

## **CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL (PORTOBELLO PARK) BILL**

### **OBJECTION 16 – ALEX M HOPE AND MARGARET M HOPE**

The undersigned wish to lodge an objection to the above Bill. Our objection is to the whole Bill.

Our objections are as follows:

1. As elderly people who have enjoyed the use of Portobello Park for more than fifty years we wish to object to the loss of amenity. We would greatly miss the Park as a pleasant, tree-lined and peaceful place to walk and a place to take our grandchildren to play safely near our home. The sight of young people playing there at football and other games both organised and informal also gave us great pleasure and we hope this would be possible again if the playing surface is re-instated after the archeological dig carried out some eighteen months ago. It would also gladden our hearts to think that this green lung for the area would still be around for the use of the people of Portobello and, indeed, for Edinburgh into the future.

2. We are very frequent users of Milton Road both by car and bus. And already find that the tailbacks and hold-ups of traffic in the area of the Park are frustrating. The volume of traffic can only increase with new building projects proposed and underway in East Lothian. To build a large school with its vehicle entrance on this stretch of road would exacerbate the traffic problems and result in unacceptable interference with the flow of traffic at busy times in the working day.

3. We object also because we do not trust assurances that any decision to allow building on this land will not impact on such land elsewhere in Scotland. Common sense would suggest that, if a Private Bill is used on this occasion to try to overturn the decision of the Appeal Court, other local authorities would be encouraged to think that here was a way to get round opposition to similar schemes.

For the above reasons we object to the whole bill.

24 June 2013