



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 7th MAY 2014

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair	Councillor Lorna Creswell
Councillor Anne Skene	Ian Todd
Terry Monaghan	Tina Coffey, Minutes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Fabio Villani, Carol Shaw, Eleanor Hayward, Angela Sutherland and Naomi Zair.	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in April 2014	There was one amendment: Under FACT the Administrators surname is Fraser and not Davidson. The minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Sandra Maclennan.	
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handbook has been received, Secretary to forward on to FAF members after amendments for FAF use have been made. Third party insurance – Ian Todd informed those present Anita Milne, Moray Area Forum, is pursuing this item. Maps – Chair has received an email from Cameron Taylor, annotated map is with Helen Stirling. Cameron has been in contact with Carin Schwartz and together with Helen Stirling and they have been in discussion re branding and corrections. Big Sky has been contacted for a printing quote with a quick turnaround. Vice Chair, Carin and Treasurer to meet with Cameron on Friday 9th May 2014, Chair to report back to meeting. FAF meetings in June and July 2014 will be held in the Forres Learning Centre. 	TC SM CS/JB BM
Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £3,062.40 with 2 cheques cashed; £50 for secretarial duties and £27 for catering. This leaves £2.90 left to spend on MTP money and there is	

	£276 set aside for insurance. There was 52p interest and an un-cashed cheque dating from 12 th March 2014 in the amount of £35.46 payable to Kresanna Aigner, Secretary to send an email to Kresanna requesting the cashing of this cheque.	TC
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	FAF members present discussed the proposed MTP project requests for money which have been received, these include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forres in Bloom £5,000 • Forres Area Credit Union £4,000 • Findhorn Bay Arts Festival £3,000 • Nelsons Tower Video Equipment £747.78 • Piping Hot Forres £2,000 • Maps – branding and printing £5,000 Secretary to contact Alan Macbeth, TMC, with the list of proposed projects for approval. Iain Todd to send Councillor Skene information in connection with Buckie MTP spending.	TC IT
Consultations	Moray Local Development Plan – large document and should be available in the library, consultation period for groups extended to 5 pm on 23 rd May 2014 Please see http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations/Current website which has a list of current Scottish consultations Vice Chair attended the Schools Estates Consultation, explanation of the proposals behind the ideas – schools that have 3 classes are safe leaving the likes of Alves and Dyke to continue and the proposal for Forres is that there should be only 2 primary schools each with a capacity of 400 pupils. Pilmuir and Applegrove Primary’s would be the schools to remain. Queries with the upgrade of Applegrove Primary would it be fit for purpose. Possibility that Andersons Primary could be surplus to requirements.	
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	Chair and James MacKessack-Leitch gave a presentation to the Community Council (CC) on renewables with all present commenting favourably on their willingness to support the solar meadow investigation. Presentations to be arranged for Heldon & Laich, Findhorn and Kinloss Community Councils and The Moray Council planners. Lord Strathcona initiative – Chair to meet with Professor Marjory Parker involved in a display re Lord Strathcona and also agreed to meet up with Curator of Exhibitions, Scott Byrne to see if he could assist/advise with regards to how to put on a show with a lasting heritage. Town Centre Group meeting went well. FACT offices are open to the public with venue available to book for meetings after 2.30 pm until 9 pm. Moray College will be moving into the Community Centre, possibility that FLC will be surplus to requirements and will be disposed of. Any proceeds of the sale will go to the Scottish Funding Council. Chair stated FACT would like to take over the building by either leasing, Community Asset Transfer or purchase, could be used by a lot of groups and	

	<p>could be of benefit to the community. Samantha Fraser, FACT Administrator appointed as the Secretary for TRACKS re the Strathcona experience – planning to set up a not for profit company which would include Dufftown and Forres. Suggestion that someone from here go to visit Great Canadian Travel Company in Canada nearer to the visit in 2015. Lots planned for the Canadians visits with trips and ceilidhs etc. Chair in touch with Professor Marjory Parker who is keen to engage with Tracks to see if they are able to put together a heritage experience.</p>	
Community Engagement	<p>Members discussed a potential date of 2nd October 2014, venue thought to be best is the Town Hall. 2 – 3 people from each group to get together. To be discussed further at the next meeting.</p>	All
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra MacLennan – volunteers starting to meet on Sundays at 2 pm at the sunken garden to start to get ready for planting Coffee morning to be held in St Leonard’s Church Hall on 21st June 2014 James Duncan has completed the work in the sunken garden and made a wonderful job of it – awaiting gravel and tops – Moray Council provided a lot of the materials Week commencing 31st May 2014 planting in Grant Park will commence • Iain Todd – new part time Community Support Officer starting Monday – busy with school estates collecting and collating information • John Bremner – next Community Council meeting will be held on Thursday 15th May 2014 • Brian McDonald – Moray Area Forum meeting held on 5th May 2014 informed of Associated Schools Groups – amount received for Forres Academy was £188,488 with only £5,040 spent. Money pledged but not spent 	
tsiMoray	No report this month.	
Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell stated that she had been busy with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited a contact centre for separated parents who are able to meet up with their children, called Avenue held in Cedarwood building Elgin • Visited Keith community hub • Auchernack - deadline for posties money applications is 28th May 2014, with another chance in November 2014 to submit funding applications. Office bearers are to be appointed, funding criteria is for older people within a 3 mile radius of Forres – elected Forres Councillors and John Bremner able to access the money • Vienenburg video conference held at Dallas 	
AOB	Treasurer brought a grant request form from the Boys Brigade who requested £200 to help with their setting up	

	costs, proposed by Sandra Maclennan and seconded by Councillor Lorna Creswell. Treasurer to write a cheque. Carol Shaw and Eleanor Hayward are stepping down from the FAF due to ill health. Secretary to contact Community Council requesting a representative attend in place of Eleanor Hayward.	JB TC
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 th June 2014, 7 pm in the Forres Learning Centre	

Please note the meetings for June and July 2014 will be held in the Moray College Learning Centre now known as the Forres Learning Centre (FLC) starting at 7 pm