



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2014**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Fabio Villani, Vice Chair	Councillor Anne Skene
Carin Schwartz	Sandra Maclennan
Ian Todd	Naomi Zair
Kresanna Aigner	Gary Simpson
Angela Sutherland	Tina Coffey, Minutes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Andrew Anderson, Carol Shaw and Councillor Lorna Creswell.	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in December 2013	There were the following amendments: Page 4, under tsiMORAY clarification of minutes – “Restructuring completed with 1 x Chief Officer, 2 x Volunteering & Groups Development Managers, 1 x Social Enterprise Development Manager, 1 x Business Support Manager and 1 x Administrator. Application in to host additional post to help develop third sector capacity to provide services for older people. Currently ½ staff off sick and office open when possible. Planning to attract additional resources to increase capacity and enable tsiMORAY to deliver more across all strands of its wide remit. New Board working well”. The minutes were proposed by Fabio Villani and seconded by Sandra Maclennan.	
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kresanna Aigner still to purchase extension cables and bring receipt to the next meeting. • Carin Schwartz – contact with Jo Smithson item is complete. • 2012 Study of Town Centre Economic Activity by Rowena MacDougall received by Secretary for circulation to FAF email list. 	KA TC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third party insurance – Ian Todd is awaiting information as John Ferguson has had no response to inquiries – item open and Iain to update FAF at next meeting. • FAF Handbook has been updated and includes additional changes i.e. 10 year plan. Ian Todd is awaiting a final draft before forwarding on to the Secretary to circulate to FAF members. • Cheque has been received for £100 by Forres in Bloom (FiB) for the Wee Fibeers. • John Bremner – meeting attended last week in connection with buses. A new bus with a lift is to be ordered by March 2014 and old bus is to be traded in. • Moray Area Forum – British Red Cross hospital transportation facilities – ongoing. • Review of School Estates – Sandra MacLennan attended review meeting lasting 3 hours, asked to discuss views and own experiences of school, she felt answers given were not ones that were expected. • Grant Park – Councillor Skene was in touch with The Moray Council in November re equipment, Sandra MacLennan has heard that equipment is not available. FiB have a draft minute of agreement for the use of greenhouses and the use of the garden equipment, use of facilities and keys to shed. • Secretary has forwarded on invoices in connection with Chinese New Year to Yvonne Joss at The Moray Council (TMC). • Sandra MacLennan and Grant Speed have been to see the sunken garden with James Duncan who has undertaken to fix both the wall round the fountain and the fountain and will source the money for materials required for this project. • Sandra MacLennan was unable to attend the Review of Leisure, Sport and Recreational Facilities in Moray meeting on 9th December 2013. • The Chair attended a meeting in connection with Berryburn, trustees are being sought for this project. The Vice Chair applied to be a Trustee but was told only those who had attended a meeting would be considered. There is possibly another meeting to be held in February although no notification has been received yet. Secretary is to draft a letter requesting information concerning meeting times and who trustees are and if there is a constitution or trust deeds and what the charitable objectives are. • Our Lives – Learning Disability consultation is complete. • Muirden wind farm was rejected by TMC and will be appealing to the Scottish Government. Possible community benefit if this goes through – possibly own a windmill if this project is approved. • Men’s Shed has received funding with a steel shed at Moray Waste Busters being divided in half for use by the Men’s Shed. 	<p>IT</p> <p>IT</p> <p>EH</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
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Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £3,416.50 with 1 cheque cashed by the Secretary for secretarial duties and supplies £106.50 and 87 pence in interest earned. The balance includes insurance money at £267 and £38.36 of MTP money.	
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	The Vice Chair and Sandra McLennan will attend a meeting on 11 th February 2014 at which Andrew Anderson will be giving a presentation on strategy for tourism. Vice Chair reiterated the need to prioritise, allocate and spend MTP money. The budget for 2014 – 2015 is £15,000 (£45,000 over 3 years). The community is to be consulted on the allocation of the money. Vice Chair will send the Chair an updated list of spending to date.	FV/SM FV
Consultations	Fire and Rescue Plan - any comments through surveymonkey. Ian Todd – consultation runs until 11/12 February 2014. Noted there was no covering letter on this large document and members noted it was hard to digest – possibly for future consultations it may be easier to have a summary of contents attached and future consultations could have a more participatory approach.	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	FACT funded for 1 year from March 2014 to March 2015 by HIE at a cost of £47,000 which covers rent, IT, accommodation, travel and subsistence and wages. From April 1 x FTE job will be split between 2 existing Development Officers each having a list of jobs pertinent to them. FACT have applied to HIE for an Administrative Officer post – awaiting a decision. Commitment to funding FACT for an extra 2 years (until March 2017) although the Chair was unsure of the source of funding. Appeal for a FACT Treasurer ongoing. AGM to take place in May 2014. A newsletter is to be electronically circulated to all FACT members. The minutes are circulated to Board members only but are available on the FACT website. Chair of FACT optimistic for future with lots of very positive events happening. Tolbooth is not ideal accommodation due to accessibility but alternative accommodation is being looked into. Town Centre Group is planning a larger meeting in mid March. The Tourism Steering Group held a meeting last week and was tasked with feeding back their opinions on priorities. 3 tenders received, Cameron Taylor's tender has been accepted. He will work from February until the end of March 2014. He is tasked with branding and updating the local maps, MTP budget of £5,000 available for this. Carin Schwartz has the contact details for Helen Stirling, the copyright holder of the maps. Possibility that a walking map (Forres Footprints) could be produced, this is to be taken forward.	BM
Community Engagement	John Ferguson is on the group. Ian Todd – Community Support Officer Dawn from Forres working and supporting Forres Heritage Trust to progress Community Asset Transfer in relation to Tolbooth. Gary Simpson, Senior Youth Worker, Forres and Kinloss area based at Forres House (upstairs in the tv room) and working in schools 1:1 with pupils. New P6/7 groups set up and Forres House Action Group developing youth space in FHCC. His remit is to represent young people and to support them to become part of the community.	

