



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH 2013**

PRESENT

Carin Schwartz, Chair	Councillor Lorna Creswell
Fabio Villani, Vice Chair	Councillor Aaron McLean
John Bremner, Treasurer	Councillor Anne Skene
Angela Sutherland	Terry Monaghan
Naomi Zair	Andrea Marcus
Tina Coffey, Minutes	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Carin welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Brian McDonald, Ian Todd, Sandra Maclennan, Andrew Anderson, Kresanna Aigner and Amy Cruickshank.	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in February 2013	The following are amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pg 3 – under FACT should read “Gavin Ellis from the Knockomie Hotel” • Pg 3 – omitted from these minutes was a reference to a discussion on the difficulty encountered with the Dial-a-Bus raised by Naomi Zair Proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Fabio Villani.	
Pre Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes	Fabio Villani suggested that a line is to be added to these minutes indicating the time the AGM closed. The Secretary to update the AGM minutes. Pre approved and proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Fabio Villani.	TC
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanquhar Loch is to be placed on the April agenda. • Redco Milne – Councillor Aaron McLean is to follow up on this item. • Welfare Reforms - the Secretary is awaiting a reply from the Council’s Welfare Reforms Working Group. 	TC AMcL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATV – Councillor Lorna Creswell is to go back to George Alexander on this subject. • Carin Schwartz has put in a claim amounting to £78 which includes refunds for the funding book and mileage for trips to Elgin during 2012. 	LC
Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £2,512.89. Cheques cashed this month include a grant of £100 to Moray Waste Busters, £14.46 for an advert for the AGM in the Forres Gazette and £50 secretarial expenses to Tina Coffey. Fabio Villani asked if this money included the £600 from the Youth Account, it does not.	
Dial-a-Bus	Naomi Zair raised this query last month and a discussion was undertaken on this subject. Carin Schwartz spoke to persons in Mundole and contacted Councillor Lorna Creswell, problem from those using the bus is that when they ring to book the bus has to be on a set route at a set time. Lorna indicated that a transport group in conjunction with the Public Transport Unit are looking into this with surveys ongoing. Money has been set aside to improve this service as it is seen as a good model. John Bremner asked if Moray Forum Transport was looking into this, they are.	
Closure of Public Toilets	A discussion on the closing of the public toilets in Grant Park was undertaken. Although these toilets are run by volunteers The Moray Council still has the cleaning and maintenance of the building to contend with. Councillor Anne Skene stated that a decision had to be made Moray wide and within Forres 1 out of the 2 public toilet blocks had to close and Leys Road toilets had been thought to be of more benefit to the community. There has been a suggestion by the Council that the community buy the building or there is an asset transfer of the building. Fabio Villani suggested that the FAF support a proposal to keep both sets of toilets in Forres open for 6 months in order for the community to decide which one is more important. The Secretary is to write a letter to Steve Williamson, Waste Management Officer, The Moray Council (TMC) asking for both sets of toilets to remain open for 6 months while the FAF explore what the community wants.	TC
Presentations	Councillor Anne Skene is to make contact with Dave Gowans, Project Manager of the Flood Alleviation Team to see if he is willing to come to give a 15 minute presentation. The Secretary is to contact Richard Hartland, Environmental Service Manager, TMC to see if he is able to give a presentation in June on buildings currently owned by TMC. The Secretary to contact Jane Mackie, Head of Community Care to give a presentation on the councils services for older people. There was a suggestion of inviting someone from the Moray Chamber of Commerce, this to be followed up at a later date.	AS TC TC

