



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH 2016**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair (BM)	Sandra MacIennan, Vice Chair (SM)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)
Angela Sutherland (AS)	Debbie Herron (DH)
Gill Bird (GB)	Graham Murdoch (GrM)
Jenny Smith (JS)	Vicki Flood (VF)
Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made to those attending for the first time.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Andrew Anderson (AA), Chas Rodgers (CR), Fabio Villani (FV), Ian Todd (IT) and Naomi Zair (NZ).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in February 2016	There were no amendments, the minutes were proposed by Sandra MacIennan and seconded by John Bremner.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Host Information – DH is to send to Secretary for circulation – to be deferred until next month. • Maps – only have 2 boxes left of folding maps – discussion took place re payment of royalties to Helen Stirling – only asking for a reprint and no amendments, no royalties due. DH stated lots of non-folded (flat) maps available, suggestion that these be used before ordering more. • Secretary gave Treasurer invoices for both MacAfee virus software and printer cartridges. 	DH
5. Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £4,207.33. There were 3 cheques cashed: £50 for secretarial duties, £72.50 for Rays Opportunities (£50 for the 30 th January Event and £22.50 for catering on a FAF meeting night) and £15.21 to Moray Nairn newspaper for an advert to publicise the AGM.	

	Regular FAF member unable to drive to attend meetings, request from Chair that FAF money could be used to cover the cost of a taxi for member to attend – FAF members present who were eligible to vote agreed to payment of travel expenses. Chair to inform member that she is to book a taxi and claim a cheque to pay for her trip.	BM
6. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Debbie Herron informed those present of the following: Digital project – drop in and appointments available to speak to member of FACT staff or volunteers – Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Tourism leaflets back from printers – photo call on Thursday 10th March 2016, 10 am at the Loft if you would like to attend please contact DH. Skate Park survey closed with 251 returns, support received from Rocket Science. Planning for Real will enquire of residents as to where a skate park would be best placed. At present FACT gauging interest of having a skate park. Conversation with Robbie Paterson, looking for vendors for the Theme Day Committee – looking for support and to see if there is possible interest in a Farmers Market to be explored further. Theme Day takes place on the first Sunday in May. World Host training – proposal in to Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) to support this item – no information received back yet (subsidised customer service training). DH – wifi work in Forres – HIE Digital Team recommended no work be undertaken as yet as there is a BT programme being rolled out in 2017 therefore wait and see if wifi is to be installed.</p>	
7. Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>MTP money was not part of the Moray Council savings and is in place up to the end of March 2018. Secretary met with David Morgan before the FAF meeting to discuss their request for £2,000, which had been previously agreed. David to forward invoice to Secretary for onward transmission to Alan MacBeth at The Moray Council (TMC). GB - Findhorn Bay Arts to send their invoice for £2,000 to Secretary with regard to Culture Day (21st to 26th September 2016) for onward transmission to Alan, TMC. FiB requested £3,000, which had been previously agreed – awaiting invoice. Forres Features – expression of interest and will be in touch with regard to applying for money towards costs.</p>	GB
8. Expo 16	<p>DH gave a progress report – currently finalising photographs for display, meeting with Esme Saville and Cameron Taylor, Moray Speyside, next week, photos used are from Logie Steading, Piping at Forres and these will be put onto a USB pen to be handed out with information. Looking for information to compile onto a short video to showcase Forres and promote the area and to put onto a USB pen, please contact DH with any information. Travelling down on 19th April with Expo taking place on 20th and 21st April 2016.</p>	FAF Members
9. FAF Hospitality Event – 30 th January 2016	<p>Report available at FAF meeting, looking to engage with community groups and in future may hold another event.</p>	

