

Stage 1 Portpatrick Harbour Community Benefit Society – Redacted Representations Received

PHCBS – REF 1	<p>I am in writing support of Portpatrick Harbour CBS bid to take over Portpatrick Village Hall.</p> <p>Since it's formation the Society has proven that it is capable of achieving it's goals as a Charity Organisation and for the benefit of the community. It is well run and has the Village needs at the centre of it's goals.</p>
PHCBS – Ref 2	<p>I would like to make representation regarding the stage 2 application for Asset transfer of the Portpatrick Village Hall by PHCBS.</p> <p>When I became a shareholder of PHCBS, I was keen to see the Harbour taken into community ownership. The prospectus for the PHCBS to take over the Harbour stated, “our new legal form is open and democratic, ensuring that the way the harbour operates henceforth is transparent and engaged with the community to whom the harbour matters.”</p> <p>. the discussion forum on their website was closed and shareholders or indeed community members have found it very difficult to openly address any issues they may have. I have had very little communication from PHCBS since becoming a shareholder and therefore are not party to any decisions they are making. I have not seen any detailed accounts from the PHCBS or been notified of their intention to apply for asset transfer of the hall therefore their running of the harbour is neither transparent or engaging with the community.</p> <p>I am extremely concerned that the PHCBS have submitted the stage 2 application, without any consultation with shareholders,</p> <p>It would appear that the PHCBS and the PCC are one of the same, or at least the PHCBS have used the PCC to try and influence the community to support them, to the extent that the only meeting the PHCBS had with the community was the meeting run by the PCC. This meeting was in no way a consultation with the community it was a meeting to try and suppress any opposition.</p> <p>I therefore oppose the application from PHCBS.</p>
PHCBS – Ref 3	<p>I am writing as a member/ shareholder of PHCBS and am extremely unhappy with the way in which this organisation is run and believe you should be aware of the way in which they have misrepresented themselves in their Stage 2 application.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees of PHCBS have decided to submit this stage 2 application for Asset transfer and have stated that this is in agreement</p>

	<p>with PHCBS members. As a shareholder member, I have not received any communication far less been consulted. Having reviewed the original prospectus and the supporting business plan for the fund raise for the Harbour I can find no justification for the Board of PHCBS to seek to take on this asset.</p> <p>Shareholders subscribed to the Portpatrick Harbour Community Benefit Society to bring the Harbour into Community Ownership, however PHCBS within their stage 2 have implied that these funds are presented as accessible assets to support the Village Hall, with no plan as to how the shareholder interests will be protected. Indeed they imply that they can cross subsidise the Hall from the assets held in Trust for the harbour.</p> <p>I would be concerned that the further concentration of power within this particular group of trustees would not be in the best interests of the community of Portpatrick. and as a shareholder member I feel isolated and powerless. I certainly do not feel that Portpatrick Harbour is currently in community ownership in anything more than name.</p> <p>For these reasons I would oppose granting asset transfer to the PHCBS.</p>
<p>PHCBS – Ref 4</p>	<p>I note in the Stage Two Application from the PHCBS with regard to the Village Hall that they state they would be running a cinema in the Hall. As the organiser of the Portpatrick Local Cinema I would like to make it clear that neither myself or the Social Enterprise Company we run in association with, have had no contact, discussions or consultations with the PHCBS. Therefore there has been no agreement to run a cinema with them in the Village Hall.</p> <p>The Cinema is a stand alone entity which as stated runs in association with Driftwood Cinema a Social Enterprise Company for the good of the Portpatrick and surrounding areas communities.</p> <p>We were more than happy to hold the cinema in the Village Hall, however without consultation an organised and advertised a film evening was cancelled by the PCC, who have no association with us. Also at meetings of the PCC it has been minuted that Trustees of the PHCBS have asked for the cinema to be stopped.</p> <p>We have continued to show films in other venues having been disallowed access to the Hall. We are presently in the process of organising the programme for next season with backing from residents, visitors and businesses in Portpatrick.</p> <p>PCDT have consulted with us and we have agreed that we would be happy to work in partnership with PCDT going forward.</p>

<p>PHCBS – Ref 5</p>	<p>I am a member shareholder of PHCBS and the owner of a small catering business in Portpatrick am extremely unhappy with the way in which this organisation is run. The Board of Trustees of PHCBS have decided to submit this stage 2 application for Asset transfer and have stated that this is in agreement with PHCBS members. As a shareholder member, I have not received any communication far less been consulted, and having reviewed the original prospectus and business plan for the fund raise for the Harbour I can find no justification for the Board of PHCBS to take on this asset. Shareholders subscribed to the Portpatrick Harbour Community Benefit Society to bring the Harbour into Community Ownership, These funds are presented as accessible assets within the stage 2 application to support the Village Hall, with no plan as to how the shareholder interests will be protected.</p> <p>, I would be concerned that the further concentration of power within this particular group of trustees would not be in the best interests of the community of Portpatrick.. As a shareholder I feel isolated and powerless, and certainly do not feel that Portpatrick Harbour is in community ownership in anything more than name. For this reason I would oppose granting asset transfer to the PHCBS.</p>
<p>PHCBS – Ref 7</p>	<p>I write to express my concern in relation to the recent Stage 2 application from Portpatrick Harbour Community Benefit Society (PHCBS) in respect of the proposed asset transfer of Portpatrick Village Hall. in the first instance, I draw your attention to Section 4 of the Stage 2 Application in which PHCBS state “A newsletter circulated to the 554 Society membership has attracted a substantial response which is 100% in favour of the proposed asset transfer”. I am a member of the Society as are my son and my husband. None of us received this newsletter. Having spoken to several friends who are, like us, shareholder/members of the Society, they confirmed that they had not received this newsletter.</p> <p>It is my experience that PHCBS do not usually make it their intention to communicate with the local community when it comes to planning and decision making around the Harbour or indeed, the previous two asset transfers it has secured. In 2016, the PHCBS closed their discussion Forum on their website, making it impossible for community members, shareholders and harbour users to openly communicate with them, challenge them on pertinent issues or address problems as they arose. Instead, they communicate by infrequent newsletter posted on their website. PHCBS meet once per year for their AGM in the Village Hall but only Shareholders are allowed to attend. Community members who do not hold shares in the Harbour are not permitted to attend. The only other methods of communication with PHCBS are via their Facebook page, where, if challenged in any form, they simply remove the post or by email, where in my husband and I’s experience, they simply ignore any challenging emails, refusing to respond.</p>