



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL 2016

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair (BM)	Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair (SM)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Angela Sutherland (AS)
Fabio Villani (FV)	Gordon Morrison (GM)
Graham Murdoch (GrM)	Naomi Zair (NZ)
Peter Airey (PA)	Vicky Flood (VF)
Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Ian Todd (IT) and Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in March 2016	There was one amendment, item 11, bullet point 3 donation of £25,000 for Forres Features came from the Budge Foundation. The minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Sandra Maclennan.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 5 – FAF member was notified that travel expenses could be reclaimed. • Item 8 – Expo 16 - Debbie Herron, FACT, had some contact with regard to supporting this process. MacLeans have donated 200 packets of shortbread to be handed out at the event. 	
5. Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £3,904.56. There were 4 cheques cashed: £50 for secretarial duties, £22.50 for Rays Opportunities (for catering on a FAF meeting night), £35 to Forres Heritage Trust for hire of their premises for event held on 30 th January 2016 and £129.27 for MacAfee cover and office supplies.	
6. Moray Towns	New processes from The Moray Council (TMC) have been passed on to all Forums with regard to MTP money and how to	

<p>Partnership (MTP)</p>	<p>apply for money. All requests are to be submitted to FAF with the following information attached: A written quote for items less than £5,000, 3 quotes if items are over £5,000, all invoices are to be sent to the Secretary for onward transmission to TMC who will approve/reject the application. A report is to be provided afterwards – the auditors need a more robust paper trail of how money is spent. Money is needed to be for the economic benefit to Forres, would require the group or individual to identify what the economic benefit to Forres would be. TMC is to approve invoices and these are to be sent via FAF for onward submission to TMC. Secretary to forward on information received from TMC with regard to the new rules on how to apply for MTP money. The following MTP applications had been received and were discussed at tonight’s meeting:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Ray’s Opportunities</td> <td>-</td> <td>£1,250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forres Features</td> <td>-</td> <td>£2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sanquhar Loch</td> <td>-</td> <td>£1,070</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Piping at Forres</td> <td>-</td> <td>£2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advert – Speyside Whisky</td> <td>-</td> <td>£ 200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birdhouse</td> <td>-</td> <td>£ 215</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expo 16</td> <td>-</td> <td>£1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forres in Bloom</td> <td>-</td> <td><u>£2,500</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£10,735</td> </tr> </table> <p>The above requests were read out with those present tasking Peter Airey (Sanquhar Loch request) with finding out if there were tools available for his group to possibly borrow/share from the Dava Way group. The above requests have been approved in principle and would be forwarded on to TMC in June 2016. There remains £28,500 of MTP money to spend until 2018.</p>	Ray’s Opportunities	-	£1,250	Forres Features	-	£2,000	Sanquhar Loch	-	£1,070	Piping at Forres	-	£2,000	Advert – Speyside Whisky	-	£ 200	Birdhouse	-	£ 215	Expo 16	-	£1,500	Forres in Bloom	-	<u>£2,500</u>			£10,735	<p>PA</p>
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<p>7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)</p>	<p>Chair informed those present of the following FACT items: The AGM will take place on 20th June 2016 – all members will be notified and there will be an advert in the press. FACT is busy and hopes to be able to make major announcements in the coming months. Looking to encourage applications from new Trustees/Directors on to the Board with particular skill sets, able to reflect the work of the Trust. An article has been written for the Gazette inviting people to apply.</p>																												
<p>8. Sanquhar Dam – EB Scotland Ltd</p>	<p>Unable to do anything with the silting of the loch – SEPA has re-designated the loch as a reservoir, £60,000 has been set aside but TMC not able to spend any of the money until they know what is required of them. Possibility of applying to EB Scotland Ltd who manage the Land Fill Community Fund: money collected from councils – to support environmental projects. The application is lengthy and detailed and may be undertaken in the future.</p>																												
<p>9. Participatory Budgeting</p>	<p>FAF member invited to attend as a representative on the Steering Group body, Vice Chair nominated by Chair and seconded by Fabio Villani. Vice Chair to check she is eligible to</p>																												

	<p>represent Forres as she does not live within the Royal Burgh of Forres area.</p> <p>Scottish Government provides £60,000 and TMC match funds with £60,000. Smaller towns outwith Elgin, Buckie, Keith, Lossiemouth and Forres are eligible to apply for these funds. Community groups outwith Forres can apply, as can those community groups based within the Royal Burgh of Forres with 80% of their work outwith the Forres area. Unsure how the voting will work but in other communities groups applied for money and details were passed anonymously to another town who were given barest information and had to vote for the most deserving project by participating applicants. Fabio informed all the participatory budgeting event will happen at one event and systems will be in place so voting cannot be skewed i.e. one vote per project.</p> <p>Sylvia Jamieson, TMC is on the Steering Group and is facilitating this group. Information on this item can be accessed at the following link: http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_77718.html or by emailing csu@moray.gov.uk</p>	SM
10. Councillors	No Councillor reports received.	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SM – Adrian is holding a litter pick at the Mosset on 9th April 2016. • Forres in Bloom are looking to hold a volunteers meeting in future months at present looking for help watering plant tubs/baskets in Forres during the summer months. • Planning 4 Real – map is finished currently making up flags, meetings ongoing to decide where to show the map and the roles of people involved whilst the map is being shown – launch should be end April/beginning of May 2016 • NZ – would like to thank FAF for funding transport to meeting costs • GrM – Forres Features (Community Interest Company name) – is progressing well – a name is needed for the event, any thoughts on names to be passed to Graham Murdoch • VF – New Adventures 4 All (Community Interest Company) in the process of being set up and progressing well • FV – Environmental Susceptibility 3rd Sector Forum – 13th April 2016, 2 pm in the Harvest Centre Elgin – have to apply to attend. • Children’s and Young People 3rd Sector Forum – 18th April 2016, 10 am to 12 midday. Green Party holding a Green Bard's party night on 16th April 2016 at the Mosset starting at 7 pm • TC – FAF coffee morning on 14th May 2016, Town Hall from 10 am to midday 	
12. AOB	Gordon Morrison, Fire and Rescue informed FAF that the	

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

	<p>recruitment process for retained fire fighters within the Forres area had been successful with 23 applicants applying, 14 were interviewed and looking to employ 6 people which would take the retained fire fighters compliment from 14 to full capacity at 20. If you are unsure of regulations with regard to controlled burning please ring 01224 633768 or 01463 718078 (for Nairn and Inverness area) for advice.</p> <p>Request received for a FAF member to sit on the Moray Forum Transport Steering Group – Angela Sutherland was asked and will represent FAF at these meetings. First meeting will take place on 24th May 2016 in Elgin, venue tbc.</p>	
13. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 th May 2016, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.	