



## MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM (FAF) MEETING

WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019

### PRESENT

<b>Sandra MacLennan, Chair (SM)</b>	<b>Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)</b>
<b>Angela Sutherland (AS)</b>	<b>Brian McDonald (BM)</b>
<b>David Edgar (DE)</b>	<b>Debbie Herron (DH)</b>
<b>Graham Hilditch (GH)</b>	<b>Iain Todd (IT)</b>
<b>Tina Coffey (Minutes) (TC)</b>	

(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, Area Forum - AF)

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1. Welcome from Chair	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.	
2. Apologies	Apologies had been received from Councillor Claire Feaver and John Bremner.	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in May 2019	There was one correction, Item 10 should read “Green Spaces Group met and discussed Sanquhar Pond, the work carries on and await a management report – identified a device called a Kelpie to remove weeds from the pond – lots of goodwill in the town”. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting by those present.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Item 5 – Towerview, Lorna followed up, no answer as yet although the lease of the property is outstanding to 2023 – Lorna will try to get an answer</li> <li>Item 5 – Army event - Lorna did not manage to attend and will follow up</li> <li>Item 5 – trolley invoice to be emailed to the Secretary</li> <li>Item 5 – Grant Park Public Trust, it was set up long ago, paperwork found in 2016 referring to the Trust being set up, Lorna to check with John Bremner.</li> </ul>	<p>LC</p> <p>LC</p> <p>DH</p> <p>LC/JB</p>

	<p>Graham looking into possibilities and no feedback as yet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 13 - FCC visited FiB and had an informative visit</li> <li>• Item 15 – Chair enquired about future meeting place for FAF from August – options are to try upstairs in FHCC or try the TH – Secretary to email FHCC and the TH</li> <li>• Item 15 – membership paperwork given out would mean meetings will be quorate</li> <li>• Item 15 – Chair proposed changing the holiday month from August to July, approved by those present Secretary to email FHCC and members</li> <li>• Toilet scheme survey – Lorna is no further forward although Rene has met with groups and businesses in town. The Joint Community Council are set up working groups</li> </ul>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
<p>5. Treasurers Report</p>	<p>Treasurer was not present and emailed figures after the meeting. The balance on the account is £2,392.11.</p>	
<p>6. Correspondence</p>	<p>Secretary read out a list of emails forwarded to the FAF membership which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Project Survey – The value of open spaces and Health and Wellbeing Benefits in Moray</li> <li>• Forres Green Spaces Group – Sanquhar Loch Woodlands – Draft Management Plan</li> <li>• Scotland’s Towns Partnership – Scotland’s Towns and Improvement Districts News</li> <li>• Town Centre Capital Fund Road Show dates</li> <li>• Food growing event 30<sup>th</sup> May at Elgin Town Hall</li> <li>• Scotland’s Towns Partnership – Invitation to Tea Party 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019</li> <li>• Scotland’s Towns Funding Finder May 2019</li> </ul>	
<p>7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)</p>	<p>Debbie informed those present of the following:          Invite to CC’s and other on 10<sup>th</sup> Jun from 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm to see how the TH is getting on.          Celebration of being in the TH for a year, holding a 1<sup>st</sup> birthday party on 1<sup>st</sup> July, all welcome and will launch the TH logo, Debbie will email out invites.          Skate Park – undertaking governance training, FACT will start to reduce support.          Roller skate disco had great coverage in the Forres Gazette          Tourism – looking into next direction and still supporting the group.          Moray Speyside Tourism Improvement District – voting dates put back – the vote has to go through a system whereby there is a positive understanding and a clear and legally binding voting system.          Forres On-line funding from the Scottish Government has ended – Debbie met with a representative from the Berryburn Community Fund, oversubscribed this time and will hear by the end of June if the project has been successful – other funding applications submitted and successful for a portion of the full amount required.</p>	<p>DH</p>

	<p>Older People – application to Foundation Scotland submitted for 3 years funding at £5k/year, should hear by the end of summer.</p> <p>Kirsty Williams attended a conference and is undertaking work around what happens with the project next – one area to explore is what happens when people come out of hospital, need to explore the next steps.</p> <p>Final touches are being made to the Business Plan for the CAT of the TH – draft is to be submitted by mid June – going to go in under the Community Empowerment Act and response required from MC within 6 months. During the summer hoping for a quiet time and aiming to sort out the Gallery and have a stitching day, more details to follow and spread the word. Unable to submit application to Scottish Land Fund for the cost of the building until FACT have at least an agreement in principle from MC.</p> <p>Big Lunch held on 1<sup>st</sup> June well attended with roughly 100 people in attendance.</p>	
<p>8. Forres Area A96 Community Group</p>	<p>No meeting since the last FAF meeting. On 15<sup>th</sup> May John Finney MSP asked questions of Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary around updates of the A9 and A96 duelling. The key issue for the A96 Group was on the co-creative process on the A9 of the Dunkeld and Birnam area, had the report been published and if not why not and when would it be published. Report was expected before the end of 2018, when questioned by John Finney, Michael Matheson said the report would not be published before the end of 2019.</p> <p>Response not encouraging but group was impressed by the response from John. FCC representatives attended an A96 meeting and will aim to explore both the north and south routes as the A96 group is route agnostic. The next steps are to keep up political pressure and keep everyone posted.</p> <p>Graham stated Mike had submitted his report to the Scottish Government who acknowledged it and forwarded it on to the contractor.</p>	
<p>9. Planning for Real</p>	<p>Green Spaces group met, not much to report and will meet again soon. Brian thanked FiB for the bulbs and awaits the management report. The Cluny Wood report is also awaited.</p>	
<p>10. Moray Towns Partnership</p>	<p>MTP met on 4<sup>th</sup> June, discussed the Town Centre Regeneration Fund (TCRF) awarded throughout Scotland, Moray has £1.27 million to spend. Following the roadshow 20 projects come forward and were split into public i.e. communal spaces and private i.e. landlords/owners. Proposals included Area Forums asking to reinstate £60k to the 4 towns (£15k per town) for various community projects throughout the year, Tina to submit a draft proposal from the 4 towns to Alan MacBeth, MC. Also proposed from the TCRF were the purchase of bike repair stands, cost is £3k each and if each eligible town had one the total cost would be £51k (beneficial across Moray - connected and cohesive). All proposals into a bidding pot.</p>	<p>TC</p>

