



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY 2014

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair	Councillor Lorna Creswell
Andrew Anderson	Angela Sutherland
Chas Rodger	Debbie Herron
Fabio Villani	Gary Simpson
Gill Bird	Iain Todd
Kresanna Aigner	Naomi Zair
Tina Coffey, Minutes	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Terry Monaghan.	
3. Minute of FAF Meeting held in June 2014	There was one amendment: Under AOB Naomi Zair has stepped down from the position of Chair of the BALL Group with Wendy Strachan from The Moray Council (TMC) in place as interim Co-ordinator. Joyce MacDonald and Julie McKay who are Joint Chairpersons are currently away and Naomi is undertaking the role in conjunction with Wendy. The minutes were proposed by John Bremner and seconded by Naomi Zair.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cheque for £200 has been posted to Adrian Hutchins for the purchase of items in connection with the Mosset Burn Conservation Society. Councillor Creswell and John Bremner had been in touch about the positioning of the saluting dais on Armed Forces Day. 	
5. Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £2,743.49 with 1 cheque cashed; £50 for secretarial duties. This leaves £2.90 left to spend on MTP money and there is £276 set aside for insurance. The account earned 29p	

	<p>interest. The grant has yet to be paid. To aid in the release of grant money John Bremner is to email a copy of the accounts for the year 2013 – 2014 to Iain Todd (Iain received a 12 month paper copy of the accounts at the last FAF meeting). Request from John Ferguson, Community Planning and Development Manager, TMC for a copy of the annual accounts – Iain Todd to forward on to Andrea McArthur, TMC.</p> <p>Councillor Creswell queried whether a group in Rafford who wished to bulk buy oil could apply for money for fliers and communication costs from FAF, suggestion they may be able to apply for a grant of £200. As they are not a constituted group those present would agree to invite a grant application which would be discussed at the next meeting. John Bremner to forward a copy of the grant form to Councillor Creswell who will pass on to those concerned.</p> <p>Names of those on the sub group to discuss grants are Sandra Maclennan, John Bremner and Debbie Herron. Proposed by Fabio Villani and agreed by those present.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>
<p>6. Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)</p>	<p>There is an under spend of £2,000 on the maps which are in circulation, the majority stored within the FACT building. This occurred in part to the use of thinner paper and the lower costs incurred in production. 10,000 of both the flat and folded maps have been printed with a great many changes incorporated. The maps have been sent to many local businesses together with local hoteliers and accommodation providers. Findhorn Bay Arts Festival (FBAF) are developing a database of accommodation providers stretching from Elgin to Nairn, a college student is currently employed by FBAF. If FAF are able to cover the postage costs FBAF are willing to provide administrative personnel to post out maps along with their own newsletter.</p> <p>Members present commented on the lack of branding on maps throughout Forres i.e. no use of the same fonts or colours. The Chair stated there would be a Moray Speyside Forres branding on the maps which is part of an overall brand for the area. A discussion ensued, £30,000 was spent on Moray Speyside branding some years ago and part of Cameron Taylor's job remit includes developing this recognised brand using current guidelines. Chair to contact Cameron for a copy of the guidelines which are to be emailed to the Secretary for circulation.</p> <p>Town Centre Working Group (TCWG) - Debbie Herron facilitates this group and although enthusiastic they have no budget, she would like to bring proposals from them via FACT to FAF, those present were in favour.</p> <p>Fabio Villani queried planning for a real event at Bogton, Councillor Rodgers told those present Stuart Noble was unable to help at present and the group is not constituted, therefore agreed to let it lie at present possibility of money from the Co-op if yes re-raise the issue possibly in September – Bogton Group.</p> <p>The TCWG is looking at the possibility of new signage at the top of Tolbooth Street, needs to be a collective coordinated approach with Forres in Bloom (FiB) in attendance and in keeping with the other signs in Forres.</p> <p>The Forres Footprints map is to be put on hold whilst the branding is looked in to.</p> <p>The suggestion of a ride-on lawnmower for FiB was raised. Sandra</p>	<p>BM</p> <p>TC</p>

