



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 2023

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Michelle Gillibrand (MG)
Angela Sutherland (AS)	Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were received from Martin Robertson (MR).	
2. Minutes from 2 nd March 2023	The minutes from 2 nd March 2023 had been circulated, there was one amendment, item 6, Chris Thomas resigned from FACT. The minutes were proposed by Angela and seconded by David.	
3. Matters arising	<p>Item 9 – Mannachie Park – Michelle informed all that when FACT took over the Town Hall (TH) money paid for the Community Asset Transfer went to the Common Good Fund, how this money is managed sits with the Elected Members. Those round the table were unsure if the money went into capital or revenue</p> <p>Item 14 – the saga with the tree is ongoing</p> <p>Item 16 – Volunteers Day on 8th May, Forres in Bloom will be on the High Street trying to encourage volunteers</p> <p>Item 16 – Rotary Club is no longer hosting activities for young persons in the TH on 5th May</p> <p>Item 16 – Green Spaces Group will be doing something in the TH on the 6th May</p> <p>The Community Council, Osprey Bus and Film Forres will be in the TH on the 6th May</p> <p>Item 16 – Coronation Big Lunch – event in Grant Park cancelled and something will take place in the TH</p>	
4. Treasurers Report	The current account stands at £2,066 with 2 cheques cashed, one for £20 to FACT for room rental and the other for £50 secretarial expenses.	

5. Correspondence	<p>Secretary emailed out the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £60k Forres based Youth Participatory Budgeting • tsiMORAY e-Bulletins x 9 • Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report • Developer Obligations Participatory Budgeting • Forres Osprey Trust • King's Coronation Poster • MC Childcare Survey • Tesco Funding • FACT April 23 Newsletter • Consultation – Moray Climate Hub Action • North East Crime Alert and Bike Security leaflet • Gas mains replacement work • TH Tales • Cancellation of FAF meeting on 5th April 2023 • Scottish Towns Partnership note from Chair • Social Isolation Funding – Expression of Interest • Forres Community Council agenda • Moray Transport Forum – online meeting link • FACT March newsletter • STP Bulletin x 2 	
6. FACT	<p>Michelle Gillibrand introduced herself, she is the new full time Development Manager with FACT, she is aiming to bring stability to the FACT Team and support to the Board and looking forward with regard to the TH.</p>	
7. Town Centre Improvement Plans	<p>Chair stated nothing had been heard back from Kirsty Conti, MC, Michelle is due to contact her and will ask if money has been released.</p> <p>Green Spaces Group – informal group who meet and include groups involved in green spaces in Forres such as Transition Town Forres, Incredible Edible, Forres in Bloom, Forres Friends of Woods and Trees, Dava Way Group and Sanquhar Pond Group, they meet every 6 weeks and share what is going on. It was a FAF suggestion that before the money comes through those groups using the town centre and who have an interest meet up – the point of each meeting is for information to be shared amongst all groups. Martin has organised a meeting on 16th May in the Garden Room at Forres House Community Centre and he will email out invites.</p> <p>Waiting to hear about a bid Kirsty Conti submitted, community consultation took place and hoping third time lucky for Forres to receive money from the regeneration fund.</p>	<p>MG</p> <p>MR</p>
8. Spirit of Community 2022	<p>Draft report is due out soon, nearly ready to go to the graphics section at MC. Spoke about having a launch which FAF would host in the TH – photos required of the Forres ASG area for the report.</p>	
9. Mannachie Park	<p>Play equipment – consultation and community representatives have attended meetings.</p>	

	Children have been surveyed and Sarah Campbell, MC is putting out a scope to providers asking them to come back with plans to involve the particular items the pupils wanted. If they all respond may have 3 different plans. The initial sum was £70k from the Council on Participatory Budgeting and Martin and Laura have accessed more money from Landfill and are processing an extra bid to Berry Burn of £40k these have been submitted under the FAF name and the money will be banked in the FAF account. Have to go out to procurement when it is done and a copy will be emailed round the group.	
10. Developer Contributions to Forres ASG	Bids close on 20 th May and Market Place on 17 th June. Voting opens on 17 th June, £5k total on offer with highest amount groups could ask for being £400. Online voting and group will meet to see which groups go through who fit the criteria.	
11. Money for Moray	Money for Moray meeting to take place on 4 th May with 5 partners on Just Transition Participatory Budgeting – there is £1 million to be split equally between Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City and Moray for Just Transition Projects – this time there will be more time and will be opening soon for applications.	
12. Moray Towns Partnership	In abeyance.	
13. Forum	The name has been changed to the Forum. Went into abeyance over Covid, Dawn Brodie has taken this on with support from Martin, held 2 meetings with Gordon MacDonald, Buckie as Chair. Working on a new constitution with a suggestion that all forums look at their own constitutions and adapt them. Looking at a plan for moving forward. Possibility of receiving money from the Economic Development budget as funding from Education budget stopped in the last budget, hoping to reinstate Community Development funding. Forum bank statement to be passed on by Chair.	SM
14. Transport Forum	Chair and Angela attended the last meeting, currently in the throes of progressing and next meeting will be held on 6 th June at 6pm possibly in Elgin. Looking to set up a constitution and developing a plan with Marian Ross as Chair. Local bus service – app for Dial-a-Ride now called m.connect has gone live this week m.connect - Moray Council Some complaints received regarding lack of information regarding m.connect. Chair to check regarding paper based bus timetables for bus stops at the next Transport Forum.	SM
15. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB – Royal British Legion will be having a barbeque in the Rose Garden on 7th May starting at 3pm • SM – at the Green Spaces Group meeting concerns 	

	<p>were raised regarding the cutting down of 5 trees at the Mosset Burn. Chair will write to James Hunter, Moray Council (MC) regarding their concerns as there was no community consultation before the trees were cut down. Ecumenical service at St Laurence Church, Sunday 14th May at 6pm. Forres in Bloom (FiB) entered Beautiful Scotland competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS – attends drumming session in the TH put on by FACT says they are well attended • DP – will be stepping down as Chair from the Forres Community Council. Men’s Shed open day held on 15th April made £300, not a lot of attendees, will attend the Rotary coffee morning to sell Men’s Shed wares. Film Forres did quite well at the last movie showing. Completed forms to have a stall for Men’s Shed at the Highland Games in July. Resilience Plan – making progress need to look at connections for phones to enable dissemination of information around – concentrate on each household to ensure they have their own resilience plan and provision in place, leaflets to be delivered, possibly by scouts, to each household • TC – upcoming coffee morning on 13th May FiB, 20th May Friends of Guiding and 27th May Town Hall User Group. 28th May Soup and Sweet at St John’s Church commencing at 12 midday • MG – Rotary suggested a joint community table at the Highland Games 	SM
16. Councillors	No Councillors were present.	
17. AOB	<p>Agreed to take a break in August, Tina to cancel room booking with FACT on 2nd August in the TH.</p> <p>Community Energy and Climate Action Fair – open day on 20th May, 10m to 1pm, in the TH</p> <p>Tourism Group met last week, next meeting on 25th May, Chair to attend.</p> <p>Chair to attend a meeting around town centres on 4th May at the College.</p> <p>Tourism meeting in Elgin TH on 25th May have to pay £6 to attend, Moray Speyside Way.</p> <p>Town Hall User Group meeting on 30th May at 6pm in the TH.</p>	TC SM SM
18. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 7 th June 2023, 7pm, North Room of the Town Hall.	