	<p>Suggestions included improving the museum square and area in front of the Tolbooth, public realm money is not matched, draft application to be submitted. Discussions took place with regard to PB projects across Moray and Alan MacBeth is to look into it. Keith are planning car boot fairs on the first Sunday in the month. Lossiemouth are doing their best to repair the bridge.</p>	
<p>11. Moray Area Forum</p>	<p>Local Management Groups – Ian explained the background to these, divide Moray into East and West (2 groups) to support local families and they have produced a locality plan for Children and Families Services. Ian explained who would be in these restructured multi agency groups.          LOIP's – CSU facilitating two pilot project in New Elgin East and Buckie East which are complete. Local groups have produced a local plan and this goes to the Community and Planning Board on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Seven areas identified, the idea is to look at where there are gaps and get involved and work with local people to see if they can identify any gaps in provision and try to address some inequality issues.</p>	
<p>12. Round the Table</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GH – Leancoil Hospital Public Consultation event on 21<sup>st</sup> June from 1 pm to 7.30 pm at the Tolbooth Courtroom, all welcome. Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> June with HIE and others. Organising a windfarm visit to Huntly Trust on 21<sup>st</sup> June funded through Leader – day trip</li> <li>• BM – Green Spaces meeting highlighted high levels of child poverty in Forres</li> <li>• LC – poverty spoken about at Head Teachers meeting. Spirit of Community – where would we like to be in the next 5 years, proposing to aim for a meeting in February 2020. Spoke to Alan MacBeth, MC, about getting 4 collection point areas for Forres Area Credit Union i.e. Buckie keen to have a collection point</li> <li>• AS – no meetings of the Transport Group</li> <li>• DH – reminder there are coffee mornings every Saturday morning in the TH, 10 am to 12 pm. On 9<sup>th</sup> June Moray Waste Busters will hold an auction and will start Sunday opening at 12 pm</li> <li>• SM – attended the Food Growing Seminar, MC has to provide areas for people to grow food and MC have to develop a policy on food growing. On 31<sup>st</sup> July Forres will be judged for Beautiful Scotland. Banners to be purchased for FACT, FiB and FAF. Money for Moray – meeting with Paul Connors, Snr Finance Offr at MC about Participatory Budgeting (PB) and councils have to give 1% by 2020 – move quick and look at soon. Ian said elected Members have a 3 minute brief and a structure has to be put into place and worked on, will possibly go to Committee in August/September. Utilising community groups for going out to the community. Looking at doing this from 1 April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Aiming for a couple of pilots with</li> </ul>	

For further information please email: [forresareaforum@btinternet.com](mailto:forresareaforum@btinternet.com)

	local community involvement in decision making. Money for Moray have set aside £5k to meet with group leaders to promote this	
13. Councillors	<p>Councillor Creswell informed those present of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and Young Peoples Committee at MC – issue of attainment highlighted as poor, discussed at Head Teachers meeting</li> <li>• The Royal had been closed at the end of March – multi occupancy residences to be closed and those residing were rehoused</li> <li>• Findherne Trust – they have a worker funded for 25 years via windfarm funding</li> <li>• Sanquhar Loch on the next agenda for 11<sup>th</sup> June</li> <li>• Wildfowling abandoned</li> <li>• Ice-cream machine – free to a good home</li> <li>• Film Forres presents Lego 2, looking at marketing and publicity</li> <li>• Auchernack Trust – 5 applications were granted</li> <li>• Osprey Trust – changed into a SCIO and possible name change</li> <li>• Spoke to Carshare with regard to residents of Forres travelling outwith the area to visit people who were in hospital – trying to address the challenges of travel</li> </ul>	
14. AOB	Coffee morning to be discussed on 7 <sup>th</sup> August. Secretary to contact FHCC with regard to the venue for the next meeting.	TC
15. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> <b>September</b> 2019, 7 pm, <b>North Rooms, Forres Town Hall.</b>	