



Forres Area Forum

Minute of meeting held on 12th May, Forres Academy Dining Room at 7pm

Present:

Carin Schwartz	Forres Area Forum Chair
Heather Shaw	Community Support Unit
Julia Barr	Moray College student on placement at RAF Kinloss
Lorna Creswell	RAF Kinloss
Kevin Skivington	Grampian Police
John Bremner	Individual
Fabio Villani	Transition Town Forres
Lianne Milligan	Building Bridges
Cllr Iain Young	Elected member
Tanya McLaren	Forres Gazette
Cllr Irene Ogilvie	Elected member Moray Council
Naomi Zair	Forres BALL group

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome from Chair	Carin welcomed all to the meeting in the new venue	
Apologies	Yvonne Cuneo, Sandra MacLennan, Marie Jacques, James Duncan (later) Cllr Lee Bell, Cllr J Hamilton, Jennifer Collins, Angela Sutherland	
Minute of Previous meeting	Approved Fabio Villani Seconded John Bremner	
Matters Arising	<p>John Bremner wished to record the fact that he attended the Area Forum as an individual and not as a Community Council representative</p> <p>Qwizdom – had been purchased by TT Forres. Carin showed some of the tools that are used in the operation of the consultative tool.</p> <p>Allotment Strategy – Moray Council meeting to discuss on 25th May</p> <p>Nick Brown of NB Planning had been appointed as Programme Manager for Transition Town Forres. Fabio responded to a query by saying that he had put the bid together for a Programme Manager and that</p>	

	TTF believed that Nick and his team would give good value for money. Carin will send out the brief to Cllr Young for his information	Carin
Treasurer's Report	Currently £1353.19 in bank account. One bill paid to Sky Print. One outstanding invoice discussed for total of £5.98 from 2008? and it was agreed that it should be paid	John
Funderfinder Presentation	Heather gave a presentation on Funder Finder. She explained that the software could be an excellent tool for groups who were looking to raise funds for their community group / project. The software works by inputting information as prompted and at the end of the programme, a list of appropriate funders is identified. In addition to the database of funders, Funderfinder includes handy hints on writing funding applications, budgeting, terminology etc. During the mapping exercise and needs assessment of groups in late 2009, funding was the single most important issue for groups. Heather, accompanied by others with funding knowledge, will be hosting 'funding information sessions' in different venues around Forres later this year . The programme can also be accessed at the Hub in Tolbooth Street.	
Calendar	<p>Carin presented to the group a proposed calendar of events for future meetings. For June, it was suggested that Nick Brown could lead a session on Whole Town Strategy (WTS) Although a paper had been submitted to Council on WTS on behalf of the four towns involved in the Moray Towns Partnership, it is up to each individual town to progress the idea. Carin said that communities could not do this themselves, they would need some support from the Council but she wondered if the Area Forum could be a platform to launch WTS. Carin presented a report, 'A Better Buckie' that Nick Brown had completed for HIE Moray. In Buckie, the business and community worked well together as did the Area Forum and Community Councils. Elgin had a Business Improvement District (BIDs). In Forres, there are groups who are working in isolation, and they could be part of a bigger picture. When a strategy is in place one knows the direction to move in, and people become more energised.</p> <p>Nick Brown to be asked to attend a future meeting and give a presentation on WTS.</p>	
Community Planning / Moray Area Forum updates	<p>The Community Engagement group meets Thursday 13th May.</p> <p>Carin, Elaine Brown (Health and Social Care Partnership) and Martine Scott, MC researcher, are working together on a consultation directed towards Councillors and Senior Officers on 29th June</p> <p><u>ME Support Group</u> – Now in place in Moray. Contact</p>	

	<p>Cllr Ross for more information</p> <p><u>Better Community Engagement</u> – Moray was one of ten local authorities to be successful in gaining one of these pilots that use National Standards of Engagement to improve engaging with communities. There are 6 pilot projects in Moray. For more information talk to Heather. Fabio requested info and HS to send out</p> <p><u>Moray Small Towns Partnership</u> – Fiona Limbrey is seeking LEADER funding in July to try and secure match funding to £100,000 allocated by Moray Council Economic Development Department over two years for four towns in Moray (Forres, Buckie, Keith & Lossimouth).</p> <p><u>Access for All</u> Fiona Limbrey is looking at possible funding sources to implement the suggestions from the recent study.</p> <p><u>Forres Flood Alleviation</u> – Public enquiry Knockomie Hotel 8th June</p>	Heather
Round the table	<p><u>Money Advice</u> John Campbell will shortly be starting in Forres on one day a week. He is currently looking for accommodation to base his service.</p> <p><u>Community Support Worker (Engagement)</u> – post has now been advertised</p> <p><u>Annual Schools Football Competition</u> jointly organised by Grampian Police this Saturday Grant Park</p> <p><u>Help for Heroes</u> concert is still on, Grant Park 26th July</p> <p><u>Senior Citizens Bus Trip</u> – Forres Gazette will once again be distributing the tickets end of May</p> <p><u>Credit Union</u> – successful in being awarded £10k to employ staff to support those with debt issues. The money came from Fairer Scotland Fund and the Financial Inclusion Network. Waiting to hear if CU can administer Gateway, a new savings provision</p> <p><u>Kinloss</u> – Allotments progressing, awaiting a land contamination report. The old Spar shop has been converted into a ‘community centre’</p> <p><u>Big Lunch</u> – Brings people together at the Park with the theme of food. Support is needed to get this project off the ground. UK wide project which Findhorn Foundation is aiming to coordinate locally with RAF, TT Forres and other community groups to bring food to eat, share or sell. 18th July</p> <p><u>Northern Lights Teachers Conference</u> 21 – 23 May</p> <p><u>Shen Foundation</u> – Conference 17 19 May</p> <p><u>Farmers Market</u> – Saturday 22 May at Bogton Road</p> <p><u>Chimes</u> – Food event – “Food from Forres” on 28th June</p>	
Date Time next meeting	9 June Forres Academy Dining Hall 7 - 9	