

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL (PORTOBELLO PARK) BILL

OBJECTION 33 – JOHN LAPISH

This objection was signed by the objector and reproduced in typed (electronic) form by the clerking team

I am writing to object in the strongest terms to Edinburgh Council's proposal to build on Portobello Park. I object to the whole bill.

The park is part of the town's common good and as such it should remain as an amenity for the people of Portobello who have demonstrated their feelings and have been backed by the courts. Common green space should remain as common green space.

This bill affects my interests because it could set a precedent by providing a process that other councils could follow in order to appropriate common good land and open spaces for inappropriate development. If one council is allowed to do this via a private bill, how can other councils then be refused, as each will make its arguments about the uniqueness and essential nature of its case.

My local open spaces and parks could be put at risk because of the precedent set and this would affect my interests as these open spaces, which I use regularly, are vital to my health and wellbeing. I am particularly concerned at the impact this legislation, if passed, would have on a piece of common good land here in North Berwick, Coo's Green, on which East Lothian council wish to build a car park.

The loss of any green space is a loss not just for residents of Portobello but of Scotland.

21 June 2013