



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**

**PRESENT**

<b>Brian McDonald, Chair</b>	<b>John Bremner, Treasurer</b>
<b>Councillor Aaron Maclean</b>	<b>Councillor Anne Skene</b>
<b>Councillor Lorna Creswell</b>	<b>John Ferguson</b>
<b>Kresanna Aigner</b>	<b>Sandra MacIennan</b>
<b>Terry Monaghan</b>	<b>Eleanor Hayward</b>
<b>Tina Coffey, Minutes</b>	

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Fabio Villani, Angela Sutherland, Naomi Zair, Carin Schwartz and Andrew Anderson	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in October 2013	There were no amendments and the minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Sandra MacIennan.	
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kresanna Aigner is to purchase extension cables and bring receipt to the next meeting.</li> <li>• Contact with Jo Smithson to be discussed at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Vice Chair is to send a copy of the 2012 Study of Town Centre Economic Activity by Rowena MacDougall to the Secretary for circulation to FAF email list.</li> <li>• The Chair informed those present that 37 High Street has been let go by FACT as other parties were interested in renting the premises and quote of £16,000 received to fix exterior of the building.</li> <li>• Third party insurance - Treasurer and John Ferguson are dealing with this item and will report back at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Ian Todd is to send an updated copy of the FAF handbook to the Secretary to circulation to FAF members.</li> </ul>	KA CS FV JB/JF IT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary to place FAF Membership on December agenda.</li> <li>• Secretary to return change of signatories' paperwork to the bank.</li> <li>• Secretary to invite members of other Community Councils to forthcoming FAF meetings.</li> <li>• Councillor Creswell is to meet with Steven Cooper, The Moray Council (TMC) to discuss banners and signs at roundabouts. To report back to FAF meeting.</li> <li>• FAF members voted to allocate the contents of the Youth Account, £100, to Forres in Bloom (FiB) for the Wee Fibeas, this was proposed by Councillor Anne Skene and seconded by Kresanna Aigner. Treasurer to write a cheque.</li> <li>• Tenants Forum funding now kept centrally, Councillor Creswell to enquire further and report back.</li> <li>• Chair spoke to FiB and response was they wish to carry forward this community enterprise forward by themselves but offer of help is there if required. Chair wrote to TMC suggesting that if FiB decided not to utilise the Grant Park green houses FACT would renew their interest in them.</li> <li>• Chair attended Moray Area Form and accepted the post of Vice Chair.</li> </ul>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>LC</p> <p>JB</p> <p>LC</p>
Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £3,522.13, which includes £38.36 remaining from the MTP spend, £276 for insurance and £1.07 interest. Two cheques cashed this month, £26.50 to TMC for catering and £50 to the Secretary for secretarial duties. Secretary to send change of signatories paperwork to the bank to remove Jennifer Collins and add Brian McDonald and Tina Coffey.</p>	TC
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>The Chair stated if funds available from MTP in new FY could inform FiB may be able to get assistance from FAF – suggestion of £5,000 - costings required with possibility of match funding by community to maximise amount of money. Fountains in sunken garden condemned by Scottish Water and turned off, possible Legionnaires Disease – possible application to land fill Entrust to have pipe work undertaken or apply to Common Good Fund for money – no costings yet.</p>	
Consultations	<p>Moray Children and Young People's Services Plan (2013 – 2016) will close on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013</p> <p>Draft Community Empowerment Scotland Bill – consultation runs until 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014 to be circulated to Area Forums.</p> <p>We Make Moray – consultation across Moray led by Moray Economic Partnership and Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Moray enterprises – Consultants Sam Eckles and Adrian Lees drafting final comments due in middle of December - developing culture and tourism strategy - deadline for comments 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013. Councillor Skene noted that the online survey website was not working when she had previously tried to access it.</p> <p>Draft Moray Autism Strategy Consultation (2014 – 2024) consultation runs until 25<sup>th</sup> November 2013</p>	JF

