Minute of the Moray Forum meeting held on 29th June 2009 New Elgin Primary School Annexe

Present:

Alan Beresford (Chair)	Buckie Area Forum
Rebecca Kail	Elgin South Area Forum
Aileen Marshall	Elgin South Area Forum
Barry Taylor	Buckie Area Forum
Carin Schwartz	Forres Area Forum
John Bremner	Forres Area Forum
Anita Milne	Milne's Area Forum
Keiron Green	Elgin North Area Forum

Also present:

John Ferguson	The Moray Council
lan Todd	The Moray Council

1. Welcome.

Alan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 1 June 2009

Carin pointed out that her name had a 't' and this needed amending. Additionally on page 3 there was a typo where it should read carers rather than careers. With these corrections the minute was proposed as a true record of the last meeting held on 1 June 2009 by Anita Milne and seconded by Barry Taylor.

4. Matters Arising.

Although allotments was not on the agenda a brief report was given by Rebecca. The Council have been developing a positive approach to support allotments and a lead officer, John Ferguson, has been identified to take forward the first stage process which is to identify demand and available councils sites to assist matching this demand with available sites . The Cullen Group has now met and local groups are developing.

5. Community Engagement Fund Consultation.

Ian Todd explained the purpose of the meeting and stressed that this meeting had been arranged at the suggestion of The Moray Forum, Joint Community Council and MVSO to look at the new unit and its relationship with existing community groups, how it would operate and what it would provide. The meeting was arranged for Wednesday 1 July 2009. Alan Beresford expressed his concern that he had not seen an agenda. Ian explained the purpose of the meeting and John emphasised that the meeting was being done in response to concerns raised by The Forum, JCC and MVSO about the consultation on the

Community support Unit and was being done in partnership with the JCC, the Moray Forum and MVSO. The agenda would be based on what had been agreed that evening. At that point of the meeting John and Ian were asked to leave while the Forum discussed its position with regard to the meeting.

6. Young Carers

Anita reported that John had put her in contact with the new service manager for Quarriers and was able to confirm that only 19.5 hours were put in the specification for the contract, therefore the carer support worker will only have 19.5 hours for young carer activities. Effectively they will be limited to taking referrals from Social Work. The Council will be producing a Young Carer's Strategy and there will be a dedicated helpline available (30 hours). Quarriers have the contract for 4 years providing 24 sessions of training. They will be setting up an advisory group and they have invited the Moray Forum to send a representative. It was agreed that this be left to Anita and Alan to discuss. Rebecca asked if savings had been made, had they been redirected?

There appears to have been a service reduction from 120 to19.5 hours and the Forum agreed this was a drastic reduction. Alan Beresford asked the group whether there could be a meeting dedicated to this topic. Alan and Anita will arrange.

7. Document Confidentiality.

Rebecca produced a brief discussion paper for the group highlighting views on the increasing volume of documents being given to community groups. On occasion there is confusion over the nature and status of documents for example when groups or individuals are given a copy of a confidential document. What does confidentiality mean, does it mean that the individual being shown the document is the only person who can see or say anything re the document, or does it go to the persons organisation, or to the wider community, does it mean that a group can talk about it but cannot raise it with the press?

Community Planning Partners need to give some thought to the presentation of documents and it was suggested that there has to be improved labelling. Rebecca had provided an outline template which could preface any documents and which defines what the purpose of the release of the document is.

Alan pointed out that this was an issue for all the partners. Rebecca will liaise with John to get a paper to the community engagement group

8. Involvement of Young People in Area Forums.

Anita discussed recent activity in the Milne's Forum where, as part of a pilot, Milne's Forum has set up a working group to look at young people's engagement with the forums. Anita will produce a paper for a future meeting of the forum on this subject.

9. Better Community Engagement

An invite has been received to attend a seminar to look at the successful bid for the better Community Engagement Pilot being held on 14 July 2009⁻ The meeting will be held from 10am- 4pm and there will be a further meeting held in the evening for community activists and representatives. Ian explained the history and purpose of the bid and how the expression of interest was submitted and that Moray was one of 10 selected for the pilot across Scotland. It was felt that the invite should go to as many people as possible and the chair requested that all Forum Chairs should be sent an invite.

10. Community Issues.

There were no community issues raised.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

24th August 2009 at 7pm in New Elgin Primary School Annexe.