<p>Round the Table</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kresanna Aigner – Findhorn Bay Arts Festival (FBAF) completing Audience and Economic Impact Reports for Culture Day also conducting a local business engagement to see the impact of Culture Day, aim to be published on revamped website next week. Last day of Growing Culture Exhibition at Moray College on 6th February 2014. FBAF dates are 24th to 28th September 2014. • Carin Schwartz – TTF workshop from 12 to 2pm on the following days: 12th, 19th 26th February – introduction to ‘free-from’ cooking 14th & 28th February – Confidence to Cook 15th February – Chinese Healthy Alternatives – simple dinners 23rd February - Chinese Healthy Alternatives – hearty breakfasts 18th & 25th February – fill your freezer – simple soups • John Bremner – Community Council meeting to be held on 20th February in Tolbooth at 7.30 pm • Sandra Maclennan – FiB public meeting to be held on 21st February, 7pm at the Tolbooth – seeking volunteers Moray Waste Busters AGM to be held in the pavilion on 19th February 2014 Rotary Club of Forres - speaker will be John Simpson at Gala dinner on 27th June 2014 – Red Hot Piping Forres Rotary Club Young Musicians – Forres Academy on 25th February 2014 at 7pm Moray Music Festival starts in Elgin on 3rd March 2014 and Forwards Forres will be performing on 5th March 2014 • Brian McDonald – Moray Council have said they will try and fund an ecological survey of Sanquhar Loch – person has submitted a tender Christophe, connected with Arts Centre – he has 15 – 17 year old pupils looking for physical/engaging work in the community • Fabio Villani – open meeting on 10th February 2014, 7pm at the Mosset to discuss and ask questions on Yes/No independence vote – opportunity to discuss questions 	
<p>tsiMoray</p>	<p>Vice Chair stated tsiMORAY’s role is to bring together and support the third sector in Moray, and to help third sector and public sector work together. Join the Dots – a networking conference to celebrate the third sector and partnership working – is to be held on 14th March 2014, 10 am to 4 pm in the Alexander Graham Bell Building at Moray College. Booking essential; Secretary to circulate invitation to FAF list. One of the workshops will focus specifically on the relationship between the public and third sector. The Social Enterprise strategy will be launched at the event, and a workshop will start work on a supporting action plan. Opportunities for groups to book stalls in the exhibition area and/or to provide promotional material for inclusion in the delegate packs.</p>	<p>TC</p>

Councillors	<p>Councillor Anne Skene stated that she had been busy with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involved in 2 major reviews including Sport and Leisure and Recreation Steering Group - community briefings taken place and there were 900 internet responses to the online survey as at 20th January 2014 – finished on Sunday • Staff briefings have taken place with 60 staff attending 4 briefings • Hall and pools – information re capacity and usage coming in. Waiting for information on pitches • Educational Review – making progress and results have been collated by consultants from Caledonian Economics The results will be reported to The Area Based Review Group and then made public • Children and Young People Service Plan – launched last week - lots of agencies provide services for children in Moray and the new Plan aims to encourage a more collaborative approach to make services more streamlined • Autism Strategy – 10 years strategy for all children and adults on the autistic spectrum – working document which brings together national and local policy • 3 full council meetings attended - last week discussions included the Western Link Road which was reinstated in the Development Plan by Council • RedCo Milne – Policy and Resources Committee unanimously decided to continue talks • Forres Craftmakers Collective – FACT initiative - good and enthusiasm high, Craft Makers Fair to be held in Victoria Hotel on Saturday 8th February 2014 • 18th February at Policy and Resources the Community Asset Transfer for the Tolbooth in Forres will be discussed • Full Council meeting on 11th February will discuss the Revenue and Capital budget for 2014/15 • New Minister at Kinloss/Findhorn/Burghead/Alves – Rev. Louis and Mrs Elsie Bezuidenhout 	
Review of Taxi Conditions/ Public Entertainment Licence	<p>Taxi conditions – carry through individually. Public Licensing schedule - 6th January to 20 February 2014 - able to give a response online via TMC website. Collation of consultation responses throughout March. Licensing committee meet on 7th May 2014. Anita Milne, Chair of Moray Area Forum will be responding and has asked for a meeting with Roddy Burns, TMC.</p>	
Community Awards	<p>tsiMORAY – bringing together community awards. Letter out in January 2014 proposing 1 large scale event culminating in a Gala night in November 2014. Jenny Devlin is contact person if anyone wishes to get involved.</p>	
AOB	<p>Those present were invited to take and complete a FAF membership form.</p>	
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 12th March 2014, 7 pm in the General Purpose Room at Forres House Community Centre.</p>	