



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Councillor Lorna Creswell	Fabio Villani
Angela Sutherland	Debbie Herron
Gary Simpson	Naomi Zair
Terry Monaghan	Tina Coffey, Minutes

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Sandra Maclennan welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Brian McDonald, Carol Shaw and Chas Rodger.	
3. Minute of FAF Meeting held in September 2014	There were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Fabio Villani and seconded by John Bremner.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAF – leaflet suggestions – none received. • MTP – Forres website – Debbie Herron requested members have a look at the website and feedback to her – no feedback received as yet. • MTP - Secretary contacted Alan Macbeth, The Moray Council (TMC) re £500 for contribution towards leaflets – nothing received from Alan. • Wifi – Debbie Herron is awaiting a meeting with a member of Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE). • Lossie Local – Forres Community Council no interest received and Nicki Slater has not come back to FAF. • Round the Table – Transport Forum meeting on 20th September 2014 in Lhanbryde was cancelled new date to be confirmed possibly 1st November 2014 (tbc) – Fabio Villani to check and report back to John Bremner who will let Secretary know the date - decision to subsidise transport stands. • Consultation – Rural Parliament presentation went well – update to expressions of interest closed roughly 10 days ago 	FV/JB

	<p>and waiting to hear back.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TsiMoray AGM – Board of 10 appointed, meeting went well with mix of national charities and local mix of people attending. • Bank of Scotland Community Fund – Forres in Bloom (FiB) currently 4th in the group and will receive at least £100, if they come top then £3,000 could be received – request to vote if you haven't already – currently on FACT Facebook page – closing date midnight on 10th October 2014 and able to vote in the bank. Secretary to send voting link to Fabio Villani. • Berryburn Wind Farm – 400 people attended family day. • MacBeth the Remix – success with all those attending enjoying it. Car park collections by groups raised from £50 to £150 each night over the 4 nights – no set prices, free parking with donations accepted. • Findhorn Bay Arts funding – Debbie Herron plans to start Ignite programme asap. • Secretary sent Adrian Hutchins email in connection with Action fund. • Osprey bus – old one currently off road due to brakes not working – volunteer drivers still required. 	TC
5. Treasurers Report	<p>Current balance stands at £4,214.79 which includes £2.90 left to spend of MTP money, £276 for insurance and 33 pence in interest. There was 1 cheque cashed: £50 for secretarial duties. Request from Fabio Villani for £200 towards distribution of a Transport Directory to houses throughout Moray members voted with no objections to agree to this request and Treasurer to contact Fabio with regard to receiving an invoice for the money.</p>	JB/FV
Tea & Coffee	Provided by Vice Chair.	
6. Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>There have been no MTP meetings. Forres in Bloom (FiB) working on greenhouse planning, advice required from TMC Planning Department - £5,000 still to be spent. Distribution of Transport Directory A5 booklets to all households within Moray - request from Fabio Villani, tsiMoray for £500 to help with distribution costs – members present voted with no objections - agreed to the donation of MTP money for this project. Secretary to contact Alan Macbeth, (TMC) to see if this request is possible.</p>	TC
7. Consultations	<p>Statutory Review of Polling Places and Polling Districts 2014 - closing date 6th October 2014 for suggestions – paperwork shows current districts – no changes proposed.</p>	
8. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Debbie Herron has been busy working on FACT's Growth Plan. Frances Powell dealing with the Learning Centre and exploring the possibility of FACT taking on the Learning Centre building. Frances Powell and Samantha Fraser volunteered to help out at Culture Day and the Findhorn Bay Arts Festival, all 3 staff are preparing for the Spirit of Community event on 2nd October 2014. The Town Centre Working Group held a meeting last week – two items came up – how to contribute towards the Christmas lights which are to be switched on on 29th November 2014 and looking at how to contribute towards promotion and publicity. There are 3 new shops on the High Street, which is vibrant. Gary Simpson - youth bands would appreciate the opportunity to contribute and help raise their profile on the town centre lights switch</p>	