Youth Account	Amy Cruickshank was unable to attend, Andrea Marcus delivered a letter from Amy with a list of items the Youth Team would like to purchase with the Youth Account money. Councillor Lorna Creswell volunteered to speak to Amy. Further to this the Secretary is to make contact with Amy to suggest ways of purchasing the items requested.	TC
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>Fabio Villani checked the projected spend with FAF members present:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Events Supplies Pool – Kresanna Aigner and Carin Schwartz have produced a list of items to be purchased, this was circulated. It was decided that Kresanna and Carin are to work together to order/procure items required, receipts are to be sent to Alan MacBeth. 2) Forres Credit Union – Councillor Lorna Creswell stated that Heather Shaw had purchased equipment to the amount of £1,500 and that she had spoken to Alan MacBeth who had agreed to a carry forward of £1,500, this leaves £1,500 to be spent before the end of March. 3) Findhorn Bay Arts Festival – tourism event £1,000 for advanced promotion and £1,500 to be carried forward, invoice has been sent to TMC via Fabio. 4) Welcome to Forres sign – the sign is estimated to cost £2,925, Alan MacBeth is taking the lead and this should be finished by the end of March. 5) Chinese New Year Celebrations – the £4,000 allotted has been invoiced. The Secretary is to make contact with Martin Forbes to see if he is able to send the FAF copies of invoices sent to TMC, a written report and photos if possible. <p>Work to start on April/May report on last year then prioritise the 2013/2014 spend. Councillor Lorna Creswell asked what those who attended the MTP meeting thought of it, was found to be useful.</p>	<p>KA/CS</p> <p>TC</p>
Consultations	Currently only one consultation around – Bus Consultation.	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Board looking at the draft Community Growth Plan FACT Board Plan and sign it off as a consultation draft at the AGM to be held on 18th March, 7 pm at Forres Academy. More Directors are sought with 4 places spaces on the Board. The plan will be presented as a consultation draft and the new board will meet in April to sign it off.</p> <p>Fabio Villani stated that the youth project with Electrolab is going well and Fabio awaits a full report.</p> <p>The tourism group has taken off and they had a great seminar a week ago.</p> <p>The conservation area – work is ongoing.</p> <p>Details of projects being taken forward by other groups are to be included.</p> <p>Key priorities are tourism, the town centre and a sustainable income for FACT; many strands factor in work with the young</p>	

	and craft people. Potential for a shop on the High Street as a pilot scheme to sell items produced locally.	
Community Engagement	John Bremner and Carin Schwartz attended the Moray Forum held last Monday. On 14 th March Moray Council is offering a facilitated session to discuss the purpose and direction of the Community Engagement group of the Moray Community Planning Partnership. A Community Engagement training course is being delivered to officers of Community Partnership and Councillors until the end of the month to foster better joint understanding. tsiMORAY is considering how they can best support community engagement.	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John – Community Council Meeting on 21st March, invitation sent to the Friends of Forres Museum to attend the meeting • Fabio – FACT AGM on 18th March at 7 pm at Forres Academy Universal Hall – Too Many Kooks on 16th March at 8 pm Universal Hall – Karine Polwart on 3rd April at 7.30 pm • Anne – Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme has an open meeting, date is to be confirmed – to let the Secretary know the date • Lorna – Awareness Raising Seminar on Welfare Reform on 28th March in Inverness for half a day PlayTalkRead Roadshow coming to Portal Road, Kinloss on 11th April and The Tolbooth, Forres on 12th April from 9 am – 1 pm and 2 – 5 pm Benromach Piping Hot Forres looking for volunteers through Sandra Mclver Tenants Forum event on 16th May in the morning 	AS
Sanquhar Loch	The Secretary is to enquire with Brian McDonald if this is to be placed on the April agenda.	TC
Third Sector Interface (TSI)	TSI's across Scotland are funded to support and promote the third sector and help it link with the public sector. It was explained that the "third sector" is used to describe the voluntary sector, community groups and social enterprises, differentiating them from the public and private sectors. Representatives from tsiMORAY sit on a number of strategic partnerships, and are intending to set up a third sector forum. The first meeting date has not been fixed but should be before the end of March. To be discussed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How to make the third sector forum work 2) Single outcome agreement 3) TSI Moray's Work Plan 13/14 (in draft) - which will be a starting point to invite discussions about longer term plans too Those interested are to let Fabio know if they would like an invite to the meeting.	

	tsiMORAY maintains a Moray-wide database of groups, which is currently being updated	
FBAF – Giants in the Forest	The Secretary to place this item on the agenda for April.	TC
AOB	<p>Carin Schwartz announced that she would be resigning as Chair of FAF and would like to finish before August.</p> <p>The Secretary is to investigate room availability for the April and May FAF meetings, to look at 10th April and 8th May. Councillors are to be given a regular slot for discussion at future meetings, Secretary to put on the agenda.</p> <p>The Forres area groups database to be placed on the agenda for April.</p> <p>Councillor Lorna Creswell brought up the following items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Generations Working Together Workshops to be held on 13th March. 2) There is a training calendar being circulated by The Moray Council, Lorna is to email to the Secretary who will forward on to FAF members. 3) Lorna has attended a Foundation Scotland meeting with Daljit Singh who takes donations from groups and then gives this to community groups. 4) Bill Graham - Findhorn Village Centre next Friday for councillors. 5) Alan MacBeth looking for volunteers and is offering Fairtrade website training on 18th March. <p>Forres Credit Union (FCU) held its AGM and now have 12 members on the board. Dividend payable is 1.5% and the FCU is looking towards corporate membership.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 10 th April 2013, 7pm at the General Purpose Room in the Forres House Community Centre.	