

BUCKIE AREA FORUM
MINUTES
21 June 2017

Present: Linda McDonald (BAF), Emma Marandola (BAF), Ian Moir (BAF), Iain Grieve (BAF), Zafar Ali (BAF), Lynn Curran (BAF), Leah Rossvoll (BABS), Larry Duncan (Radio Buckie), Gillian Rose (BAF), Gordon McDonald

In attendance: Cllr Theresa Coull, Cllr Gordon Cowie, Dougie Annand (SFRS), Neil Campbell (Police)

1. Welcome and apologies

Chair Linda McDonald welcome everyone to the meeting and noted apologies for Cllr Sonya Warren, Gordon Morrison (SFRS), Neil Johnson (BHS), Nicola Warren (BAF), Cllr Ron Shepherd, Cllr Tim Eagle, and Anne Mitchell (Buckie Community Council).

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Iain Grieve and seconded by Leah Rossvoll.

3. Matters arising from previous minutes

Flowers: Still waiting to find out if baskets can be put on the new LED lamp-posts. It's too late for 2017, keep progressing for next year. We need an explanation for 'self watering'. There are seeds beside the memorial (Grant Speed)

Mulch and wild flowers (beside the toposcope) still happening.

Phone: Sonya to arrange contract.

4. Secretary's report (inc. correspondence)

Linda will forward these emails to members:

Moray Community Planning Partnership: meeting 25th September, Anita Milne (MAF Chair)

Jim Mackie, looking for participants in Board of Moray Firth Partnership

Participation requests, Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

Stalled Spaces, community groups using derelict land/buildings

5. Treasurer's report

£9,129 in the BAF bank account, £3,696 in the Regen account

6. Moray Area Forum

There is no notification of the AGM, Anita Milne current chair.

7. Buckie Regeneration Group (update)

A full annual report from each of the four towns is due by September.

We will not attend Expo as we are not convinced of how successful it is for us.

Finances: £10,111.63, £8,104.38 BCK initiative to Regen

This is the final year of three years.

Lighting Findochty Church £3,700.

WIFI ongoing

Website/ phone app ongoing

Mulch £3,800

Not sure whether bomb shelter will progress

The Comfort Scheme costs very little

Dog poo bags have been suggested (improves area and it's a talking point)

Town House, Lynn Curran doing the job, still to sort out the phone

Office 365, check with Nicola how many licences came with the package as Lynn needs to use this.

Ask Forum for views on charging structure for Moray Council. At present we don't charge Moray

Council or IJB/social work – should we start charging? After discussion, we will charge but not the

full rate. Block bookings are an issue, ad hoc is fine. The current hourly rate is £8 (full price for users)

and this will increase to £10.

Chairperson's signature _____ Date _____

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Ian M spoke about the Heilan Line improvement. He has a pro forma agreement for landowners to sign, granting use but retaining ownership. We need a map showing verges, dimensions, allowance for horses/bikes, etc and Gordon M will check with Ian Douglas. Ian M will email the information to Gordon M. Ian will send out letters (after approval from Ian Douglas).

8. Youth Matters

None

9. Community

SFRS - Dougie: not much to report, current crew of 19 (allowed up to 20)

Police- Neil: new in post, not much to report, staff up to full strength

Harbour Advisory Committees (Buckie, Findochty, Portknockie, Cullen): Iain has been to the only meeting so far. Moray Council surveys our harbours regularly.

Money for Moray: £60,000 up for grabs for economic development in rural areas.

Moray Transport: Leah is not on the mailing list so Linda will forward her details to Anita Milne.

Planning for Real (Portgordon): Linda attended, transport was main issue raised.

10. AOCB

Gordon M reminded us that the Tesco money is time limited and must be spent for economic development; please forward all ideas to Gordon.

Cllr Cowie suggested using the money for a footpath from Inchgower to Barhill Road and Gordon M will investigate this.

Tesco lights money will hopefully be spent on a crossing at Linzee Gordon park.

Cllr Cowie confirmed that the permanent lights on High Street will be set to change only when cars require egress from Cathcart Street; priority will be to High Street traffic. Zafar asked if the lights will have implications for the emergency fire and police services but Cllr Cowie assured that measures are in place. There will be a button-controlled zebra crossing.

Zafar mentioned that part of the façade of the Pringle Court tower is badly cracked, Cllr Cowie will contact the council's environmental health department.

Larry told us that Community Theatre Group would like to run a summer school for kids and enquired about funding. For Regen money the project must qualify as economic development, Linda suggested Common Good Fund.

Linda asked Leah how Radio Buckie was getting on, there's not much to report but programming is OK and they've had some issues with equipment, and the kids have taken time off due to exams.

Zafar said they need more youth input. Leah has suggested making 'Playlist for Life' compilations for dementia patients or elderly people, with songs from poignant points in their lives. They also plan to have the Banffshire Advertiser as an audio version.

Larry mentioned the flooding at Linzee Gordon park which is affecting football and cricket, amongst other users. Cllr Cowie said Ken Kennedy is looking at the drainage scheme.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be at 7pm on 20 September 2017 in Buckie High School. Future meetings: 22 November 2017, 17 January 2018, 21 March 2018, 20 June 2018 (AGM)

Chairperson's signature _____ Date _____