



## MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017

### PRESENT

<b>Sandra MacLennan, Vice Chair (SM)</b>	<b>John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)</b>
<b>Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)</b>	<b>Angela Sutherland (AS)</b>
<b>Brian McDonald (BM)</b>	<b>Debbie Herron (DH)</b>
<b>Graham Murdoch (GMu)</b>	<b>Ian Todd (IT)</b>
<b>Mike Scott (MS)</b>	<b>Ray MacDonald (RM)</b>
<b>Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)</b>	

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1. Welcome from Chair	The post of Chair is vacant therefore the Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies had been received from Fabio Villani (FV).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in February 2017	There was one amendment, item 10, bullet point 6, spelling change from Keir Hardy to Keir Hardie. The minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Lorna Creswell.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 4 – storage Transition Town Forres (TTF) will appear at item 8.</li> <li>• Item 4 - update from Graham with regard to the Mosset Burn meeting held in Forres House Community Centre (FHCC) attended by Graeme Hilditch, Ken Kennedy, Bob Laughton, Dougie Halliday and 2 x SEPA reps. Bob stated there is a big eel population and some salmon are spawning – foliage overhanging Burn is great cover for fish. Silting - Moray Council (MC) has a person who checks the Burn on a regular basis through Forres - Sanquhar to the railway line – the flood alleviation at</li> </ul>	

	<p>Chapelton controls the water – all parties agreed the meeting was of use and should be held on a yearly basis. SEPA said there is no big problem re silting and not averse to clearing silt – long term benefit of work up in Altyre and on replanting with relation to drainage to be taken into account. John asked if islands at present were any problem – Graham said the channel created is capable of carrying the capacity of water coming down the Burn, to be brought up with MC if anyone has worries. Stated that SEPA has no need to do anything with tributaries – cosmetically not pretty but difficult to remove foliage and vegetation – assessment to be undertaken of Sanquhar Pond as to whether it is a reservoir or pond – this item ongoing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 4 - Lorna stated the Leancoil meeting may be held in May 2017.</li> <li>• Item 4 - Vice Chair to send Secretary Fiona Rolt's email address.</li> <li>• Item 7 - Secretary emailed out grant form to Vicki Flood.</li> <li>• Item 7, Secretary emailed out information with regard to Sanquhar Dam Regeneration Group's invoice to Alan MacBeth, MC.</li> <li>• Item 9 – crossing at railway station across the A96 – petition finished at end of February – good response re signatures – online has been slow – unsure of where to send petition – Lorna stated should be sent to the Government and the person speaking against it in the Tolbooth, possibly Mr Aitken. Bam Nuttall have stated the crossing is nothing to do with their remit. Graham told those present Network Rail own ground where the station is now and ground opposite the A96 and the whole of Tytler Street – story given to Gary at the Forres Gazette. Enhanced station going in but no way of crossing except by using the busy A96, have to think of OAP's and those with pushchairs. Vice Chair stated Forres will have a small station building which will be put in, concerns that possibly the car park will be too small.</li> <li>• Item 9 – Area Forums – no developments, meeting held to look at response as to where forums fit in. Report to be emailed to FAF membership – still working on response – MTP money to continue to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 although unsure if money will be available from then on – any comments on report to be emailed to Secretary.</li> <li>• Item 11, Secretary purchased McAfee virus software and to give receipt to Treasurer for reimbursement.</li> <li>• Lorna will be attending the Scottish Ambulance Service Presentation, Secretary to email name on to</li> </ul>	<p>SM</p> <p>FAF membership</p> <p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
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	<p>Fiona McPherson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report from Findhorn Bay was discussed with regard to the Festival held in 2016 – overall those present agreed the report was interesting and the key indicators were discussed – Secretary to send a letter congratulating Findhorn Bay Arts on their successful festival and thanking them for a copy of the report.</li> </ul>	TC
5. Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £5,098.17. There were 2 cheques cashed: £50 for secretarial duties, £22.50 for Ray's Opportunities (for catering on a FAF meeting night) and insurance of £9.66 was also deducted from the account. The grant application for £200 from Vicki Flood for New Adventures for All was discussed and agreed, Secretary to contact Vicki to see who the cheque is to be made payable to and where the cheque is to be sent.</p>	TC/JB
6. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Debbie informed those present of the following:            Older Persons Worker – Kirsty Williams appointed and starts on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Forres On-Line tutor David starts today.            Expression of Interest around Town Hall nearly ready to be submitted, help gratefully received from Sylvia Jamieson, MC.            Busier in the office – private hires and hosting Social Enterprise Academy and Reboot, 14 people in for a day course with Reboot helping with training.            Social Enterprise Academy holding a social enterprise course from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> March free to attend, residential at Contin, check the Social Enterprise Academy website.            World Host – Forres has reached world destination status, everyone trained – funding for subsidised courses until end of March, 20<sup>th</sup> March course has spaces available – contact Vicki Flood at the FACT office.            Tourism – Expo information progressing, itinerary nearly written – Webinars available to view            Mull trip - funding sought to take Board members and Account Manager from HIE – Social Enterprise Business Centre trip – very open and gave information on bookings and the range of people they work with, money raised to build centre – funding for feasibility study from Scottish Land Fund.</p>	
7. Moray Towns Partnership Allocations	<p>Secretary read out a breakdown of information with regard to the amount of money left in the MTP allocation until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – money will not be threatened or clawed back. A proposal to keep the remaining money, £5,748.58, for upcoming events was agreed by those present. Next MTP meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and Vice Chair will try and attend.</p>	
8. Equipment Storage and Access	<p>Judith Binney, volunteer has compiled a list of where resources are held and will send out a letter to community groups – send out first lot of letters, anyone missed can be</p>	

