



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 3RD AUGUST 2022

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Debbie Herron (DH)
Councillor Scott Lawrence (SL)	Martin Robertson, Moray Council (MR)
Angela Sutherland (AS)	Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)

APOLOGIES

Councillor Draeyk Van Der Horn (DVH)	Lorna Creswell (LC)
David Edgar (DE)	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and all introduced themselves to Councillor Scott Lawrence. The Chair paid tribute to Sandra McIver and the group send their condolences to her family, she will be a great loss to the community. The Chair congratulated the Vice Chair on his appointment as Chair of Forres Community Council.	
2. Minutes from 1 st June 2022	The draft minutes from the last meeting had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Martin and seconded by Debbie.	
3. Matters arising	Item 3 – roundabouts have been done, there has been a change over of companies looking after them, Martin will find out who took over Item 3 – Transport Forum – Martin was unable to acquire a copy of the presentation but will be the lead on this Forum, there will be a meeting in September with key organisations invited, April Conway has replaced Jen –	MR

	<p>looking to share transport, Martin has asked for transport to be laid on for September</p> <p>Item 3 – Planning for Real map has been recycled</p> <p>Item 3 – Martin informed those present there has been no round up report as there has not been much happening in the past 5 weeks, he updated everyone</p> <p>Item 10 – Martin followed up directly with Mike Scott regarding the Highland Games shed query</p> <p>Item 10 – Martin to book Jane to come and give a Learning Estate presentation at the next FAF meeting</p> <p>Item 12 – Auchernack, currently under negotiation and the grass has been cut</p> <p>Query regarding rose Bedson the road into the town which have not been weeded, informed by the Chair she is aware and will be speaking to Grant Speed, Moray Council (MC) and investigating with the owners whether the roses could be removed and bulbs planted.</p>	<p>MR</p> <p>SM</p>
<p>4. Treasurers Report</p>	<p>The balance on the current account stands at £2,549.23, with the following paid out:</p> <p>£100 – Secretarial duties</p> <p>£167.40 - FACT</p>	
<p>5. Correspondence</p>	<p>Secretary emailed out the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falconer Museum open day • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • STP e-bulletin • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • STP e-bulletin • Information regarding no meeting in July for FAF • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • FACT newsletter • Invite to FACT Celebration event on 7th July 2022 • STP e-bulletin • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin • Skate Park Initiative • STP – Scotland Loves Local awards nominations • tsiMORAY e-Bulletin 	
<p>6. FACT</p>	<p>Debbie updated the meeting as follows:</p> <p>Currently quiet in the Town Hall (TH) due to summer holidays but a lot going on behind the scenes.</p> <p>Building design - will submit a building warrant before applying for any grant applications.</p> <p>Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) stage 1 application submitted for £3 million and should find out if able to continue to stage 2 – nobody in Moray has received any funding from RCGF and this is a competitive fund.</p> <p>Applications have been submitted to Historic Environment Scotland and an Expression of Interest (Eoi) with Just Transition Fund.</p>	

	<p>TH taken out of the Levelling Up bid as the Economist doing the assessments felt wouldn't give enough economic return.</p> <p>Forres On-Line – very busy and an increase in people wanting help with digital equipment.</p> <p>ESF project around employability is exceeding it's target helping 7 people into work since April, currently have 17 people on their books.</p> <p>Cameron Project – around reducing social isolation has 27 on the waiting list – looking into making more funding applications.</p> <p>Volunteers – going well with 54 joined since the beginning of the year, lots going on behind the scenes.</p> <p>Moray Employment Recruitment Initiative – successful in getting support for 2 members of staff.</p> <p>Caroline the Employability Officer is leaving at the end of August to go to another job out of the area.</p> <p>Lottery Funding Programme was successful and also received £250k from HIE for 3 years funding.</p> <p>Other Eol applications submitted.</p> <p>Operations and Finance Manager appointed for the TH started on 1st August part time until the end of August when he becomes full time.</p> <p>Programme of activities will be released at the end of August for autumn/winter.</p> <p>Meet & Eat – received initial funding and could offer subsidised, ran in May for £7.50 covering the cost of the meal but not the running costs – currently researching how to fund this – aim to start in autumn once funding sourced.</p> <p>Cameron Project – Auchernack Trust has funded the gentle seated exercise and health checks – good return – will submit another application to the Auchernack Trust to extend this work.</p> <p>Pantry – pilot project is going well in conjunction with Moray Food Plus – focus group will meet on 6th August – it will run for another 3 months and looking to make tweaks – how to pay beyond October to be discussed – project reduces food waste and supports people.</p>	
<p>7. Spirit of Community 2022</p>	<p>Spirit of Community event – no progress, Martin to contact Gary Simpson and set meeting dates – look to facilitate 2 focus groups for young people by mid-September.</p> <p>Summary survey results returned from Anne Rossiter together with typed up actions from the event, once the information is collated a meeting can be set up, the information collected will be available to all – possible report due out in October with Debbie to send an email out informing all of what has taken place.</p>	<p>MR</p> <p>DH</p>
<p>8. Moray Towns Partnership</p>	<p>No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting. Scott has spoken to a person trying to get MTP up and running again – could feed into community wealth building and could be one of the vehicles for engagement and</p>	

