



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM (FAF) MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 2019

PRESENT

Sandra MacLennan, Chair (SM)	Councillor Claire Feaver (CF)
Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)	Brian McDonald (BM)
Debbie Herron (DH)	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 – Berry Burn Community Trust, FCC – Forres Community Council, TH - Town Hall)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies had been received from Angela Sutherland (AS), David Edgar (DE), David Parker (DP) and Ian Todd (IT).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in February 2019	There were two corrections to the minutes, item 13 bullet point 8, it is the pavement and not the shelter which is not wide enough for a wheelchair and item 10, Councillor Creswell is to check the crossing at the roundabout at St Catherine's Road. The minutes were proposed by Debbie Herron and seconded by Mike Scott.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item 4 – funding for the stations – not moved on, Chair spoke with Darren Westmacott who has contacted Network Rail and Scot Rail, also email received from Kevin Rooney asking for a plan regarding planting for FiB Item 4 – Councillor Creswell awaits a response regarding Towerview – ongoing Item 5 – invoice for trolleys held by FACT are to be emailed to the Secretary Item 5 – Skate Park Initiative received a cheque for £200 	<p>SM</p> <p>LC</p> <p>DH</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 7 – Councillor Creswell passed on thanks to Keith Builders for their generous donation • Item 7 - Forres Features and Forres Events Ltd – 70 - 80 volunteers listed, invitation will go out inviting groups to ask for volunteers, this will be emailed out • Item 7 – Market Place – 14 different organisations signed up, it will be a good networking opportunity • Item 12 – bus route from Aberlour to Forres, Angela to take train arrival and bus departure times forward 	AS
5. Treasurers Report	The Treasurer was not in attendance. Chair informed those present that admin remittances from MC for the coming year for Area Forums and Community Councils had been frozen for a year. Treasurer to bring cheque signatory paperwork to the next meeting.	JB
6. Correspondence	<p>Secretary read out a list of emails forwarded to the FAF membership which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Market Place on 7th March at the TH • tsiMORAY's Training and Events • Scotland's Towns Partnership, new jobs and events for towns and improvement districts • Buckie Gateway Feature Competition • Discretionary Non-Domestic Rates Relief • Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 Consultation • A consultation on fireworks in Scotland • TH User Group and upcoming FACT events • Scotland's Towns Partnership – Cross Party Group on Towns and Town Centres • tsiMORAY's Join the Dots 2019 - Register 	
7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Debbie informed those present of the following:</p> <p>Applications for funding to the Scottish Landfill Fund (SLF) is being written, looking to fund the repair of the floor, roof and battery fire backup costs estimated to be around £35k including VAT – help completing the form from CSU.</p> <p>Older Persons and Forres On-line – applying for funds.</p> <p>Two upcoming spring clean days: 23rd March, 10 am to 2 pm and 15th April, 1 – 4 pm.</p> <p>Film Forres showing Bohemian Rhapsody on 16th March to an over 18's audience £6 entry fee, 7 pm start and BYOB.</p> <p>Join the Dots on 20th March, registration is open and accessed through tsiMORAY website.</p> <p>Forres Community Activities Association – youth concert with 225 attending this popular event, collection taken was donated towards FACT and the TH.</p> <p>FCA coffee morning on 30th March.</p> <p>Tourism – Expo accommodation has been booked for April – doing well and group looking at what to support, develop and promote in the local area.</p> <p>Town Centre regeneration - £1.2 million coming to Moray, suggestion FAF and MTP are to be involved in the consultation and engagement. Laurie Piper spoke about Moray TBid.</p>	

