



## MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

### PRESENT

<b>Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)</b>	<b>David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)</b>
<b>John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)</b>	<b>Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)</b>
<b>Debbie Herron, (DH)</b>	<b>Angela Sutherland (AS)</b>
<b>Kevin McDermott, Moray Council (KM)</b>	<b>Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)</b>

### APOLOGIES

<b>Dawn Brodie, Moray Council (DB)</b>	<b>Councillor Claire Feaver (CF)</b>
<b>David Edgar (DE)</b>	<b>Mike Scott (MS)</b>

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Kevin McDermott, Service Manager Communities, Moray Council (MC).	
2. Minutes from 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2021	The minutes from the last meeting had been circulated, there being no amendments, they were proposed by David P and seconded by John.	
3. Matters arising	Item 3 – Volunteer hotlist – being worked on by April Charlesworth, FACT Item 3 – Chair and Secretary to take the banner forward Item 10 – Mannachie Park – several groups looking at the park and plans are to be drawn up Resource list – nothing heard Portable Defibrillator – Men’s Shed looking into getting one cost is £1,600 to put it in, have to replace pads if not used after 4 years – if used then replaced for free – to be connected to electric, cost per year £15 – hidden costs	SM/TC

	Mortuary meeting – no meetings held locally - ongoing	
4. Information Update – Kevin McDermott, MC	Kevin attended to ask what the Community Service could do and how they could support the community. A Community Learning Development Plan (CLD) is produced every 3 years with a particular focus on responding to the lessons of the pandemic in the first year. The priorities are learning for life, improving access to learning, active citizens and active communities, participation and community voice and workforce development. A strategic group was developed in consultation with partners aiming to bring together MC services to wider groups. Please find more information on the following link: <a href="#">Community Learning &amp; Development - Moray Council</a>	
5. Treasurers Report	The balance on the account stands at £2,585.70, the following has been paid out: £450 to the Secretary for secretarial duties for the year, £113 Zurich Insurance, £39.89 coffee morning expenses, £349.99 laptop and £118.80 STP membership. Coffee morning income was £129.	
6. Correspondence	Secretary informed those present the following emails had been sent out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tsiMORAY e-Bulletin</li> <li>• tsiMORAY e-Bulletin</li> <li>• tsiMORAY e-Bulletin</li> <li>• FACT – virtual doors tour</li> <li>• STP update</li> <li>• STP funding finder September 2021</li> <li>• tsiMORAY e-Bulletin</li> <li>• Link to smoke detectors information</li> </ul>	
7. FACT	Debbie Herron informed those present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secured funds through SCVO and HIE – to undertake recovery work from now to the end of March 22 – outreach and community meals 1/month and start a lunch club – starts on the first Wednesday afternoon in November commencing at 12pm with the OAP's – donation of £5 for 2 courses for those attending</li> <li>• Activity Assistant – employed part time and try out lots of activities to try and get people to come out and be social</li> <li>• Money received through HIE and Architectural Heritage Fund for the next stage of design costs on the Town Hall (TH) taking it to building warrant which will take up to next April. Will submit funding applications and hope for MC support due to the size of capital required (£3.5 million) and have to provide reasons as to what difference the money will make</li> <li>• Coffee mornings have started again, trying to hold one every Saturday aiming to address social isolation, there are gaps in the bookings</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TH is open and has capacity if wanting to book</li> <li>• Forres Online available to help those who have problems with their tech, drop in by appointment</li> <li>• Cameron Project – exercise classes take place on Tuesdays</li> <li>• Working on Volunteer Friendly Award aiming to get it renewed and working on the Volunteer Pool for Forres</li> <li>• FACT's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday – there will be some sort of celebration in November</li> <li>• Winter Wonderland – first week in December, gingerbread town competition sponsored by Macleans bakers, information to be shared</li> </ul>	
8. Planning for Real	Green Spaces Group came out of the Planning for Real meetings, also a mountain bikers group and a group looking into a skate park.	
9. Moray Towns Partnership	No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting.	
10. Moray Area Forum	No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting.	
11. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB – Royal British Legion planning the Remembrance Sunday parade, hoping for a back to normal pre Covid day. On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2 x chefs will start serving lunches on a Sunday for veterans their families and others.</li> <li>• KM – Armed Forces Covenant Group has been reinstated</li> <li>• DP – Men's Shed is back up and running. Osprey Bus AGM was cancelled. 24<sup>th</sup> October is the Men's Shed AGM. Article in the Gazette regarding money given to the Men's Shed received from Forres Academy and also received funds from the Adam Family Foundation. The new Forres Community Council are meeting through Microsoft Teams on the 21<sup>st</sup> October and it is open to public – email the Secretary for a link. Film Forres are showing the children's film Little Vampire on 22<sup>nd</sup> October</li> <li>• AS – no transport meeting – folding bikes for hire funded from Transport Scotland - £3.50/day</li> <li>• SM – FACT pop-up coffee morning on Saturday and Forres in Bloom (FiB) on the 13<sup>th</sup> November. FiB are negotiating with MC to get a lease for the nursery areas and possibly submit an Expression of Interest and do a Community Asset Transfer. Money for Moray – launched, online voting and asking for video's to be made, training is available. The money has been divided into East and West and there will be a showcase in Forres TH on Saturday pm (date tbc). FiB received a gold medal and the Community Horticulture Award. Opportunity</li> </ul>	

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

	to ask for feedback and will ask Sandy to come out. Battle with Transport Scotland customer services regarding the state of the roundabouts they look after in Forres, proposed the one at Greshop use vinka material – Lorna volunteered to enquire further	LC
12. Councillors	<p>Councillor Creswell informed those present of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with Marie from Moray Food Plus offering to collect money for the Moray Firth Credit Union (MFCU) from people in remote areas when the vans are out</li> <li>• George Alexander is a rep on Group Leaders group discussed Scotland Loves Local funding and MFCU have submitted a funding application with Gary Templeton, MC signing off the application electronically</li> <li>• MFCU newsletter circulated</li> <li>• Homelessness – tricky to assess and housing form is 26 pages long, takes a lot of time to complete</li> <li>• International Credit Union day on 21<sup>st</sup> October</li> <li>• Auchernack Trust is available – for older people</li> <li>• St Leonard’s Church is open on Thursday for a lunch club</li> <li>• Money for Moray is open for applications</li> </ul>	
13. AOB	Chair received an email from Tim Barry, MC regarding Auchernack and the weeding and cutting of the grass, this will not be undertaken as it is in the process of being sold.	
14. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2021, 7pm in the North Rooms, Forres TH.	