - Enforcement starting today. Kate has had a lot of questions and concerns.

Ward councillors have met and put questions to the CEC. They are surprised that nothing has been done. Lots of the roads are working but local roads - particularly Regent Street and Marlborough Street are already facing consequences of the narrowing. Sceptical about what is happening in the 'see if it works itself out' - think it needs to be moved on to sorting from the Council.

Cllr. Tim Jones had asked for a site visit from councillors, PCC and local residents. The site visit has not happened. They have not had the answers. Tim keeps highlighting this. Tim will escalate this again tomorrow (30th January) Tim wants to find out what the residents of the streets want.

Esther Clayton pointed out that any question would need to be asked of the wider community, not just today's meeting.

Cllr. Kate Campbell Cannot support an exemption. Pointed out that this is a national legislation.

Spokes Party completely disagrees with any exemption. Rather than painted lines could this be joined in with CPZ.

Questions from the public included: Want to know the solution of dealing with bin hubs as they are already overflowing. Are there any plans for extra parking in Portobello.?

Cllr. Tim Jones said that the council has intimated that exemptions could be put in place but that the meeting between residents and officers needs to take place first.

Member of the public said no need for a meeting but just put down the double yellow lines.

Member of the public should have been sorted longer ago.

Member of the public mentioned this is really stressing themselves out.

Member of the public asked a member of the fire brigade to bring a fire engine and it could not get down. Need an exemption tomorrow. Something has to happen so that a fire engine or ambulance can get there.

Needing signs at the top and bottom of the road to explain the situation.

Member of the public. Cars are getting scraped as parking is not going right. Has anyone measured the roads?

Member of the public wanted direct advice from the councillors.

Cllr. Kate Campbell said we cannot give that advice as they are not transportation officers. However, she is very aware of the strength of feeling and that there are real serious concerns about the emergency services and bin hubs.

It was suggested that as the community council has no legislative power in this topic that all concerns are presented to the ward councillors who have said that they will continue to put pressure on CEC for answers.

409.9 Basecamp Vs Google Meet

It was agreed to take this offline due to time constraints



409.10 a . Treasurer

There have been three transactions in the business account since the last meeting. These were: £16.97 for Basecamp costs; £300.00 for the rent of the meeting room covering the ten meetings until November 2024; and £35.00 for registration of the community council with the Information Commissioner's Office.

This gives a balance of £1,179.61.

There has been the additional interest of £2.65 added to the Traders' account which results in a balance of £1217.93.

409.10 b. Police

There was no one from Police Scotland available for the meeting

408.9 c Planning

We published a number of advertisements on social channels. It was noted that the appeal in regards the HSE listing decision on the George was rejected as the cinema stays as a matter of historical interest.

409.10 d Councillors

The main topic has been Pavement Parking

Catherine Etoe asked about the School Street Signs on Hamilton Terrace. Cllr. Kate Campbell said by the end of February it will be checked to see if it is fixable.

409.10 e Seafield

Still on pause. The project is still sitting with Flood Risk Modelling

409.11 AOB

There is still no news on the Community Council Elections.

ACTION : Mike to write to the liaison officers to ask if they have further news.

The meeting concluded at 21.06

The next meeting is 26th February 2024.