



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2015**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair
John Bremner, Treasurer	Councillor Lorna Creswell
Fabio Villani	Gill Bird
Angela Sutherland	Ian Todd
Sylvia Jamieson	Tina Coffey, Minutes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Sylvia Jamieson, Community Support Officer, The Moray Council (TMC) in Forres one day per week. Meeting moved from craft room to blue room by Forres House Community Centre employees.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Councillor Anne Skene, Naomi Zair, Chas Rodger, Terry Monaghan and Debbie Herron.	
3. Forres House Action Group	Gary Simpson and members of Forres House Action Group were not present at tonight's meeting.	
4. Minute of FAF Meeting held in December 2014	There was one amendment, page 2 Matters Arising last bullet point, coffee bar due to open in March 2015 and not February 2015. The minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Sandra Maclennan.	
5. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabio Villani to contact Anita Milne and ask her to forward invoices for £500 from MTP money and £200 from FAF funds towards distribution of Transport Directory to Secretary. • Debbie Herron, FACT unable to attend meeting, Chair informed all present that nothing had been heard on this subject and Debbie to update at next FAF meeting. • Frances Powell, FACT is collating the Forres online questionnaire. • Forres House Community Centre (FHCC) blue room is booked for FAF meetings for 2015, Secretary queried availability of red room for future meetings with Alison McLaughlin, TMC and unfortunately red room is fully booked for the rest of the year. 	FV DH

for Area Forums and Community Councils	<p>£15,000 per year over last 3 years – invested £7,000 in Piping Hot, Councillor Creswell informed those present that 26 Councillors feel any surplus should be dispersed among the Moray area – if FAF applies for any surplus these funds will be placed into a Projects Fund.</p> <p>FAF received £1,899 from TMC this year, Forums not using this money and there was a possibility the Council may want to claw back some funds. Chair wrote to Area Forums – not a lot of support – money is to be used for expenses by FAF members i.e. travel and childminding expenses. FAF members present agreed that criteria needs to change or new guidelines on the spending of this money need to be written.</p> <p>Money can be used for promotion of FAF – Secretary to enquire as to the purchase of portable information boards and report back to the March meeting.</p>	TC
11. Greenspaces	Chair informed those present all towns (Forres, Lossiemouth, Keith and Buckie) had been interested and wanted to be involved. Four towns were put into a hat and Lossiemouth was drawn out.	
12. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabio Villani – Join the Dots takes place on 19th March 2015 – celebration of third sector working in partnership, to be held in Elgin Town Hall • Sandra MacLennan – Rotary Club coffee morning in Forres Town Hall on 24th January 2015 • Sylvia Jamieson – Older Peoples Group coffee morning in Forres Town Hall on 17th January 2015 • Gill Bird – Great Folk on Your Doorstep – went well over 500 participants attended. Evaluation from last years Findhorn Bay Arts Festival should be ready for the next meeting on 4th February – Gill to pass to the Secretary for distribution. Rough visitor figures for 5 days 12,000 participants and 2,000 estimated for Culture Day. Ignite – Out and About phase for young persons - taster sessions being undertaken throughout Moray • Brian McDonald – waiting for Consultant to come and see loch and hoping for a management plan to come out soon. Rhododendrons chopped by volunteers and waiting for TMC to come and chip the cuttings. Received Moray Health Walks books from Susan Lesley, members present received a book each – Susan looking for volunteers to lead walks – Chair to invite Susan to 4th February meeting to give a 15 minute talk on book 	GB BM
13. Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell has been busy with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited to the Red Lion (Beastie) to perform on the afternoon of 24th January 2015 commencing at 3 pm – poetry and readings • Callum Finlayson, local lad he has a condition similar to having had a stroke – new charity has been set up and looking for people to take part in a fund raiser on 24th January 2015 - £25/person or £200/table (to include haggis, neeps and tatties) includes an auction and raffle prizes - money goes towards research – to be held in the Mosset • Berryburn money is out for release • Councillor Creswell has received complaints about the state 	

	at the back of the museum (bins and railings), she wondered if it was possible to get the Rejuvenation Street Group, Forres in Bloom (FiB) and the museum working together to tidy up the area – before proposing this it was suggested she speaks to Graham Forbes (Simply Red) before bringing the groups together.	
14. AGM	Secretary to send out agenda – blue room to be used for the meeting, Secretary to speak to FHCC staff to arrange tables and chairs.	TC
15. AOB	Fabio Villani was asked to give a 10 minute talk at 4 th February 2015 meeting on Health and Wellbeing Social Integration Scheme tsiMORAY – annual work plan and rolling 3 year strategic plan been written for 2015 – 2018, Fabio Villani to email information to Secretary for distribution to FAF members - due back to tsiMORAY on 16 th February 2015. Secretary requested new laptop as present FAF laptop is very slow and outdated. Members present agreed to a budget of £600 – Secretary to present receipts to Treasurer at February meeting.	FV FV TC
16. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 th February 2015, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre, upstairs in the craft room.	