



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2012**

PRESENT

Carin Schwartz, Chair	Fabio Villani
Aaron McLean	Anne Skene
Lorna Cresswell	Angela Sutherland
John Bremner	Margaret Cowie
Sandra Mclennan	Terry Monaghan
Valerie Wardlaw	Tina Coffey

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Carin welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made. Guest speaker is Margaret Cowie, Volunteer and Community Participation Development Officer, Moray Community Health and Social Care Partnership. Carin informed those present that with immediate effect Laura Steele had tendered her resignation as Co-Secretary.	
Apologies	Naomi Zair, Brian McDonald, Issie Campbell and Denise Gormley	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in September 2012	<p>The following are amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pg 2 - bullet point 3, the sentence “Anne Skene advised that Suzy Gentle is pursuing this” is to be removed • Pg 2 – bullet point 3 – name change from Richard Hartley to Richard Hartland • Pg 3 – under MTP point 2 remove “and Forres Website” • Pg 3 – under FACT Carin & Fabio attended a conference with Development Trust Association Scotland and not a session • Pg 4 – Round the Table – bullet point 2 remove extra x in Executive • Pg 4 – Round the Table – bullet point 2 remove “next to Findhorn River” and replace with “between Forres and Findhorn” • The gold lettering painted on the signs the word “yesterday” is to be removed. 	

Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Brian McDonald is not present it was decided to put ATV vehicles on the agenda for the next meeting • Councillor Anne Skene wrote to Andy Duff, Senior Traffic Engineer re the pedestrian crossing in Market Street, his reply was it is not possible and it is unlikely that the criteria for a controlled crossing can be met. Road traffic counts are to be taken. John Bremner is to share this information with the Community Council. • A trial run of the Footprint leaflets has been undertaken. • Forres in Bloom judging takes place on Saturday 6th October – follow up at next meeting. • Moray Fair Trade Forum – Lorna Cresswell attended the forum and there does not look to be a lot of work needed, such as some restaurant and cafes selling fair trade items. Lorna has spoken to Meg McKenzie who feels it would be ok could get back to churches, by the end of the year the government want the country to be Fair Trade. Councillor Lorna Cresswell thought that perhaps Forres should be called a Co-operative Town, Elgin has mostly been running with this so far. Have to pass a resolution for fair trade. A local steering group has yet to be convened. Alan MacBeth is the point of contact and will create a website, if the information is given to him he will put Forres on a fair-trade map, the next meeting is to be held on 4th December 2012. Liz Stewart from Forres Academy will be promoting this. The Forres Area Forum is happy for Forres to be a Fair Trade Town and John Bremner is to take this idea up to the Community Council. Councillor Aaron McLean is to speak with the Co-op and Tesco about Fair Trade matters. • Have Your Say Moray Council Consultation is on in Forres on 4th October 2012 	CS SMcL
Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £2,798.64. Since last meeting, the following have been paid out: £8 to the Moray Council for catering, a cheque to Laura Steele for £50 for secretarial duties and a cheque to Tina Coffey for £100 for secretarial duties. No grant applications have been received.</p> <p>John informed those present that there was £600 in the Youth Account, which came from Elgin Rotary Club (£500) and a fundraising event (£100).</p> <p>Councillor Lorna Cresswell is to give contact details for Susan Reid to Carin who will contact Susan and clarify the intended purpose of these funds.</p>	LC/CS
Presentation by Margaret Cowie	Margaret Cowie, Volunteer and Community Participation Development Officer, Moray Community Health and Social Care Partnership gave an interesting talk on Moray Council volunteering, buddies and lifeline and telecare services.	
Valerie Wardlaw – Chinese New Year	Valerie Wardlaw is looking to fund another year of celebrations to coincide with Chinese New Year as last years celebrations were a great success. Valerie is working with the Shen Foundation and believes that this is an exciting opportunity to	