	<p>Maclennan has spoken to Ian Bruce and a good mower would cost £15,000 on top of this would be other expenses such as storage, insurance, maintenance etc – requires a lot of thought. FiB is to liaise with the Cricket Club re storage and the use of the mower for their pitch.</p> <p>The Chair attended a MTP Meeting after which an email was circulated about Mi Moray which was subsequently recalled, Chair is unsure why and is awaiting an update. The 4 towns were not keen on investing in Mi Moray. Forres web being upgraded – avoid duplication.</p> <p>Chris Hall, Community Transport Officer, TMC is able to access money from community contributions from builders which will go towards an additional bus on the week day service to assist during the day and as from 18th August 2014 there will be a one year trial of the Saturday service starting in September 2014 – routes unknown.</p>	BM
7. Consultations	None known of.	
8. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	FACT has gained charitable status opening up more opportunities for the future.	
9. Community Engagement	Members from FAF, FACT, Forres Community Council and the Kinloss & Findhorn Community Council, 8 – 10 people have agreed to meet beforehand, in July 2014 in the FACT building to hold a planning meeting – need to create a master plan for the area. Main date of 2 nd October 2014 set with Councillor Creswell booking the Town Hall for the occasion. Confirmation is needed that 1) able to do this 2) who will be coming to the event. When everything is in place Secretary has offered to send out invites to community groups. TsiMoray are willing to help engage with community groups to help them work together.	LC
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fabio Villani – tsiMoray – new member of staff Eilidh Brown – to tap into communities to help provide services for older people to lead longer happier lives - one member of staff back after long term sick – achieved EFQM Committed to Excellence from Quality Scotland – surveymonkey has been shortened and re-circulated please complete if possible – restructuring took place, 2 posts to be created, Operations Manager plus 1 other funded by money from Scottish Government – Rural Parliament to meet in October, local event in September, to get feedback – reps from Scottish Health Council will be joining tsiMoray staff on 3rd July from 12.30 pm – how to engage with NHS staff. <p>Green Growth – Hope or Myth talk on 3rd July re limits to sustainable development of growth - at Sunset Café, Inverness starting at 7 pm.</p> <p>Scotland Yes screening on 18th July in the Town Hall</p> <p>Big Vote Non Partisan Referendum Card Game on 21st July at the Tolbooth there for 7 pm with a 7.30 pm start – game re referendum yes or no vote.</p> <p>Business for Scotland on 30th July, 7 pm in Mosset</p> <p>Interest in working with children and young people forum on 4th August from 10 am to midday in Moray at Inkwel, Elgin</p> <p>tsiMoray AGM on 8th September, venue tbc - looking for</p>	

people to join the Board

Volunteers – contact tsiMoray for any help with promotion or getting framework of policies etc

- Chas Rodger – car boot sale at Transition Town Forres (TTF), aim is to form a community market to generate interest and next year move to Tolbooth. Big Fruit Group (BFG) will plant out several thousand fruit bushes on local land and with help from Community Woodland Trust, FiB etc hope to plant them out within Forres possibly to harvest fruit in future years
- Naomi Zair – Older Peoples Reference Group (OPRG) meeting held in Elgin on 20th June, turnout from Forres poor. OPRG now meeting at Red Cross House in Elgin on Wednesdays.
- Sandra Maclennan – FiB volunteers will be contacted re dead heading, weeding etc – funding good and several large donations received – there will be a meeting to develop site as greenhouses not big enough – have to consider whole site and reconfigure it, 11th July at 10.30 am
Wee Fibbees – 22 on books, all really enthusiastic, closed during the summer
Jackie King has been nominated as Forres Citizen of the Year – presentation at Rotary Lunch at the Ramnee Hotel on 3rd July
Piping Hot Forres – looking for 1 young person to work with team next year unfunded – if anyone knows somebody who would be interested please contact Sandra
- Gary Simpson – funds raised for the first phase of youth centre development have been spent with items such as a Smartboard purchased for use by the community. Second phase to start and Gary to work in partnership with FACT to raise £14,000. November 2013 to June 2014 1,700 young people used the centre (includes repeat visits), working with FBAF and several young people involved in MacBeth the Remix
Mock referendum took place in the Academy – 16 – 18 year olds, 70% No vote won
P6/P7 transitions – heavily involved
- Andrew Anderson – Queens Baton Relay at Enterprise Park before Forres
www.morayspeyside.com - check website as strong way of promoting events, calendar on each page – register then self edit own page
- Kresanna Aigner – launched highlights festival leaflet – various artists attending includes 11 community groups, choirs, martial arts group
Walking tour with Findhorn Heritage Trust through Findhorn village
Culture Day in Forres is 27th September 2014 – still opportunities for groups/individuals to participate
Volunteering opportunities – a community group per night spread over 4 nights whilst MacBeth the Remix is on at Brodie have the opportunity to run the car park and charge for parking – to be 16+ years old contact Gill Bird if interested on

	<p>projects@findhornbayarts.com 60 page brochure to be launched on 16th July 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debbie Herron – FACT is available to support community engagement in the area, if any group would like help please phone Debbie – role is to broker networks and partnerships and to help facilitate ways of working together 4th year UHI student to join staff over summer to carry out a study of the High Street – mapping exercise to collate into a document • Gill Bird – FBAF – spaces available for Alan Bennett’s MacBeth and All That on 25th September 2014 at the Town Hall Cameron Taylor will be conducting historical tours about MacBeth in Forres Volunteers required for events please contact FBAF • Iain Todd – Denise Gormley, staff member has left the area CSU is supporting Community Asset Transfers of Tolbooth and Kinloss Primary School and Alves will be helped to look at funding for refurbishment of village hall Sports & Leisure Review back in to consultation and beginning next week putting together a draft programme for Elected Member Working Group • Brian McDonald – email received today from TMC – in 2014/15 the Scottish Government will be offering to fund design charrettes undertaken in support of town centre regeneration as part of the Town Centre Plans – able to apply for money to be able to apply for 3D visualisations First round of applications to be in by 21st August 2014 – FACT to make an application on behalf of town 	
11. Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell stated that she had been busy with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended an NHS merger meeting in Aberdeen on 2nd July – looking at ways of connecting throughout the A96 corridor • Queens Baton Relay will be on the High Street on 3rd July between 5.11 pm – 5.51 pm 	
12. AOB	Request from John Ferguson for a list of dates and times of FAF meetings for the remainder of 2014.	TC
13. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 6 th August 2014, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.	