



FORRES AREA FORUM
MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH
AUGUST 2009

PRESENT

Angela Sutherland
 Councillor Irene Ogilvie
 Michelle Gillibrand
 Fiona Limbrey
 Colin Lipscombe
 Bob Hellyer
 John Bremner
 Sandra McLennan
 Naomi Zair
 Alex Ross
 Ann-Marie Skidmore
 James Duncan
 Jennifer Collins
 Carin Schwartz
 Margaret Cowie

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Carin welcomed everyone to the meeting	
Apologies	Fabio Villani Councillor Bell. Councillor Hamilton Councillor Young. Heather Shaw Lorna Creswell	

Minute of Meeting held in July	Couple of spelling mistakes noted. Minutes approved by Bob Hellyer. Seconded by Colin Lipscombe.	
Matters arising	<p>Support Worker - previous support worker now working in Elgin.</p> <p>Michelle advised that in the interim, she would be the Forres Area Forum support worker and she plans to be in Forres one day a week.</p> <p>Gavin Morgan has been invited to attend the September meeting to give an update of 'Butterfly Effect' programme. An invite has been given to Forum members to attend a presentation evening on 26/08/2009 at 7.30 at The Universal Hall in Findhorn.</p> <p>Road signs for Highland Games - no feed back from Councillor Young who had agreed to look into why Moray Council removed road signs.</p> <p>Edgehill Rd - Private ownership, Michelle to follow up further.</p> <p>Action Plan - meeting took place with Michelle, Carin and Jennifer, more work needs to be done to prepare draft for discussion.</p>	Jennifer to send out invite to Forum. <i>Done.</i>
Treasurers Report	<p>John Bremner advised that the account balance is £671.78.</p> <p>Jennifer noted that this year's admin budget had not been paid into the account.</p>	Michelle to follow up
Guest Speaker	<p>Margaret Cowie gave an insightful presentation about the Forres 'Adopt a Street Campaign'.</p> <p>Margaret provided leaflets on how people can become involved in the campaign.</p>	

<p>Update from Elected Member</p>	<p>This is a new standing item on the agenda. Councillor Ogilvie agreed to give an update at short notice that outlined the role of elected members. Irene spoke about her contribution to the Forres Gazette 'weekly column' and that her priority is promoting Forres groups and activities. Irene advised the Councillors in Forres hold a surgery on the first Monday of every month, 6.30 - 7.30 upstairs in the Community Centre. Contact details of elected members can be found on Moray Council website.</p>	
<p>Moray Small Towns Partnership</p>	<p>Fiona Limbrey gave an update on funding available through the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee. There is an action plan that is moving through various stages of completion, such as the map of Forres that has been widely distributed. She went on to outline the process of the Town Centre Regeneration Fund. Although Moray was not successful in the first round of funding awards, Moray Council will be submitting a further bid for the next round of Funding, There was a general disappointment noted about the lack of funding for Moray in the first round. The Forres Festive Lights group have been encouraged to submit a bid for £10,000 towards the cost of £35,000 for replacing some of the present lights with more energy friendly lights. A further bid is to be applied for the 'Shop Improvement Scheme'. Concern was</p>	

	expressed about the imposed timescales and the logistics of submitting successful bids. Fiona suggested for people to contact her direct about what community groups would like in Forres.	
Community Garden/Moray Allotments.	The Community Garden held a successful first AGM. There was good attendance and a management group was established. There is an 'Open Day' on Saturday 15 th August. Bob Hellyer advised that the £40,000 paid to Moray Council for the lease of the community Garden would not be coming to the Forres Common Good Fund.	
Farmers Market	Ann Marie advised on ongoing developments to establish a Farmers Market in Forres. There is still a high level of frustration about the process, in particular, a disjointed response from Moray Council. Michelle advised she has met with the Farmers Market group in Elgin and there is a further meeting planned to create a Farmers Market Action Group to assist in the development of a Farmers Market in Forres.	Councillor Ogilvie requested that she be included and involved in the process.
Forres Area Forum Action Plan	Draft Action Plan to be emailed with a request for feedback. To be included on agenda for next meeting. Bob expressed concerns that the Constitution would not complement the Action Plan	To be discussed further at next meeting.

<p>Round the Table</p>	<p>Alex Ross gave an update on the Christmas/festive lights committee and developments in relation to the infrastructure and the renewing of energy efficient lights. The committee are applying to the Climate Challenge Fund and Town Centre Partnership.</p> <p>Sandra McLennan gave feedback about the recent judging process for Forres in Bloom/Entente Cordial. The committee is holding a 'celebration' in October; regardless of the result which is due on 25th September.</p> <p>Community Council - next meeting is on 20th August at 7.30 pm.</p> <p>Forres Flower Show takes place on 6th September, 12.30 - 5.00pm at Forres Town Hall.</p> <p>Irene Ogilvie gave an update of the 'arm band' campaign for Primary School children. She also advised that Moray Firth Radio have available £50,000 to donate to organisations for the purchase of a mini bus. Irene to be contacted for further information.</p> <p>Tish Murray is planning an open day of her garden in Forres in aid of Breast Cancer Research.</p>	<p>Exploration about the idea of a 25th anniversary celebration this year. Alex to keep the Forum updated.</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>September 9th, 7.00pm at Forres Community Centre</p>	<p>Room booked.</p>