

Buckie Area Forum

Wednesday 26th October 2011 – 7pm – Buckie Townhouse

Welcome & Apologies

The chair welcomed those present and noted the following apologies;

Alistair Farquhar, Emma Marandola, Iain Macpherson, Alan Beresford, Tam McLellan, Doug Reid, Cllr George McIntyre, Cllr Anne McKay, Cllr Anita McDonald, Cllr Douglas Ross, Cllr Gordon McDonald.

Present

Barry Taylor (Chair), Sarah Murray (Secretary), Josie Walls, Keiran Murdoch, Ian Moir (Treasurer), David Strachan, Zafar Ali, Sonya Warren.

In Attendance

Cllr Ron Shepherd, Cllr Joe Mackay.

The chair welcomed the new head boy and girl from BHS and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

Minutes of previous meeting

Proposer – Sonya Warren

Seconder – Ian Moir

Matters Arising

SSE Exhibition – the next update meeting is to be held in the townhouse hall on Thursday 10th November. This is an open meeting/exhibition and the chair urged all present to attend as this could provide excellent prospects for the future of Buckie.

Peter Anson update – the chair stated that this was well attended and there were visitors from all over the country. Ian Moir asked if we could put in a request for another exhibition with paintings not displayed this time, it was agreed the Forum would request this.

Leader Funding – the funding request has been approved at the 1st phase and will now go on to the 2nd phase for approval, this is due in November.

Sponsorship is now in place for Buckpool Golf Club Winter League Open.

Fisherman's Hall renovations – Ian Moir asked if the £73,000 being spent is coming out of the capital monies of the Common Good Fund. Joe Mackay answered yes to this.

Moray Forum Update

As Alan was not present the chair read out the update received from the last Moray Forum meeting (see attached email).

Ian Moir stated that on the suggestion of the Forum joining the Moray Halls Federation there may be a slight difference for us as we don't have a community hall as such. The chair agreed with this and said that Alan will get more information on this at the next meeting and pass on his findings to members.

Moray Transport Seminar Update

The chair told members that this event had been a great success and it had been really productive but there was a definite need to follow through with the recommendations and not let it fall by the wayside.

Ian Moir asked if the new '10' buses are low loaders? The members thought so but were not definite on this.

Cullen Dirt Track

The chair read out an update and a request from the Cullen Dirt Track group (see attached)

Much discussion took place regarding this with members feeling this would be a good project to support. It was noted that any funding coming from the Forum would have to be for admin costs only and as Moray Council will audit the Forums use of their budget the Dirt Track group would have to be made aware of this.

Ian Moir put forward the idea that we could use some of the Regen. Groups money but the chair said this was not an option as this money was for Buckie town centre use only.

It was also mentioned that as the group are not members of the Forum would they be eligible for funding from us? The chair answered that the group/or members of the group might have to become members of the Forum, this will be checked out.

It was agreed that we could allocate an amount for funding pending their constitution and all present agreed to postpone any decisions until we can invite one of them along to the next meeting. The chair has agreed to speak to Moray Council for further clarification on the points mentioned.

Speyside Way Race

The chair read out a thank you letter from Leanne Carter (see attached). The forum intend on supporting this race again next year dependant on funding.

Ian Moir asked if we could maybe hold the ceilidh in the fisherman's hall next year. It was agreed that this would be dependent on numbers.

Sonya Warren commented that it might be a good idea to ask local companies to sponsor the event; all agreed this should be looked into.

Youth Matters

The main subject of discussion was the idea of a 'hang out' place/club previously mentioned by the former head girl, Gillian Jaffrey.

Josie Walls asked if this would be the same kind of idea as the previous church run 'Solid Rock' café in the town. Discussions took place regarding the kind of place it could be, with various groups and people making use of it when up and running. All members of the Forum agreed that this is a much needed facility in Buckie and would be well utilised. Sonya Warren mentioned that the kids using it/running it could use it to tie in with doing their Duke of Edinburgh awards.

The chair mentioned that there are various voluntary opportunities within the Forum for the younger generation and that this could help greatly towards University/College applications.

Discussions took place regarding asking 5th year pupils to come along to the Forum meetings in addition to just 6th year pupils as it has been considered that this could be beneficial with regards to maintaining continuity and allowing more progress to be made with certain projects. David Strachan agreed that this was a good idea and he along with the head boy/girl replied that they would discuss this further along with how best to feedback to other pupils and the Forum.

The chair congratulated Cullen Youth Café on their 1st anniversary and said they had made great progress and hoped they would continue to do so.

Community Issues

Sonya Warren said that the Diabetes UK group had praised the Forum on their services regarding the hiring of the Townhouse Hall for their recent Q & A session.

The chair put forward a question to Councillors from Alan Beresford – Is there to be a public consultation this year on the council administrations proposed budget for

2012/13 and if not, why not? Discussion took place regarding this Cllr Ron Shepherd answered that he wasn't sure at the present time.

There were no further issues.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 7th December 2011 at 7pm – Buckie Townhouse

Signed Barry Taylor (Chair)

Signed Sarah Murray (Secretary)