	<p>on night. Debbie and Frances are juggling their workloads and the first Tourism Group meeting will happen on 7th October 2014 where Debbie will explain what FACT do. Vice Chair received communications from Eleanor Hayward who would be interested in starting a Scarecrow Festival – would FACT be interested in this? – FACT busy this year but may look at this in the future. Development Trust for Scotland conference was attended in August – good to hear about other development trusts.</p>	
9. Community Engagement	<p>Spirit of Community event, 2nd October 2014 in the Town Hall Forres from 6.30 – 9.30 pm - this is a community led approach by those persons living within the Forres Academy catchment area. Gary Simpson will set up a PA system. There will be a video backdrop to be shown at the beginning of the evening with the use of the Film Forres screen. Noted that there is a lack of young people attending on the night – will have to connect with younger people at a later date. Technique to be used by facilitators on the night is S – strengths, O – opportunities, A – aspirations and R – results. Town Hall will be open from 5.30 pm onwards.</p>	
10. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Simpson – Macbeth the Remix – great time had by all those who attended with positive outcomes. Local nominations for Youth Council to be in by 31st October 2014 – 8 people so far put their name forward. Youth Council Members meet usually in Elgin to discuss local issues for young people in Moray. Questionnaire circulated at Forres Academy – 10 major issues on questionnaire and choose 1 option and then back to the Youth Council for collation and discussion. Request from Forres House Action Group (FHAG) who would like to come and speak to FAF at the next meeting – they would like to raise funds - those present had no objections to this request and Gary to take back to FHAG – to be placed on November’s agenda. • Fabio Villani – Third Sector news: Health and Social Care Third Forum meeting on 16th October 2014, 1 pm at the Inkwel, Elgin. Community Planning Partners interested in participatory budgeting – an open way of involving people in looking at budgets; delegation from partnership will attend a seminar on this in Dingwall on 17th October 2014. 6th/7th/8th November 2014: first Scottish Rural parliament meets in Oban. Moray Community Awards launched this week – nominations required; forms available from the Gazette, Tesco, FACT, Community Centre, Findhorn Foundation, Kinloss SPAR and online at http://www.moraycommunityawards.co.uk as well as from the Northern Scot and tsiMORAY. Award ceremony on 21st November 2014. Moray Business Week – 10th – 14th November 2014, will include a Social Enterprise market to take place in St Giles Centre on 11th November 2014 and the premier of a movie about young Social Entrepreneurs on 14th November 2014. Other news: referendum debate generated renewed interest in democracy and participation, with many people joining political parties for the first time ever; Green 	TC

	<p>Party numbers have swelled both nationally and locally, with more local activity anticipated across Moray. FAF and other community organisations should also benefit from people's renewed enthusiasm for active involvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Maclennan – FiB – clearing all plants from Grant Park after the school holidays and looking for volunteers to help. 	
11. Councillors	<p>Councillor Lorna Creswell has been busy with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findhorn Bay Arts Festival – Lorna at the Findhorn Foundation Conference and during a small break took part with a heritage walk round Findhorn which was part of FBA Festival. The James Milne Institute was busy with the Automata presentation. • Feel Good Factor Festival on for a month – for those with difficulties with mental health – how do we feel about ourselves? • Self Directed Support – seminar and workshops about allocation of funding to people to enable them to have a choice in their communities • Moray Art Centre – display of all those in Forres who helped at FBAF and displayed in a room • Spirit of Community 2014 – after the event information collected on the night will be collated and available to those who request it • Trusts – Council trying to amalgamate smaller trusts as amalgamation will cut down on costs • Credit Union – information point on 27th September for the Culture Day, 40 people came into the High Street shop • Action for Children survey – person returning to complete a survey on parents needs of under 8's at Forres House Community Centre – will be back in October 2014 – Lorna sent her FAF's database list of groups • Coffee bar in Forres House Community Centre and in Elgin to be advertised this week – would like this to be a social enterprise – please explore and will look to support rather than have it empty 	
12. AOB	<p>Debbie Herron – Highlands and Islands Executive put in an application to Skills Development Scotland for World Host Training – they have been successful in match funding of up to 50% available for those who have face to face interaction with members of the public – one day training could result in world host training accreditation – aim is to lift quality of service in the area. Price not yet finalised but in the region of £80 - £90 but with 50% funding brings cost down to around £40. Training opportunities to come soon – aiming for Forres to become a world host destination.</p> <p>Lord Strathcona – last meeting cancelled, new meeting to go ahead on 17th October 2014 – visit expected by Max from Canada before December 2014.</p>	
13. Date of Next Meeting	<p>Wednesday 5th November 2014, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.</p>	