



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING – VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2022

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC)	Dawn Brodie, Moray Council (DB)
David Edgar (DE)	Debbie Herron, (DH)
Mike Scott (MS)	Angela Sutherland (AS)
Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)	

APOLOGIES

Martin Robertson, Moray Council (MR)	
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AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting. Those present send their condolences to the family of Lesley Edwards, a well-known volunteer with various groups in Forres.	
2. Minutes from 1 st December 21	The minutes from the last meeting had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Debbie and seconded by Sandra.	
3. Matters arising	Item 3 – Event Charging Consultation – informed this will not be finalised until 19 th January at a full Council meeting, This item was discussed and it was agreed a letter in collaboration with FACT and the Community Council is to be written stating community voluntary groups and charities are not to be exempt from charges if they are using Moray Council (MC) land for events. Contents of letter to be discussed at an upcoming meeting on 11 th January and to be submitted before the 19 th January.	

	<p>Dawn to get back to the group regarding who to address the letter to in MC.</p> <p>Item 3 – Dawn spoke with Anita regarding Moray Area Forum meetings, none have been held. Informed Fiona Rolt had resigned. Dawn to follow up with Anita and Fiona.</p> <p>Item 3 – Chair emailed photos and is awaiting a response regarding the siting of the Heiland Coo, currently two possible sites, beside the flower bed by Andersons Primary or in front of the Community Centre. Chair to follow up.</p> <p>Item 3 – Lorna followed up with Nicola Moss regarding the roundabout tidy up, was informed it was Bear looking after this, Lorna to follow up.</p> <p>Item 3 – bus timetables, Lorna followed up and due to changes in timetables and driver absences the bus company is not committing itself to new timetables at present. Lorna to follow up.</p> <p>Item 3 – fee during the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations, Lorna stated this came up at a MC committee meeting, Lorna to follow up.</p> <p>Item 6 – Resilience Plan was forwarded on to the Chair, Dawn informed the group that a plan for the whole of the community was to be looked at by the Community Councils and would include personal resilience, this item to be added to the agenda for the meeting on the 11th.</p> <p>Item 10 – Community Council meetings, unsure where to get the link to join a meeting, Dawn to ask Deborah at MC if it is possible to add links to join meetings onto the Community Council page of the MC website. Dawn to follow up.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p> <p>SM</p> <p>LC</p> <p>LC</p> <p>LC</p> <p>DH</p> <p>DB</p>
4. Treasurers Report	The Treasurer was not present. Dawn asked for the accounts to be emailed to Jane Martin, MC, Chair to follow up with the Treasurer.	SM
5. Correspondence	<p>Secretary emailed out the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP – event report • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • Moray Climate Assembly • Best Energy Savings Campaign – Citizen’s Advice Bureau • St Leonard’s Modern Workshop Service • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • STP e-bulletin • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • Moray Rape Crisis Recruitment • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin 	
6. FACT	<p>Debbie Herron informed those present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter emailed out which had a summary of all activities available this month, two coffee mornings have been postponed (15th and 23rd Jan) due to the 	

	<p>rise in Covid cases, Debbie would encourage attendance at the Meet and Eat sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frances Anderson is in post from 10th January as the Cameron Project Officer, Beatrix Windfarm money available and has extended this post to May 2023 • Lindsey Standing is the new Volunteer Co-ordinator, funding to end July with plans to extend for a further 3 years by applying for lottery money • Application to the European Social Fund was successful round the employability project for Forres On-line • With Covid adjustments in place the Town Hall (TH) is open with most staff working from home, some groups have cancelled and there is a small staff group running the TH • There have been two bereavements connected with FACT, Lesley Edwards a Director and the husband of a member of staff 	
7. Planning for Real	<p>Meeting of the Open Spaces Group held with another due. James Hunter, MC to see who will be in attendance. Green Flag was discussed, it has two levels, community and Council and community, currently looking at a community level with a view to go to full plan once all information has been gathered. Unsure how to register, possibility of using the Green Spaces Group as the user group for Grant Park. Martin Robertson, MC is new in post and will cover the Forres and Speyside ASG's areas picking up the work previously undertaken by Sylvia Jamieson.</p>	
8. Moray Towns Partnership	No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting.	
9. Moray Area Forum	No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting.	
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DH – pop-up pantry aiming to start at the end of the month and community meals starting up again in February in the TH • MS – Moray Highland Games is negotiating with the MC regarding their store reroofing (cost is around £20k), not heard back from MC's legal department and unable to apply for grants – request that Mike copies Lorna into the emails • LC – Scottish Water – open meeting planned for November and moved to the new year – Lorna to follow up. Developer Contributions applications to be decided on 12th January. Gazette putting out information regarding the skate park and following up on the Spirit of Community event • DP – is the new Chair of the Forres Osprey Trust. Community Council meetings are being held via Teams, Men's Shed restarted having undertaken 	<p>MS</p> <p>LC</p>

	<p>some alterations and installed CCTV, better lighting in the car park and also a mirror to see cars approaching down the road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DB – full team at Community Support Unit (CSU) since March 2018, full coverage of Moray with CSU officers responsible for the 2 ASG's and looking after Community Asset Transfers, Participatory Budgeting, Locality and Community Plans and supporting community initiatives and involved in the Review for Learning Estate. New to the posts of Community Council Liaison Officer is Deborah Duke and Jane Martin moved into the part time role of Reviewing Learning Estates • SM – Open Spaces group discussed with James Hunter Mannachie Park play equipment, James suggested the Chair contact Laura to see if it possible to raise extra money for the park. Dawn will speak with Laura and update the group. Debbie is to meet with Emma Gordon on 13th January and can raise this item then. Chair emailed Emma regarding a plan for Grant Park following a meeting with Alan James. Alex Burrell advised to consider a bore hole in Grant Park. It is hoped, when MC funding becomes available in the future to upgrade Grant Park play park, the community will be able to seek extra funding to extend provision. The proposal is for someone to look at all parks together, needs to be a co-ordinated plan. Forres in Bloom are investigating a Green Flag at Grant Park 	DB
11. Councillors	<p>Councillor Creswell informed those present of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moray Firth Credit Union were gifted pies from a local butcher before Christmas and gave them out to members • Received calls regarding lack of refuse pick-ups, MC doing their best but struggling with staff absences 	
12. AOB	<p>First round of budget discussion starts next week, MC are now able to raise the Council tax.</p>	
13. Date of Next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 2nd February 2022, possibly via Zoom, more information to be emailed out nearer the next meeting which will incorporate the AGM.</p>	