



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM (FAF) MEETING

WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2018

PRESENT

Sandra MacLennan, Vice Chair (SM)	John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)
Councillor George Alexander (GA)	Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)
Councillor Claire Feaver (CF)	Angela Sutherland (AS)
Brian McDonald (BM)	David Parker (DP)
Debbie Herron (DH)	Ian Todd (IT)
Mike Scott (MS)	Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)

(Abbreviations of groups: TTF – Transition Town Forres, FACT – Forres Area Community Trust, FiB – Forres in Bloom, MC – Moray Council, BBCT – Berryburn Community Trust, FCC – Forres Community Council)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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) and Ray McDonald (RM).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in December 2017	There was one amendment, item 9, No 31 bus, Findhorn circular remains going to the medical centre. The minutes were proposed by David Parker and seconded by Debbie Herron.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 4 – Christmas lights – Mike informed Karen of discussion at last meeting, Mike unsure of phone number and address was given to Vice Chair, unsure when the High Street Christmas lights will be taken down. • Item 4 – Secretary forwarded on original email regarding bus information. • Item 6 – Vice Chair informed those present Moray 	

	<p>Area Forum meeting had been postponed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 6 – Secretary added Future of Area Forums to agenda. • Item 7 – accommodation for those attending Expo 18 has been confirmed and payment will need to be paid from FAF funds, awaiting invoice. • Item 9 – Secretary emailed Grant Speed re grassed area beside bowling green in Grant Park, Vice Chair had met with Grant who informed her that MC will roll the ground and reseed. • Item 13 – Secretary emailed out information in connection with the MC’s proposed budget cuts. 	
5. Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £5,320.88 with following cheques written £268.14 to Debbie, £364.08 to Big Sky, £50 for secretarial duties and £25.50 to Rays Opportunities for refreshments and £9.24 for insurance. MC administrative money (£2,165 for the year) had been received into the account.</p>	
6. Correspondence	<p>Vice Chair read out a list of emails Secretary had forwarded to FAF membership which included: Scotland’s Towns Partnership – latest newsletter Bus timetable information – discussion ensued, Councillor Creswell emailed to ask if bus stop information corresponded to timetables at bus stops. David stated Tolbooth has timetables and a discussion around routes took place. David will bring this up at the next FCC. Moray Local Development Plan for 20/20 - David stated able to download a paper which states the main issue changes to the MLDP 20/20, also available at the access point. There is more information available on 8th March 2018, 2 pm to 8 pm in Forres Town Hall. Sustrans – Artroots funding closing date 29th January 2018, grant available up to £2,000. Network Rail – Vice Chair stated no answers to emails from FiB to Stewart McKay, Bam Nuttall – work has finished at the rail station. MC has the contract to plant and maintain the land round the new station. FiB not allowed to put up baskets on the station platform, there is a 1 year warranty with Bam Nuttall, unsure what will happen after that – discussion ensued. Money for Moray – Health & Wellbeing, grants of up to £4k can be applied for by any group with turnover less than £50,000 and groups are to be within Moray.</p>	DP
7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Older Persons – reminiscence session on 16th January 2018 at 2 pm in Town Hall, able to share stories of being in forces, had lots of interest and can scan photos on the day Befrienders referrals – still receiving referrals and Kirsty Williams is concentrating on supporting the Osprey Trust Forres On-line – sessions available on Tuesday and Thursday p.m. and Friday a.m. Outreach sessions funded and will be happening over spring</p>	

	<p>Town Hall progressing and received draft final report from the architects. CAT progressing and meeting planned for user groups and interested parties of the Town Hall on 31st January 2018 in the FACT office, acoustics better. Received over 300 responses to the survey</p> <p>FACT coffee morning in Town Hall on 13th January 2018, 10 am to midday</p> <p>Glasgow School of Art – helping with their winter school, event on 24th January 2018, event in evening to be circulated details to follow – GSA would like to engage with groups in the area</p> <p>Moray has sufficient businesses, organisations and individuals for World Host status and will launch before end of month –good partnership working between groups, FAF supported with funding and publicity</p> <p>Banner recently produced to be used when Canadian curlers visit Forres next week</p> <p>Resource list FAF requested – letter completed and out by end January 2018 and returned by end of February 2018, completion in draft by end March 2018, will include defibrillator locations</p> <p>Skate ramp is at Loft for use during winter, been used quite often and Vicki Flood will communicate with MC re finding a permanent home for the ramp.</p> <p>December 2017 Christmas coffee morning 20+ people attended with 30 people attending the White Christmas film showing</p>	
<p>8. Future of Area Forum's</p>	<p>Last Moray Area Forum meeting postponed and Vice Chair had no update. Ian stated a report sent to Community Planning Board. Fiona Rolt spoke to it and it was referred back to Community Engagement Group (CEG) – Fiona's intention to feedback to Moray Area Forum. Next CEG meetings on 16th and 30th January 2018.</p> <p>There are 4 Area Forums remaining, with other groups in Keith, Lossiemouth and 2 in Elgin ASG's.</p> <p>Councillor Creswell is keen on less meetings with members from groups attending 1 meeting so same information is given out once and not at separate meetings. Discussion ensued. Need to put succession planning into place with less people willing to take up office bearer posts – await budget.</p>	
<p>9. Moray Towns Partnership</p>	<p>Expo 18 – brief meeting held and Expo 18 is to go ahead in Glasgow on 10th and 11th April 2018 – volunteers stepped forward to attend and man stalls and majority had World Host and Licensing training – waiting to hear of volunteers coming from other areas in Moray. Accommodation booked through MC and Debbie will feedback from next meeting to be held in February 2018. Debbie – more private partners at Expo with high end travel trade attending and Moray can offer bespoke trips.</p> <p>Brian asked if there was anything in place to see if visitor numbers have risen – Laurie at Moray Speyside Tourism can</p>	

