



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 7th OCTOBER 2015**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair (BM)	Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair (SM)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Debbie Herron (DH)
Gill Bird (GB)	Ian Todd (IT)
Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)	Naomi Zair (NZ)
Stewart Noble (SN)	Willie Chisholm (WC)
Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Stewart Noble, Chair of the Forres Community Council.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Fabio Villani (FV).	
3. Minute of FAF Meeting held in September 2015	There were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Sandra Maclennan and seconded by Naomi Zair.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuation procedures within Forres House Community Centre (FHCC) – WC informed those present that there were fire safety audits for the building and unless a complaint had been received or something gave cause for concern, there would be no other checks. It was thought that whoever hires a room should be responsible for the evacuation of infirm persons therein, the FHCC building should also be manned by Moray Council staff and it was thought they would be able to help with any evacuation – item closed. Portable/pop up banners – Vice Chair is to bring a selection of photographs to the November 2015 meeting - item ongoing. Landmark delivery of leaflets - SM has received no feedback as to the uptake of leaflets and is unsure how the four towns leaflet distribution went and if it was well received – item 	SM

	<p>ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burdshaugh – LC stated a letter had been sent to residents affected by the build. It explained the stage builders are currently at with regard to access and egress from the building site. • IT had looked into the reasons for the lateness of payment from The Moray Council (TMC) of the annual fee to FAF – money is in the system and should be paid, IT to check with Andrea McArthur, The Moray Council (TMC). • With regard to insurance for FAF, JB has queried who, how much and when insurance is to be paid with Colm McKenzie and is awaiting a reply. • User led group – nothing heard back from any of the groups emailed – item closed. • Toilets – with regard to the locking of the toilets SN informed members that Craig from the Co-op is locking toilets at Leys Road each night. The toilets in Grant Park are still open and are locked by a Moray Council volunteer each night. SM stated the water to the fountains had been turned off and she was unsure if the off switch was perhaps at the toilet block. SM is to follow up on this item. • Coffee morning bookings – LC will speak with Nick Goodchild on the matter and report back at the November meeting. • War veterans gardens were tidied up on 26th September 2015 by groups of Cadets, Venture Scouts and Tesco employees. Tesco would like to adopt the gardens as one of their community projects. 	<p>SM</p> <p>IT</p> <p>JB</p> <p>SM</p> <p>LC</p>
<p>5. Treasurers Report</p>	<p>Current balance stands at £2,692.54, which includes £276 for insurance. There was 1 cheque cashed: £100 for secretarial duties. There was no interest earned.</p> <p>Chair raised the matter of FAF money to clarify what it can be spent on – to be reviewed at the next FAF meeting – to be placed on November agenda.</p> <p>Secretary to give Treasurer the invoices for refreshments so that these invoices can be paid to Ray's Opportunities.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC/JB</p>
<p>6. Presentation from Stewart Noble, Forres Community Council (FCC)</p>	<p>Stewart Noble gave a presentation of how the Community Council works and an overview of the areas each Council member has taken over. The Community Council is trying to clarify the roles of each group within Forres and how to go forward – IT to confirm with SN a date early next year to meet to discuss potential presentation dates. Forres 2020 Vision – FCC project is asking what Forres residents want to see in their town in the next 5 years. A 3D model of Forres is currently being put together and this will then be shown round town at various meetings which the Community Council are showing to various people with the request that any additions or changes be made by residents to the existing model. Forresweb website – looking for a facility to be developed to allow groups to update their own entries on the website.</p>	<p>IT/SN</p>
<p>7. Forres Area Community</p>	<p>Currently a FACT volunteer is compiling a list of equipment held by various groups in Forres onto one list of resources, which will be on the Forresweb when it is updated.</p>	

