



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2013**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Councillor Lorna Creswell	Angela Sutherland
Ian Todd	Sandra MacIennan
Tina Coffey, Minutes	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Councillor Anne Skene, Fabio Villani and Kresanna Aigner	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in September 2013	There were no amendments and the minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Angela Sutherland.	
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FACT Board meeting is to take place on 14th October and the Chair will report on the outcome at the next meeting. • The purchase of extension cables to be discussed at the next meeting. • Contact with Jo Smithson to be discussed at the next meeting. • A copy of the database has been sent to the Vice Chair. • The invoice for Eileen Greig has been raised and paid. • Councillor Creswell contacted Joe Pirnie explaining that the book is too expensive for FAF to take on. • Council removed all banners at Forbeshill roundabout. Councillor Creswell is to inquire about sponsorship of banners at roundabouts and report back. • Councillor Creswell is to investigate donating £100 from the Youth Fund to a youth group to be discussed at the next meeting. • PVC table covers purchased, Secretary spoke to Alan Taylor, The Moray Council (TMC) who confirmed they 	BM KA CS LC LC

	<p>had been ordered and paid for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretary has written to the Piping Hot Forres Events Team. • Vice Chair to send a copy of 2012 Study of Town Centre Economic Activity by Rowena MacDougall to Secretary for circulation to FAF email list. • 37 High Street to be discussed at next FACT meeting to be held on 14th October, Chair to report back to FAF. • Chair and Secretary have signed and returned change of account paperwork to Treasurer. • Secretary is now on tsiMoray e-bulletin list. • FAF phone directory commenced. • FAF third party insurance - John Ferguson, Community Planning and Development Officer, TMC has spoken to Highland Council and FAF able to join their insurance scheme – Colin MacKenzie at Highland Council is contact for more information - passed to the Treasurer for payment. • Ian Todd to send Forum handbook to the Secretary for circulation to FAF members, any amendments back to Ian Todd. 	<p>FV/TC</p> <p>BM</p> <p>JB</p> <p>IT/TC</p>
Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £3,597.66, which includes £38.36 remaining from the MTP spend, £276 for insurance and 25 – 30 pence interest. Two cheques cashed this month, £300 to Aileen Greig and £100 to the Secretary for secretarial duties. There is the possibility of £1,000 extra in the MTP money as purchase of PVC tablecloths was allocated this money which has not been used.</p>	
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>Proposed projects and costs regarding 2013/14 wanted by Katalin Urquhart, Development Officer, TMC – Secretary sent a copy of Septembers minutes to her.</p>	
Consultations	<p>Schools Estate meeting attended on behalf of FAF by Sandra Maclennan – described the structure of the consultation, few questions will be asked via a Monkey survey, a discussion ensued.</p>	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>35 representatives of the tourist industry attended conference on 26/27 September in the Town Hall. Town Centre people due to come together on 9/10 October with 6/7 people at the last meeting offering to become part of a working party to promote Forres town centre. FACT's role is to facilitate and support participants of tourist group to find financial and physical facilities to achieve their aims. FACT applied for money through LEADER for a community needs analysis – unsuccessful, deemed scope too broad.</p>	
Community Engagement	<p>Disability – Excellence in Access – Alan Beevers – report produced in winter 2009 and spring 2010 by Nick Brown of Transition Town – possible Sandra Maclennan has a copy and will check her computer. Chair thought he may have had a copy and would send to Secretary for circulation. Councillor Creswell asked when Empowerment Bill would be ready - Ian Todd stated ready in November - COSLA asked for Scottish Parliament to slow this down and to discuss in</p>	<p>SM</p> <p>BM/TC</p>

	<p>further consultations.</p> <p>Chair received a letter from COSLA, a request to encourage local communities to identify carbon saving within communities – offering £750 for conducting survey and producing funding proposal. One area locally a possibility, looking at an electricity generating scheme on the outskirts of Forres, currently investigating whether viable or not – would reduce Forres area carbon footprint and possibly provide town with cheaper electricity – volunteer with engineering and green background currently investigating this further.</p>	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Todd – School Estate in Forres. • Angela Sutherland – no meeting of Tenants Forum for a long time possibility that may not continue – possibly Tenants Forum returning to one core group. TMC set aside money for Tenants Forum – money unused for last 2 years, unsure where money is – possibly ring-fenced – Councillor Creswell to inquire about money – Forres and surrounding area share possibly £27,500. • John Bremner – new Community Council elected first meeting 17th October in Forres Academy commencing 7 pm – an inaugural meeting and not open to the public. 	LC
tsiMoray	Vice Chair not present, this item to be forwarded to next meeting.	TC
Organisations in Forres	This item has been dealt with and is now closed.	
Councillors	<p>Councillor Creswell stated that it had been a busy month which encompassed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEADER – allocated funding for Credit Union (CU) for next 6 months – given go-ahead to expand common bond to include Moray and Nairn and allow groups to join – Dave Simmers holding a training ethos session in connection with CU's at the end of October • Learning Disability Partnership Board encouraging those with disabilities to chair meetings • Health and Social Care meeting mergers ongoing • ICT presentation received 	
Review of School Estate and Future Education Provision	To be carried forward to November meeting, Councillor Skene will be happy to answer any questions raised at that meeting.	AS
AOB	<p>Secretary is to write to the Community Councils in Forres, Findhorn, Dyke and Kinloss and formally invite members to a FAF meeting, Community Councillors only able to attend when formally invited.</p> <p>Ian Todd to contact Tracy Rae who is to forward Community Council members addresses to the Secretary.</p> <p>TMC decision to stop producing plants was discussed. The Chair and other FAF members are keen to engage with Forres in Bloom with talk of a possible social enterprise being established. Chair investigated partnership with Moray</p>	TC IT

	<p>College to undertake some groundwork and FACT has applied for Investing Ideas money and Lottery Funding and a proposal to ask local businesses to sponsor window boxes, barrels and sculptures around Forres. A business plan has been requested by TMC. An option could be that FAF could pledge £5,000 towards the greenhouse project and encourage Forresians to get behind this project. To be placed on November Agenda.</p> <p>Kresanna Aigner stated that Culture Day was successful and she would provide a report, she asked that a formal request for 2014 of £5,000 from MTP money be considered.</p>	TC
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 6 th November 2013, 7 pm in the General Purpose Room at Forres House Community Centre.	