	<p>Passenger Forum update – problem with transporting patients to hospital  Stagecoach agreed to consult with Area and Local Forums - due to take place shortly  Integrated Children’s Service - consultation on integration due soon</p>	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>The Chair reported there had been various items engaged with which are under development. Development day took place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October and a Business Plan is being put together which will encompass the next 3 years - to see what is achievable. FACT is a social enterprise but needs to work as a business – lots of work to do – funding needs to be sourced. Currently funding in place till end March 2014 and possibility of funding 1 or 2 Development Workers.  Moray College (MC) which own the Moving On Centre have been approached with regard to the portacabin and the possibility of its use but MC are not able to get back to FACT until April 2014.</p>	
Community Engagement	<p>Anita Mill new Chair of Moray Area Forum and next meeting 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014.</p>	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kresanna Aigner feedback on Culture Day - currently completing evaluation. Findhorn Bay Arts have had lots of feedback from the community all very positive. Giants in the Forest – 700 people in workshops and activities, estimated 1,000 people through the forest including the Harriers and orienteers. Culture Day audience roughly 3,500 people and all 1,200 tickets for night trips sold out. Kresanna seeking funding from Leader for an in-depth evaluation with local businesses.</li> <li>• Tina Coffey – coffee morning on behalf of St Johns Church in the Town Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November from 10 til midday.</li> <li>• Sandra Maclennan – FiB coffee morning in Town Hall from 10 till midday on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Rotary holding Children in Need collections - to take place at local supermarkets over the few weeks. FiB AGM to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> November in St Leonard’s Hall.  Community Council coffee morning in Town Hall from 10 till midday on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.</li> <li>• Eleanor Hayward – there was an informal meeting of the Community Council in Forres last week.</li> </ul>	
tsiMoray	<p>Vice Chair not present, this item to be forwarded to next meeting. Carin Schwartz has resigned and there is a position available. Terry Monaghan indicated an interest and the Chair is to forward information.</p>	<p>TC  BM</p>
Councillors	<p>Councillor Aaron Maclean stated that his month had been quiet.  Councillor Creswell stated that it had been a busy month which encompassed the following:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Based Review – 10 year plan – communities taking ownership opportunities – come together to list Forres priorities – perhaps Chairs or representatives from groups come together to set priorities for the area</li> <li>• Possibility of setting up a community fund – set up 7 pages voluntary groups perhaps all make a contribution to a community fund</li> <li>• Film Forres back on at Town Hall on Friday</li> <li>• Attended a Gateway seminar on how to apply for funding for social enterprises and businesses</li> <li>• Credit Union allocated Leader funding to prepare CU to take on bigger geographical area which could open up membership – groups now potentially able to join</li> <li>• Culture and Tourism – no council resources available for this</li> <li>• Coffee bars run by Council out for tendering, 1 at FHCC and 2 in Elgin – Council looking for interested parties to run them, please see TMC website</li> <li>• Community And Renewables Energy Scheme (CARES) – no funding at present – exhibition at library consisted of CD to watch</li> </ul>	
Review of School Estate and Future Education Provision	<p>Councillor Skene feedback that there had been 8 community consultations in October – first School Estates consultation finished at end of October and another one to come. 8<sup>th</sup> October community Consultation held at Forres Academy, good turnouts all round. Discussion led by 2 advisors from Caledonian Economics – questionnaire launched on TMC website and 1,000 responses and requests by email also received. Primary and Secondary Head Teachers consulted – results being analysed and Advisors and Steering Group felt it would be good to go back to the community. Date arranged is 21<sup>st</sup> November in Elgin Town Hall from 2 – 5 pm and 6.30 – 9.30 pm. Meeting is invite only and those invited will be given feedback on developments so far. Steering group meet 7 November - more consultations back in community – FAF member advised she would attend the afternoon consultation meeting. Second questionnaire out in November.</p>	SM
Grant Park	<p>Community Asset Transfer – possible meeting with FiB who are taking the lead and proceeding on lines of either asset transfer or a form of lease. Councillor Skene to chase up as buildings on Common Good Land – the Chair to send emails in connection to previous conversations on this subject. FAF members unsure as to who will be consulted in a consultation. Councillor Skene stated there is to be a consultation with Parks Department and community as to which areas of park are to be cut. FiB would need to know quickly in order to start work in the gardens. The Chair wrote to Ian Bruce requesting what is to happen to surplus equipment, Ian did not envisage any items would be surplus to requirements, emails in connection with this to be forwarded by the Chair to Councillor Skene who will follow up and report back. Eleanor Hayward queried the finance</p>	BM  BM AS

	charges for maintenance of equipment.	
Dates of FAF Meetings – 2014	Secretary to book first Wednesday of each month in 2014 with AGM to be held on Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2014 – subject to room availability. There will be no FAF meeting in January.	TC
AOB	Eleanor Hayward queried the accessibility to the new Health Centre – paths are being looked at and Councillor Skene has met with Elaine Penny, TMC – there is to be a network of paths planned. Councillor Creswell is to meet with George Alexander with respect to the transport situation and she will report back – it was thought Sustrans money will be used for the paths. The Christmas lights are to be switched on in Forres at the end of November 2013.	LC
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2013, 7 pm in the General Purpose Room at Forres House Community Centre.	