Trust (FACT)	<p>Market Place on Culture Day – with shops doing well and the High Street busy – young people took 5 out of 10 stalls to showcase their groups in Forres. Good place at which FACT were able to publicise how Forres can become a Walkers Welcome Town (came out of Regeneration Group now the Forres Business Association) – (national initiative and have to register, cost is £100 per year for use of logo with 500 signatures on petition needed to be collected together with letters of support from various walking groups).</p> <p>If enough interest is generated FACT will come to FAF (MTP money) for registration costs – aim to launch next year. Also publicised skate park – been lots of talk and focus groups over the years, feasibility study needs evidence for a skate park – 38 questionnaires completed on Culture Day although Facebook page has disappeared – SN stated a wheels park could be part of Forres 2020 Vision – lots of factors to be thought through. DH has spoken with Sylvia Jamieson, The Moray Council (TMC) and this could be part of CARS as part of conservation – DH visited skate park in Inverness – could also be identified for Planning for Real.</p> <p>Digital drop ins on Tuesday and Fridays at FACT office – if members of the public require any information technology help and support on a 1:1 basis take on their mobile phone/tablets/kindles - cost is free.</p> <p>Tourism – money received from FAF and Visit Scotland – plan is to over winter design leaflets and work out leaflet distribution – aim is for next year FACT have Visit Scotland money until April 2016. Leaflet to be aimed at adventure seekers – birders, beachers, cyclists and walkers.</p> <p>Seminar about running a B&B to be run on 5th November 2015, 2.30pm at Falconer Museum, contact FACT for more details.</p> <p>FACT newsletter released last week by email.</p> <p>BM –Tracks in connection with Lord Strathcona, Mount Stephen and Dufftown – the Great Canadian Travel Co were supposed to visit with 300 - 400 tourists but they company were bought out and after deadline passed people from Dufftown and Forres withdrew from the project. Decision taken by Fiona Murdoch, Dufftown Councillor, Cameron Taylor and BM to continue to attract people on a joint venture by Dufftown and Forres by creating a travelling exhibition, use of promotional information and a video. FACT would be invited lead on the project for both communities to continue with this project. It is to be discussed at the next FACT Board meeting on 12th October 2015.</p>	
8. Moray Towns Partnership	<p>Next MTP meeting due on 20th October to be rescheduled for 3rd November 2015.</p> <p>The FBA Festival will run for 6 days in 2016 and there has not been the same level of funding, therefore FBA will be approaching FAF for a contribution from MTP money of £5,000 towards the festival.</p> <p>When groups had been invited to apply for MTP money there had not been a big take up. The money is for economic development of Forres and FAF agreed there is a need to engage more with groups in the area.</p>	
9. Three Year Plan/Strategy	<p>The three-year plan was discussed and years 2, 3 and 4 (2016 – 2018) were updated. Any suggestions for any amendments are to</p>	

	be emailed to the Secretary who is to email out plan to FAF membership.	TC
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB – Findhorn Bay Arts Creative Places Awards – there are 15 framed certificates to be placed in various locations around Forres. FBA would like to know if it is possible to have the logo on the twinning signs in Forres – DH informed meeting that there is to be a review by TMC in the first quarter of the new year, it is a complicated process. DH is to email information she has with regard to signage to GB and SM. On the subject of signs SM had seen Henrietta Grant-Peterkin measuring signs at Grant Park paid for by MTP money and designed by FAF as she would like to add additional information underneath about Nelsons Tower. CARS Group – Andrew Wright was thought to be looking at consistent signage. • WC – read out the latest statistics with regard to fires. The amount of vandalism fires has gone up considerably during the last 3 months. • SM – meeting to take place on 14th October 2015 at the Town Hall with regard to the new train station, 3 – 7 pm. Forres in Bloom will be working with the Adopt-A-Station group. 	DH
11. Councillors	<p>LC stated that over the past few weeks she has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Angel Award Ceremony for preserving and caring – reward for Forres Heritage Trust for preserving the Tolbooth • Social Enterprise Awards – Forres did well with Findhorn Bay Arts, Forres in Bloom, Reboot, FACU and Moray Waste Busters winning awards – took place at the Horizon Building • Use of film screen and Town Hall for isolated older people – working on getting a worker dedicated to older people • Consultation on Integration of Health and Social Care along with the Moray 2023 on 18th November 2015, 7 – 9 pm at Forres Academy • Attended a refugees meeting – steering group has been formed includes Councillor Kirsty Reid and notes taken by Fabio Villani and looking at a store in Elgin to store items • Attended a meeting at Rafford – crowd funding project of the stain glass window - £10 to adopt a petal see the Gazette • Living golf – for people referred from hospital, doctor etc to take up golf – psychology about breathing and motivation – pilot so that people next year will use their self directed funds • Bogton Report received in the Council and LC has asked what is in it, she is awaiting a response • Funding for Alternatives to Learning Disability i.e. are there job opportunities available deadline 9th October 2015? • REAP have opened a collection point for Credit Unions – Wednesdays from 12 midday until 2 pm • Linking the Four Towns Partnership in term of Credit Unions and try to generate more interest and to take to MTP meeting by Chair 	

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application to Common Good Fund/Communities Awards – for a clean up, unsure of applicant and LC referred to FAF	
12. AOB	Secretary raised subject of Moray Health and Social Care Partnership email which she had circulated to FAF members. FHCC has been booked for FAF meetings for 2016.	
13. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 th November 2015, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.	