

BUCKIE AREA FORUM

MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4th February 2015

In The Town House, Buckie.

Present:

Alistair Farquhar, Jo Farquhar, Sonya Warren, Gillian Rose, Ian MacPherson, Nicola Warren, Neil Johnson, Mollie Moon, Emma Marandola, Alan Beresford, Linda McDonald (part)

In attendance:

Cllr Gordon McDonald, Ian Todd,

Apologies:

Zafar Ali, Gary Coull, Ian Moir, Cllr Gordon Cowie, Cllr Ron Shepherd, Julie McIntosh, Cllr Margo Howe, Tam McLellan.

Previous Minute:

Emma Marandola was present for the meeting but is listed in both those present and also apologies. Name to be removed from those offering apologies.
Minutes proposed by Ian McPherson and seconded by Emma Marandola.

Matters Arising:

Tables: Gordon McDonald is looking to purchase 10-12 new tables for the hall. He suggested a different colour to the Moray Council ones for easy identification. It was agreed that this should come out of the BAF administration budget.

Display boards: BCHS need to borrow the display boards for an event on 5th March. It was also agreed that the BAF budget should purchase new boards to replace those lost by TMC.

BAF laptop: Alan Beresford is investigating the whereabouts of the laptop.

It was agreed that the BAF purchase a printer, to be kept in the Townhouse, and two laptops, with one being allocated to the secretary and one to the minute secretary.

Correspondence:

Nil

Minute Secretary:

Due to pressure of work and other commitments Jo Farquhar is no longer able to act as minute secretary and secretary. The chair thanked her for her time and asked for replacements. Emma Marandola agreed to take over as minute secretary and Linda McDonald as secretary.

Treasurers report:

In Zafar's absence Alan Beresford reported on a phone call received from the treasurer. Having offered his apologies he reported that as of 02/02/15 there was £8932.46 in the Forum account and as of 08/08/14 there was £6117.06 in the Regen group account.

It would appear that the insurance to Highland council is still not being paid. Sonya agreed she would take this on and ensure it is paid.

Hall Bookings / Caretaking:

A proposal to offer an honorarium for someone organise bookings, key holders and caretaking. The library to be given a monthly list of rentals and they will email the chairman monthly with signatures for the keys. This will allow an audit trail. The small room adjacent to the hall should be used for Forum and Regen group storage only. The sum proposed for the administrator would be £500 per annum. All this was unanimously agreed.

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Gillian Rose offered to take on hall responsibility until a permanent appointment is made. There will be no lettings on a Sunday. Priority for bookings is given to any Forum or Regen group bookings. It was agreed that the employment of a cleaner is essential as the groups booking the hall do not clean it thorough

Moray Forum

As money is held in the bank future funding may be in doubt. The forum must commit to spending monies already held. A Buckie website is required and also a consultation with local communities. Forres are offering to help as they have already undertaken a similar project. It was agreed to spend £3,000 on a website and £2,000 on a database. This includes money to pay a webmaster. The cost of an app for sending information regarding events etc would be approx. £500.

Cullen has large population of over 65s who prefer news in a newsletter format rather than electronically.

It was suggested that Forum meetings are advertised in the local paper to encourage more participation.

Petty cash - at present there is no petty cash facility. It was agreed that the treasurer needs to establish this along with a standard form for signing out monies.

The executive are to meet with the treasurer.

Moray Health and social Care Integration Scheme:

A consultation is under way and all are encouraged to make their own comments. It was noted that there is little mention of community pharmacy or dentists. It looks top heavy with management. It was agreed that the Forum suggest the option 2 split would be the preferred choice.

Regeneration Group:

The wifi bids have been very large but one has undercut by £12K. It is hoped to have it working by the middle of March.

The group are planning on bringing possibly Big Country, Human League and Eddie Reader to the Fishermans Hall. Buckie festival is offering to work with them on promotion..The regeneration group agreed a contribution towards the public liability insurance policy for Buckie festival.

The telescope although fitted is not working and this is to be corrected shortly. The Council have yet to install the protective bollards around it.

The four town's project is looking to produce a leaflet attracting visitors to Buckie; Suggestions for the leaflet included the Fishermen's memorial, St Peters, Keswick in Buckie, walking/fishing/golf, the skate park, fishermen's heritage centre, the dolphins and Gemini explorer amongst others.

There will be a Farmers Market on 20th March run by BCHS and sponsored by the Regeneration Group (£1,000).

The Council has just approved the MTP funding for £15,000 p.a. for the next three years. Gordon asked if the BAF would agree to continue with the Buckie Regeneration Group as it is currently operating as this had been omitted at the BAF AGM. This was unanimously agreed.

Youth matters:

A showcase will be held on 5th March in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Buckie. Youth enterprise awards to be made on 18th March. Farmers Market will be held on 20th March otherwise nil to report.

Community:

Buckie Festival may organise a show in May but funding is minimal.

AOCB:

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Pop up shops were discussed but implications for rates payable has implications. Even inserting displays into the shop windows may invoked the potential for rates to become payable. Gordon McDonald to investigate charges and liabilities for window covers

The Buckie Drifter was discussed. James Alexander and team have made it clear that they will only progress the project if the venue is to be the Drifter. Other towns are vying for the project but it was acknowledged that James will only bring it to the Drifter as this is the only viable choice in his opinion.

Linda McDonald was thanked for taking on the secretary's role.

The shortage of teachers reported widely in the media is a problem across the whole of the North of Scotland not just for Moray.

Cullen's new community council are looking to expand their Gala day to a 2 day event and have stall right along the harbour wall.

Traffic management in Buckie is shortly to change radically. The railings around Cluny Square are being removed, traffic lights added in Cluny Square and at the High Street / Cathcart street cross roads, and a pedestrian crossing erected at the Well Road junction. The current zebra crossing on High street by the pharmacy is to be moved up the High street.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 15th April 2015 at 7pm in the Town House, Buckie.