	<p>match up micro businesses within the area and make links with Chinese organisations abroad and in the UK. This will happen on Sunday 17th February 2013. FAF would be of help to Valerie by writing a letter of support and Valerie said that she would be applying for a grant to David Watson at Leader of around £4,000 and a grant of £200 from the FAF. It was suggested that perhaps Forres could twin with a small area within China, this would have to be looked in to. Those present were supportive of this project.</p>	
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>Sandra MacLennan received an email from Alan MacBeth who hopes to have the list from each town by December and would need the FAF draft by the beginning of December. Fabio Villani is to redraft an article for the Forres Gazette and check with Tanya to see if it is possible to publish it. Sandra, Fabio and Aaron are to work on the existing draft 3-year plan, involving Kresanna Aigner and any member of the public interested in participating, in order to prioritise a list. The resulting list, Forres 3-year action plan, is to be circulated before the November meeting and those present should have read it by the next meeting. Kresanna hopes to have a budget of £1,500 for Culture Day in 2013.</p>	FV//AM//SM//KA
Consultations	<p>Have Your Say Consultation is currently underway, all those present were encouraged to attend the Roadshow in Forres on 4th October 2012 Wind Farm Consultation – in the Forres Gazette the Kinloss Golf Club is trying to put in 3 small wind turbines and the Kinloss Community Council is going for a site visit</p>	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Fabio – there was a meeting in September to agree the 3 top priority areas, currently: 1) Insuring FACT's sustainability 2) Develop and support regeneration of High Street 3) Tourism Next meeting of FACT is on Monday 8th October 2012</p>	
Allotments	<p>There was an Allotment Seminar on 25th September 2012 in the Elgin library, around 20 persons turned up. The Allotment Policy for Moray Council is 2 years old and is up for revision. Carin who attended the seminar stated that 4 years ago there was a small private allotment in Burghead and that was it in Moray. In Forres there is a community garden and there is an allotment in Cullen on private land and a garden share in Elgin. After 2 years there are still no Council run allotments in Moray. Presentations took place and facilitators took down information from those present as to what they would like to see happen in the future. There was a presentation from Highland and Island Council. Their planning regulations now state that all new housing developments must have land for allotments, 1 sq m per person, with a current suggestion of increasing this up to 4 sq m per person of land which is to be set aside for allotments within the centre of any such new development. Councillor Aaron McLean attended and he noted that Richard Hartland was present and he was quite positive about this subject.</p>	
Community Engagement	<p>There have been no meetings of the Community Engagement Working Group since May. Susan Rogers is running 3 different courses throughout</p>	

	<p>October, all are free to attend. These are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Games from 10am – 1pm on 17th October 2012 2) Risk Assessment pm on 31st October 2012 3) Introduction to Duke of Edinburgh Award by Gavin Morgan in NEON from 10am – 5.30pm on 13th October 2012 <p>Fabio notified those present that there was to be an Engaging with Society meeting on 16th October 2012 from 1.30pm – 4pm in Elgin Town Hall run by Scotland Health Council this would go through how to engage community groups.</p>	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron – Yes to Scotland on 29th October 2012 in Elgin Town Hall supper room at 7pm • Valerie – family drop in during October at Nelson Tower also a Makers Market will be held at the Falconer Museum on 24th November from 10am – 2pm • John – Forres Community Council next meeting is Thurs 18th October 2012 • Lorna – Credit Union coffee morning on 15th December in the larger hall of the Town Hall – Spirit of Community Event. This week community benefits of wind turbines. • Sandra – Forres in Bloom coffee morning is to be held on Saturday 13th October 2012 and the AGM will be held on either 26th/27th November. <p>Scott Faulkner is looking to tidy up the entrance to Forres at the Greshop Industrial Estate, suggestions are to be given to John Bremner, possibly to grass over the roundabouts as they are not being looked after</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabio – Moray Chamber of Commerce has an Ambitions for 2013 event on 23rd November 2012 • Aaron enquired as to who he would contact re the Pipe Band Championships; the names of Ian Widdowson, Carlo Miele, David Urquhart, Alan James and Lesley Laughton were given 	
AOB	None	
Date of Next Meeting	Next meeting is 7 th November at 7pm in Forres Community Centre, Carin Schwartz gave her apologies for this meeting and any agenda items are to be emailed to Tina.	