	working in partnership. Scott will follow up and report back.	SL
9. Moray Area Forum	<p>No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting. Request for the Treasurer to find out the balance on the account and inform Martin, Anita and Fiona are current signatories on the account.</p> <p>Milnes Area Forum has restarted with Rhona as lead and Speyside Area Forum has restarted with Martin as lead, looking to reinvigorate MAF's once the 4 forums attend looking to include the other area forums.</p>	JB
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DH – coffee morning on 6th August for Unicef for Ukraine. Findhorn Bay Arts have released their festival programme and there are copies available in the TH which is being used as a venue for some of the events. • MR – updated the group, there is money left over from the Developer Obligations and could be put towards a Participatory Budgeting project for the Forres Academy ASG area, asked if FAF would host, all those present were in agreement – Martin will go back to the Planning Department, MC to state FAF were willing to take this on with MC resources and Martin to come back to the group with next steps. Mannachie Park - had feedback from developers and arranging a meeting with stakeholders and a possible 27 members of the public being involved – a general meeting to be held to figure out next steps and what funding is available. Chair has contacted a lady from the Rothes group who would be willing to work with us, Laura from CSU, MC will also work with us. FAF would be willing to take the lead on this going forward regarding the £50k funding which is to be spent by April 2023, a meeting is to be arranged for the end of August. Martin to invite Laura to attend, Chair to invite someone from Rothes to attend • AS – electric Stagecoach buses have new low level buses on the Aberdeen to Inverness route and she attended the Falconer Museum event to mark 150 years of the museum • DP – applied to the National Lottery for Men's Shed but unsuccessful. Attended meetings regarding money for projects, tsiMORAY are the main organisers with another meeting on 16th August via Zoom. Outside gym, money has been acquired. Men's Shed have been in the Gazette, (front page today) and will be taking part in the Open Doors project on 24th September. Osprey Trust are thinking of applying for 2 electric buses (suggestion of possibly 1 electric bus and 1 people carrier) 	MR MR SM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SM – Money for Moray – attended a meeting in Aberdeen – Just Transition Participatory Budgeting £1 million split equally between the Shire, City and Moray – NESCAM working with the City and Shire receiving £50k for this, tsi’s from each area are receiving £50k to run it. Money for Moray are working with tsiMORAY and will receive £10k to support involvement – to meet with tsiMORAY next week, money to be spent on capital spending. Forres in Bloom judging is at 11am on Monday 8th August 	
11. Councillors	Scott informed all present he is 3 months in to his term as Councillor, he has attended lots of training and been through 1 round of Committees with a full council next week. He accompanied Richard Lochhead on his surgeries, most complaints were to do with speeding in the town with SNP passing a motion for increasing the 20mph signs throughout the town. He has a meeting with the relevant authority to reduce the speed limit in Brodie.	
12. AOB	The Theme Day members would like to start up again for the 2023 Theme Day but require new Committee members, they are also looking for help with other activities on the lead up to and on the day of the event, please look on the FACT website for further information or access this link August 2022 - Newsletter (forresarea.org)	
13. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 7 th September 2022, 7pm in the North Room of the Town Hall.	