

BUCKIE AREA FORUM

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 28th August 2013 in the Town House, Buckie

Present: Barry Taylor, Chairman, Zafar Ali, Treasurer, Sonya Warren, Secretary, Jo Farquhar, Ian MacPherson, Emma Marandola, Ian Moir, Gillian Rose, Neil Johnson, Lynne Ward, Bill Grieg, Nicola Warren, Emily Allan, Joe Grant, Benjamin Palmer, Nathan Edwards

In attendance: Cllr Joe MacKay, Cllr Gordon MacDonald, Cllr Anne McKay.

Apologies: Alan Beresford Vice-chair, Doug Ross, Julie McIntosh, Scott Mann, Alistair Farquhar, Chris Hall, Iain Todd,

1. Minutes of previous meeting

An error in section 6 was noted - £1000 to be added.

Proposed: Jo Farquhar, Seconded Zafar Ali.

2. Matters Arising

Item 2: Gordon MacDonald announced that the project to consider 11Cluny Square will not go ahead due to prohibitive costs and the expression of interest has been withdrawn.

Item 5: 2 of the 5th years the Head Boy and Head Girl and Rector of Buckie High School will attend.

Item 6:a: Moray Council have informed BAF that the container on the Linzee Gordon ground is to temporarily house the goal posts.

c: The Spooky Men's concert is sold out.

d: Access to Newlands Lane and the police station, although people are now using it no "official" access can be made at present until the Haldenes plot is redeveloped.

3. Minutes of AGM

The minutes of the AGM will be re-emailed as due to compatibility issues in the software the treasurer's report has not been printed fully.

Minutes proposed by Zafar Ali and seconded by Jo Farquhar.

4. Correspondence

Insurance: No need to insure the buildings as these are covered by Moray Council, contents to be insured. Zafar Ali to work out assets.

Richard Lothead letter: A letter of congratulations has been received for the Fish Wives Walk and apologies for not being able to attend.

Letter of Complaint: Sheila Wishop has sent a letter of complaint as the fish wives walk brochure has no pictures of women on it. Letter to be sent explaining the research and use of historical photographs along with assurances that the group designing it was in fact 4 women.

TSI Moray: There were no objections to the forum joining TSI.

Homeless strategy: Sonya Warren to email all with the Homeless Strategy document. Gillian Henley is conducting a survey to which all are encouraged to complete and the Forum will submit a group entry.

Top Class: Initially received £300 grant from the Regen group. Now have 50 children on the books with a regular attendance form approx 40. Looking for funding to help purchase a sound system. BAF has agreed to give £200 maximum upon production of receipts to help with the admin costs. This is a one off grant.

5. Moray Forum update

No report in Alan's absence

6. Regeneration Group

Fishwives walk

The event was a great success with 40 businesses and 50 community groups taking part. The Keith and Strathisla regen Partnership was also involved. It was estimated that one and a half to two thousand people were there. The Fishing Heritage centre has noticed an increase in footfall since the event. The provision of a seat at Arradoul was discussed. Difficulties in public transport were noted for walkers reaching Keith were noted. Keith Rotary Club is holding a sponsored walk on 19th September. There was the suggestion of linking other walks e.g. Speyside Way to the Fishwives walk.

Buckie brochure

It was agreed that a general purpose leaflet should be available promoting Buckie.

Income

Following the purchase of equipment for the walk e.g. gazebos etc a means of loaning //renting these to provide income needs be found. A list of costs and insurance need to be produced by the treasurer. Discussion of possible trip hazards and provision of ramps and protectors was made.

Speyside Race

The runners are keen to still hold a ceilidh after the race. It was noted that this year the winner was only a minute off breaking the current record and the second runner was only 2 seconds behind.

Band stand

There are on-going discussions about the possibility of a band stand and/or charity auctions.

Facebook

It was suggested that the BAF Facebook page be used to promote the items for hire.

7. Youth Matters

The new youth members were welcomed.

Littering was discussed and agreed that the bins are in the wrong places and often overflowing. Anne McKay will chase the council but the cost of emptying the bins falls to the school when the bins were filled over the weekend by the public. It was suggested that BAF possibly used some of the Tesco monies to purchase additional bins but then the cost of emptying becomes an issue. Barry Taylor to write to Steve Williamson on the subject.

The school minibus is in need of replacement within the next 12 months and Neil Johnson asked if consideration could be given to the possibility of the purchase of a community area bus. The school does have a garage where it could be stored.

8. Community Issues

The closure of Buckie Shipyard prompted the question of support for those affected. Fergus Ewing is attending and Skills Development Scotland is visiting too. HIE says there are several expressions of interest and signs are encouraging.

9. AOB

Offshore work:

Competition between Buckie and Wick for off shore contracts were discussed and agreed that Buckie needs to promote the harbour as the more appropriate to use for this work.

Food Outlets:

Following the opening of two more food outlets within the town centre, it was asked if there is any limit to the number of these shops but there is no set limit so long as they meet the statutory requirements.

Banking:

To prevent fraud the Bank of Scotland has changed its criteria for group bank accounts and is now asking for a full list of members and their details. It was agreed that data protection law must be followed and so Sonya Warren to liaise with bank.

Top class:

Having been awarded a £200 grant to assist with their admin costs Linda Ward will organise for a press photo for the handover of the cheque.

Youth Presence:

Ian MacPherson commented that it was good to see support of the young people from Buckie High.

BAF registration forms were distributed for those wishing to join.

Next meeting:

WEDNESDAY 9th OCTOBER 7pm in the Town House.