10. Moray Area Forum	Update from Chair – discussed Compact how TMC through tsiMORAY will engage with the community – no structure to engage with Community Councils. Participatory Budgeting – smaller communities outwith the four towns and Elgin will be able to apply for local funding bids and these will be presented anonymously then voted on by participating applicants.	
11. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LC – Film Forres on Friday 4th March 2016 • GB – Findhorn Bay Arts Festival – 21st to 26th September 2016. Ignite - no more funding after September 2016 from Creative Scotland. Summer school in FHCC, drama and circus skills. Visual arts group at Findhorn. Rising Stars are undertaking song writing and recording • GrM – Forres Features (Community Interest Company) – name comes from looking at future and looking at developing other tourist attractions in Forres. Lighting Event takes place from 9th to 20th November 2016, cost in region of £115,000 to run event – received good donation of £25,000 and £10,000 from Berryburn – looking for other grants and with ticket money looking at 3 years before paying for itself and hope to carry it on in the future • SM – letter received from artist Caroline Inckle who will make a wooden xylophone for the Wee Fibbees garden. Ian Bruce is retiring from The Moray Council (TMC). Quiz at Forres House Community Centre on 11th April 2016. • Planning for Real – meeting to decide what to put on small cards used to label places on 3d map. • Rotary has Young Musician in Forres Academy on 22nd March 2016 at 7 pm. • Moray Music Festival on from 14th to 19th March 2016, large amounts of entrants from Forres • TC – St Johns Church coffee morning 12th March 2016, 10 am to midday at Forres Town Hall. Valuation evening at St Johns Church on 16th March 2016, 5.30 pm to 9 pm – tickets available from FAF Secretary • BM – Speyside Whisky Festival, event in Tolbooth on 19th March 2016 Forwards are participating 	
12. Councillors	<p>Councillor Creswell stated that over the past few weeks she has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Compact meeting on 2nd March 2016 – reassurance of commitment of Community Planning Partners to work together – final meeting and agreement made that 3 different leaflets and brochures to be made up • Met new person working at Turning Point, working with people with Learning Disabilities in their accommodation • Integrated Joint Board - governance structure for the new body that brings NHS together with Council Health and Social Care - first meeting on 25th February 2016 with go live date 1st April 2016 – articles in Northern Scot leading up to go live date – met with Aberdeenshire and City as all responsible for NHS Grampian 3 Integrated Joint Boards • Scottish Parliament – discussed Credit Unions and payroll deduction and young people dealing with money in schools 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young Peoples Committee met today • Rezoning of schools • Ruth Douglas replaced Selwyn Williams at Kinloss Barracks • Spoken to Youth Café to take forward wheeled sports • Netrail meeting – looking at land, contact Stacey Lynch who could help with funding and grants • Community Engagement – looking at a calendar of events • Sportshub – missed meeting but they now have office bearers • Kate O’Connell is leaving the Big Choir and Lorna attended a celebration for her • Esme – Youth Concert held on 2nd March 2016 with a large group from Steiner School attending • Forres and Fochabers possibly going to be Dementia Friendly Towns – not sure what stage currently at 	
<p>13. AOB</p>	<p>Jenny Smith spoke with regard to Incredible Edible – invited Mary Clear from Incredible Edible Todmorden, Manchester to give a talk in Forres – requesting money to hire the Town Hall on Wednesday 18th May, 7 pm to 9 pm. SM representing Forres in Bloom (FiB) offered to pay for the hire of the hall (around £50). Incredible Edible is a project to plant vegetables and herbs on unused and spare pieces of land around the town. Jenny has sought permission to plant around Castlehill Church and is looking to engage with people whilst out planting.</p> <p>Chair has spoken to Forres Community Woodlands Trust (FCWT) re the land surrounding Sanquhar Dam.</p> <p>Bam Nuttall have been in touch and have informed Chair that if any material is left over from the building of the new railway station they could upgrade the paths around the loch.</p> <p>EB Scotland Limited administers the Landfill Trust and there could be an opportunity to take this forward – may be an opportunity for FAF to invest money in, in order to apply for a larger grant from The Scottish Landfill Communities Fund – there is a lot of paperwork to complete due to the robust audit trail employed – in principle could FAF be used as means for applying for funds – if within the constitution could see no problem, but would be better with FCWT or FACT. Possible consideration of a Community Asset Transfer.</p> <p>Could apply jointly i.e. Lights Community Interest Company and Sanquhar Loch – joint application would carry more weight.</p> <p>EB Scotland Ltd – notes of interest in by end of March 2016 – this item to be carried forward for further discussion – Secretary to place on April agenda.</p> <p>Vicki Flood – setting up Community Interest Company (social enterprise) called New Adventures for All, an agency for volunteers – at beginning stages, starting to speak to people to let them know what it is about – Community Development and outreach specifically looking at volunteers and volunteering. Noticing that volunteers are shared and researching working with people to become voluntary ready – targeting those who haven’t volunteered before – a questionnaire will be sent out to gauge interest. Revenue engine will be in form of glamping accommodation to pay for this. Company</p>	<p>TC</p>

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

	has to be financially sustainable – community interest company limited by guarantee not for profit with a small board, not a charity.	
14. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 6 th April 2016, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.	