	<p>measure the increase in tourism numbers, Moray is increasing its tourism numbers. Lack of accommodation one issue. Discussion ensued. Report compiled on what Area Forums have been doing over the past 3 years, MC charged each forum £12.50 to print the report.</p>	
<p>10. Planning for Real</p>	<p>Ken Kennedy was on holiday, back now – Sylvia Jamieson to approach Ken and book a date for Green Users Group meeting. Action Plan distributed with copies available at FACT office. Alan Tissiman, Environmental Rep on FCC very supportive.</p>	
<p>11. Round the Table</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC – institution of Rev'd Hamilton Inbadas at St Johns church on 20th January 2018 commencing at 12 midday • AS – Transport Steering Group meeting due on 16th January 2018. Transport Seminar at Lhanbryde on 24th March 2018 with venue to be confirmed • BM – loch work on a break and work going well, working closely with Colin Bell and there is a management plan in place. Colin is enthusiastic and £60,000 has been ring-fenced for work at the loch, this could be drawn down for use on such projects as widening paths, using the money as and when needed. Looking for MC to buy goods to save on VAT, have spent £600 on 24 tonnes of larch logs to improve paving, there will be a night out on 19th January 2018 • MS – Taigh Farrais is closing down – Councillor Creswell – report received and those who used it were spoken to. Councillor Feaver – classed as a residential home health and safety and fire safety together with staffing are issues – only have 2 people in at any one time. Leanchoil – fire alarm went off and 2 vehicles in attendance, second time 3 fire engines in attendance, seems was the same fault both times – Councillor Alexander will find out where those who use Taigh Farrais will go now – problem for those outwith Moray and have to see if those within Forres have access – building could be disposed of (unsure if owned by MC or NHS) – rumours of a possible Leanchoil closure within 8 months • DP – will take back some items discussed at tonight's meeting to the FCC – trying to avoid duplication • IT – Sylvia Jamieson, CSO is back with the implementation of the Forres 20/20 Local Action Plan being a priority. On the wider CSU front, the team will be leading the facilitation of the Buckie School Estate Review. CSU staff will also be heavily involved in roll out of the Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIP) in Buckie and Elgin South. CAT applications and interest have increased and the MC are keen to enter into discussions with local groups and organisations. Previously, 	<p>GA</p>

	<p>the CSU supported groups in 2 stages – assess at stage 1 and report back to asset team at MC. Stage 2 involved support with wider engagement and consultation, governance, business planning, funding, targeting, timeframe planning etc. There are currently 19 CAT’s in Moray exploring taking over a council asset. Due to capacity issues, CSU will not be undertaking the stage 2 part of the process and will focus on the existing groups they are currently supporting. On 22nd March 2018, CSU are organising a CAT seminar at Elgin Town Hall for groups interested in considering going down the CAT route</p>	
<p>12. Councillors</p>	<p>Councillor Alexander informed those present that he is trying to produce a final budget – Moray is underfinanced by central government – Moray has the third lowest income per head at £1,599 with Highland at £1,836, information from SPICE– meetings have taken place and another is planned – Derek McKay letter has been drafted. Money to Councils is split by a formula – money to MC less therefore MC will have to shrink and communities will have to look at doing things for themselves and take ownership. 14th February 2018 budget Councillors need to agree the budget. There is a thank you to all those volunteers who helped at Colours of Cluny taking place on 12th January 2018 at 7 pm in the Tolbooth.</p> <p>Councillor Lorna Creswell informed those present of the following:</p> <p>Attended Film Forres night on Friday, looking to get some groups to sponsor a film i.e. Harriers would sponsor Chariots of Fire – working on this</p> <p>Invited to Learning Disability session on 2nd February 2018 in Elgin</p> <p>Mortuary meeting to be attended at the end of January 2018 option on table for a way forward</p> <p>Affordable housing convener meeting this month</p> <p>Meeting with Nairn CAB on 11th January 2018 and to meet with Elgin CAB</p> <p>Keen to bring lone workers together to mutually support each other</p> <p>Osprey minibus – Army called a meeting for next week</p> <p>Developer contributions – people want to apply simple form to fill in</p> <p>Universal credit has been deferred until June 2018</p> <p>Councillor Claire Feather informed those present of the following:</p> <p>SPICE report, surprised Edinburgh had a lower income per head than Glasgow (£2,000 per head)</p> <p>Briefing timely to officers, also road department briefings where gritting was mentioned</p> <p>Thank you to Councillors for attending.</p>	
<p>13. AOB</p>	<p>Secretary placed AGM notice in Forres Gazette – AGM to</p>	

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

	take place on 7 th February 2018. Councillor Alexander noted that there were a lot of people visiting the recycling centre over the festive period even though notices were placed in the paper and there was information on the MC website.	
14. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 7 th February 2018, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre (FHCC), will commence with the AGM and lead into the FAF monthly meeting	