	<p>Forres On-line – outreach work undertaken in villages, positive and engaging with people. Work being undertaken with job seekers and working in small groups.</p> <p>Skate Park – to hold a roller disco fundraiser date tbc – working with tsiMORAY on governance.</p> <p>Older Persons – work ongoing with befriending, FACT do not take on statutory obligations and aim to reduce social isolation – a spin-off is the OAP’s usually meet September to May, looking to extend their programme and meet into May and June.</p> <p>Community Asset Transfer – have to fit into P&R Committee and aim to submit in June 19. Unable to apply to SLF until FACT have received a confirmation from MC in principle then can submit in June for the August meeting.</p> <p>SLF application for money to purchase the TH – given permission to go to Stage 2 – money would go to Common Good Fund. It was thought the valuation would be around £75 - £80k to purchase the TH and have to get a valuation on the building.</p>	
<p>8. Forres Area A96 Community Group</p>	<p>The group has not met since the last meeting. The next meeting takes place on 26th March 2019.</p>	
<p>9. Planning for Real</p>	<p>Brian McDonald showed those present A3 coloured paper versions of the interpretations boards to be erected around Sanquhar Pond. The purpose is to create an understanding of the habitat. The five A2 lectern style black boards will have no more than 50 words of text. Brian took the papers to the Green Spaces Group and shared them. Hoping to work together with MC, people in the community and the Gazette. Hoping to create information sheets for visitors and school pupils. The posts will be installed off the pathway with the use of postcrete.</p> <p>Brian is hoping seeds will be able to be purchased through the MC and planted in the Sanquhar area. He was advised to speak with Scotia Seeds who can advise which seeds/plugs can be planted in which specific areas.</p> <p>Brian spoke with Development Control regarding planning permission, there was a charge to be made of £220 for the boards. It was pointed out that the pond area is a MC asset and MC will put in the application for the lecterns.</p> <p>Management Plan delivered 13/14 December but due to pressure of work not been read through by MC yet.</p> <p>Golf Course – MC and private group if they come together can apply for funding to improve the shared land or apply for a CAT.</p> <p>Orchard Group – starting their planting at Mannachie on Sunday.</p> <p>Green Spaces Group – wondered if the group is representative of the groups within Forres. A discussion took place regarding grass cutting at Grant Park. Brian would like</p>	

	<p>to thank Sylvia Jamieson, MC who is neutral and independent when dealing with the group.</p> <p>Joint Community Council – held a meeting to look at what all the communities could do to help the council.</p> <p>Suggestion for use of the Common Good fund - lots of people in the area with varying skills, would there be some way to use the assets of the Common Good Fund to make money and pay back into the fund – unsure if resources are available.</p> <p>MC looking to sell off pockets of green space.</p>	
10. Moray Towns Partnership	Meeting held and developer contributions to go towards: transport, education and healthcare.	
11. Moray Area Forum	No meeting has taken place.	
12. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC – St John’s church coffee morning on 9th March in the TH, 10 am to midday • MS – waiting to hear about the game store, given to Highland Games group 25 years ago, been informed that MC want a lease on the building, Alec Burrell approached the group • SM - Alec Burrell visited FiB and looking for a lease. Need to look at the Development Plan, last one dated 2015 - 18 – Secretary to email plan to membership • LC – Spirit of Community last one five years ago, agreed to take forward and involve other community councils 	<p>TC</p> <p>LC</p>
13. Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell informed all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read in the Forres Gazette charity shop discretionary saving £65k queried if it should read £6.5k • Osprey bus AGM, 3 turned up, proposal to work alongside FACT – not handed over to the Army yet – to be taken forward • Children 1st steering group – 3 year project (Covenant money) applications welcome • Councillor Leaders meet every week – able to take 1 other Councillor to all meetings, Lorna attended • 2nd April Army holding an event, groups being asked to attend to engage with the Army • Rene Milburn – survey on the toilet comfort scheme • Peri Zachary interviewed and got the Findherne Trust job • Toilets in Leys Road, to be opened only if the community take it on • Attended a tsiMORAY event • Attended a mortuary meeting 	<p>LC</p>
14. AOB	Further to the rail station discussion Councillor Feaver suggested flood alleviations may mean it is not possible to plant trees beside them due to the tree roots and the integrity	

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

	of the ground. Chair to keep in contact with Kevin Rooney and report back at the next meeting.	SM
15. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 3 rd April 2019, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre (FHCC).	