



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2023**

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
Lorretta Oliphant, Depute Treasurer (LO)	Gordon Ruddiman (GR)
Angela Sutherland (AS)	Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made, apologies were received from Michelle Gillibrand (MG) and Mike Scott (MS).	
2. Minutes from 6 th September 2023	The minutes from 6 th September 2023 had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Lorretta and seconded by David.	
3. Matters arising	<p>Item 3 – FAF have joined the Forres Area Business Association</p> <p>Item 3 – Gordon informed all there is no sign of Martin Robertson’s post being filled and Gordon will continue to support FAF</p> <p>Item 3 – not successful when applying to Berry Burn for Mannachie Park grant</p> <p>Item 3 – Gordon checked with a member of MC who works closely with Sustrans and they were not aware of a cycle path through Grant Park, possibility of widening the path. Possible feeling in town is to use the path through park and fill in the pot holes as the current road beside the park is narrow and when cars park either side of the road, unable to have to cars side by side. Possibly Emma Gordon in Planning at MC is dealing with this. Chair to enquire with MC if any building</p>	

	<p>work would affect planting for next year in Grant Park</p> <p>Item 6 – FACT’s Cost of Living project has received funding, looking for the Highland and Islands Executive consultant to work with the Board, initial meeting held</p> <p>Item 6 – beer festival in the Town Hall during October hosted by the Vienenburg Twinning Association</p> <p>Item 13 – the accounts have been produced</p> <p>Item 13 – Local Action Fund – spent the money and have specific criteria by which to disperse the money</p> <p>Item 15 – Forres Area Tourism Network – Chair and Vice Chair attended the meeting on 28th September</p> <p>Item 14 – Moray Transport, Deborah Duke, Community Support Unit team will give support – Angela to attend the next meeting on 10th October and report back</p>	<p>SM</p> <p>AS</p>
4. Treasurers Report	The account stands at £3,048.86.	
5. Correspondence	<p>Secretary emailed out the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tsiMORAY e-Bulletins x 5 • Moray Council Transport Survey • Bike Fest Forres – 23rd September in Grant Park • Forres Osprey bus – website • Learning Estate meeting rescheduled • Forres Community Council minutes and agenda • STP Bulletin x 2 • Forres Osprey bus update • Moray Jobs and You – Jobsfair • Forres Osprey bus AGM • STP Funding Finder – September 23 • Moray Council survey on services <p>School Estate meeting attended by Chair, 4 attended from the public, next drop in session on 24th October at the library from 11am to 8pm and also an online survey – hoping to provide a sustainable education service and aiming for excellence.</p>	
6. FACT	No report available.	
7. Town Centre Improvement Plans	<p>Kirsty Shand has been appointed to prepare a 5-year plan, she is meeting individuals and groups, Chair to meet with her on Thursday 5th October.</p> <p>Business Association AGM on 26th October at 6pm in the Tolbooth.</p>	SM
8. Spirit of Community 2022	Chair to produce a statement for opening remarks.	SM
9. Mannachie	Submitted an application to Berry Burn Community Trust –	

Park	Chair and Secretary met with a rep. Participatory Budgeting and communities were encouraged to find further funding.	
10. Developer Contributions to Forres ASG	Nothing further and Forres in Bloom (FiB) to spend money they received and submit receipts to reclaim monies spent.	
11. Money for Moray	32 applicants applied, to be completed online, although paper copies available, have to vote for 10 projects. £500k split with £50k to youth who are doing their own Participatory Budgeting exercise. £225k – all who applied will go forward and once this figure has been reached then the money will go towards groups who have no paid staff, this is a trial.	
12. Moray Towns Partnership	In abeyance.	
13. Moray Forum	Looking for funding – comes under Community Planning Partnership – Dawn Brodie, MC is looking to see if other groups are putting money into this and will find out how Aberdeenshire fund their groups.	DB
14. Transport Forum	Angela to attend the next meeting on 10 th October and report back to the group, constitution and 3 priorities discussed at the last meeting and see how the Secretary is getting on.	AS
15. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC – Theme Day coffee morning on 7th October • GR – getting up to speed with what is happening in Forres and will be present at the drop in • DP – Film Forres putting on films over the next month, next child's one on 6th October is Up, Crafters in the Tolbooth on 7th October 10am to 4pm, Rotary coffee morning on 14th October, Kinloss Military Wives Choir at St John's church on 14th October, Pensioner's coffee morning on 21st October and Royal British Legion coffee morning on 28th October • SM – Federation of Village Halls – attended a meeting with a speaker from MC present who spoke about licenses – suggestion is to invite her to a meeting and invite other groups to attend as a more public event – Chair to follow up with FACT 	SM
16. Councillors	No Councillors were present.	
17. AOB	Agreed no meeting would be held in January 2024, Secretary to cancel the booking.	TC
18. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 1 st November 2023, 7pm, North Room of the Town Hall.	