	caught in the second set of letters and wait for information to arrive. Vice Chair tried to make an appointment with Christie Puplett – asked Fabio Villani who said they would undertake an inventory and Vice Chair awaiting response.	
9. Planning for Real 20/20	Vice Chair informed those present the data had been collated and looking to prioritise on 8 <sup>th</sup> March in FHCC at 7 pm – ongoing.	
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TC – St John’s Church coffee morning in the Town Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017 from 10 am to midday</li> <li>• BM – attended a meeting with Diageo representatives with 4 persons wanting to be involved with a community project, Brian went and spoke to them and they may be looking to help out at Sanquhar Loch</li> <li>• JB – raised the photograph of the front page of this weeks Forres Gazette, copy of map which FAF had had printed, the story on the front page stated the map would be used in an app – Vice Chair has passed on information with regard to Forres Footprints map and will raise this matter and follow up – Helen Stirling holds the copyright on these maps</li> <li>• RM – Disability Week commences 6<sup>th</sup> March, on 3 days 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017 during this period members of Rays Opportunities will have a presence in the High Street on 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Co-op at 10.30 am onwards and hopeful that visits to High Street shops with some wheelchair users and those with disabilities will take place to check accessibility in order to register on Euan’s Guide, also thinking of coming up with a certificate which could be given throughout the year and try to get the whole of the High Street on Euan’s Guide – suggestion that TTF commissioned a survey from Nick Brown on accessibility on the High Street – Lorna to chase up. Kerrie Speed has started a relaxed lane at Tesco</li> <li>• GMu – Colours of Cluny financial year finished, next event planning under way 8<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November – 8<sup>th</sup> November will be a press night trying to address disabled and OAP transport possibly first night where sponsors and press attend may have a disabled and OAP’s night – possibilities discussed include a few electric cars pulling converted trailers – a challenge and ongoing. Money has been given to MC towards the cost of benches on Cluny Hill</li> <li>• AS – attended Moray Forum Transport Steering Group – discussed transport guide – require ideas to make it better, costs received from each Forum was £2,500 – costs for distribution high – launch target date in September 2017 possibly to include maps. Rep from Stagecoach attended and nothing</li> </ul>	<p>SM</p> <p>LC</p>

	<p>mentioned with regard to discontinuing bus services – talk of updating buses – proposal to discontinue No 36 bus. Angela will attend information day at St Giles Centre on 7<sup>th</sup> March and will feedback by 10<sup>th</sup> March. Changed bus no 10 and 11 timetables. Dial M bus – usage up in Moray area but not in Forres – have to book it – next meeting end March 2017 and Angela will attend and feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DH – Youth concert on 7<sup>th</sup> March in Town Hall Forres put on by Forres Community Events Association. tsiMORAY event Join the Dots on 22<sup>nd</sup> March – able to book on line via tsi website. Heritage Trust holding a witch's talk on 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm at Tolbooth. Walkers are Welcome – mini walking festival from 31<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April – book via Eventbright or via FACT office</li> <li>• SM – Your Choice Participatory Budgeting attended this afternoon, well attended. On 6<sup>th</sup> March meeting of Keep Moray Beautiful competition for schools to design litter posters. Forres in Bloom (FiB) getting support from Bam Nuttall. FiB plug plants arrive next week, beginning to pot up, FiB have entered into Britain in Bloom. Money for Moray takes place on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 10 am in Rothes Hall – running a seminar to help groups with presentations. In FHCC on 8<sup>th</sup> March 4.30 pm to 7 pm information with regard to Dallas Dhu plans for housing – concerns raised about access and flooding. FiB received an offer from Army Cadets to help. The Piper's drones are back and they will be in place soon. Network Rail open 3 pm to 7 pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> March in Bam Nuttall portacabin</li> </ul>	AS
11. Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell updated those present on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Event at Ramnee on 8<sup>th</sup> March – Wellbeing drop in event in the afternoon and an evening do</li> <li>▪ Visited Varis Court with Chairs of Grampian Health Board and Highland Health Board – still has empty flats</li> <li>▪ Attended an energy consumption short course on 1<sup>st</sup> March</li> <li>▪ Letter received from Joe Pirnie – concerned nobody to pick up litter</li> <li>▪ Osprey minibus bookings – Community Centre possibly bookings through FHCC</li> <li>▪ Donald Macrae - transport issues and he is following up</li> <li>▪ Mull visit interesting</li> <li>▪ Offered chance of poppy display at St Laurence Church – group put in application although Fort George going for same idea</li> </ul>	

