



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2013**

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair	John Bremner, Treasurer
Fabio Villani, Vice Chair	Councillor Aaron McLean
Councillor Lorna Creswell	Sandra MacLennan
Ian Todd	Carin Schwartz
Naomi Zair	Eleanor Hayward
Tina Coffey, Minutes	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Apologies	Apologies were received from Kresanna Aigner, Angela Sutherland, Carol Shaw and Andrew Anderson.	
Minute of FAF Meeting held in November 2013	<p>There were the following amendments:</p> <p>Page 1 – name change from MacLean to McLean</p> <p>Page 3 – Round the Table – the Community Council did not hold a coffee morning on 23rd November should have read Friends of Guiding coffee morning</p> <p>Page 3 – tsiMoray clarification of minutes - Carin Schwartz was proposed by FAF as a candidate for the tsiMoray Board and was elected in her own right, therefore there is no automatic transfer of seat on the Board to another FAF representative</p> <p>Page 4 – Review of School Estate and Future Education Provision – following amendments received by Councillor Skene should read as follows “Councillor Skene reported that in October there had been 8 community briefings, one in every secondary school town, and consultation had taken place with all Primary and Secondary Head Teachers. On 8th October, the first community briefing was held at Forres Academy which had a good turn-out and the discussion was led by 2 advisors from Caledonian Economics. A questionnaire was launched on TMC website – 1,000 responses and 30 comments by email were received. All results being analysed and Advisors and Steering</p>	

	<p>Group felt it would be good to have further community engagement. Date arranged is 21st November in Elgin Town Hall from 2 – 5 pm and 6.30 – 9.30 pm. Meeting is invite only for community representatives and those invited will be given feedback on developments so far. FAF member advised she would attend the afternoon meeting which will be a workshop. Steering group meet 7th November”.</p> <p>The minutes were proposed by Councillor McLean and seconded by Sandra Maclennan.</p>	
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kresanna Aigner is to purchase extension cables and bring receipt to the next meeting. • Carin Schwartz is to contact Jo Smithson to see if she is interested in applying for a FAF grant. • This item to be carried forward and Vice Chair is to send a copy of the 2012 Study of Town Centre Economic Activity by Rowena MacDougall to the Secretary for circulation to FAF email list. • Third party insurance – Ian Todd is to follow up this item and email Secretary • FAF Handbook has been updated and includes additional changes i.e. 10 year plan. Ian Todd is awaiting a final draft before forwarding on to the Secretary to circulate to FAF members. • Councillor Creswell met with Steven Cooper re banners and signs, fund raising activity from businesses with 60% to company and 40% to TMC and policy had been passed with regard to signage at roundabouts. Community Councils had not been informed the policy had been changed. • Treasurer to write a cheque for £100 to Forres in Bloom (FiB) for the Wee Fibeas. • Tenants Forum money raised at a tenants meeting and discussion ensued with the possibility of paying for grass cutting raised. • Councillor Creswell has written to the Osprey Trust to set up a meeting in order to see if it is possible to use their bus, she will report back • Moray Area Forum – British Red Cross may have to drop some transport if funds are withdrawn they have no choice – Eleanor Hayward - member would like discussions to include Local Community Councils. • Review of School Estates – Sandra Maclennan attended review meeting lasting 3 hours, asked to discuss views and own experiences of school, she felt answers given were not ones that were expected. • Grant Park – FiB pursuing a solution for future and if help or support needed FiB will ask FAF. FiB met with Dawn Brodie and Emma Carr, Legal Services only prepared to offer letter of intent and need security of tenure for funders, awaiting a letter. Sandra Maclennan back on FiB committee. Councillor Skene not present and charges for maintenance of equipment to be carried forward. • FAF bookings for Community Centre meetings booked for 	<p>KA</p> <p>CS</p> <p>FV</p> <p>IT</p> <p>IT</p> <p>JB</p> <p>LC</p> <p>EH</p> <p>AS</p>

	<p>2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Creswell spoke with George Alexander TMC and he is looking for a broader representation of his group. Councillor Creswell met with Susan Lesley re paths – this item to be carried forward <p>Sustrans money find out in February 2014.</p>	TC
Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £3,522.13 with no change from last month. Change of signatories paperwork received by bank.	
Moray Towns Partnership (MTP)	<p>MTP meeting on 25th November 2013 attended by Vice Chair who met with representatives from Keith, Buckie and Elgin. Loyalty card scheme in Elgin discussed – presentation at the next MTP meeting.</p> <p>Vice Chair – way in which TMC is paying MTP bills seems to be changing back to purchases being made by the Council on the town's behalf; this is not particularly helpful, so discussion of this issue is continuing.</p> <p>The only claims received to date by TMC for 2013 – 2014 are £1,500 from Findhorn Bay Arts Festival and £5,000 from European Pipe Championships, for a total of £6,500. This leaves £8,500 from this year's allocation plus £1,774 left over from last year. Forres maps and branding have already been allocated £5,000 with map printing to take place before the end of March 2014 as stocks are running very low, maps needed for next year.</p> <p>Chair – idea to make sure all maps were similar and create additional material for further a-field, consistent branding needed, important this item is finished with possibility money can be carried forward. Chair to take this item forward.</p> <p>Kresanna Aigner to carry forward £1,500 for event pool. Coffee table covers were purchased through a different budget.</p> <p>Underspend can be carried over to next year, although this may be the last year when this is possible, so it is important to allocate and spend the remaining budget in 2014/2015, unless otherwise agreed with TMC. There is a need to involve people in review and reprioritising spending plans regularly – Vice Chair handed over spreadsheet from TMC for updating. Copies of Chinese New Year invoices to be sent to TMC by Secretary.</p> <p>Councillor McLean – any spare money possibility of helping to buy plants for FiB – already agreed £5,000 to be spent with FiB.</p> <p>Fountain in sunken garden – Scottish Water condemned it, needs new piping and possibility that pool is leaking. Possibility of applying to Entrust for money before 14th January 2014.</p> <p>Councillor's Creswell and McLean to follow up and report back.</p> <p>Vice Chair's intention to step down from his post in FAF in February although he will continue to attend meetings when possible.</p>	<p>BM</p> <p>TC</p> <p>LC/AM</p>
Consultations	<p>Review of Leisure, Sport and Recreational Facilities in Moray circulated – Forres meeting to be held on 9th December, FAF member willing to register, attend and report back.</p> <p>Berryburn Consultation re Wind Farm comes into operation Apr 2014 – tried to get feedback about how annual community benefit should be spent. Approximately 35 people attended, further meeting in Jan/Feb when information from meeting has been collated.</p> <p>Muirden – due for planning permission next week possibility of</p>	<p>SM</p> <p>BM</p>

	<p>purchasing 1 x windmill – payable on megawatt £5,000 per annum. Possibility that FACT may wish to invest in this site. Our Lives Our Way – Moray Learning Partnership Disability Board – deadline 24th January 2014 – Councillor Creswell to check what stage this is currently at and get back to the Board.</p>	LC
Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Cameron Taylor, LDO has completed his employment contract and has now left the Trust's employment. There is the possibility of future employment as a Consultant between now and the end of March. Shona Ferguson, Property Manager at Brodie Castle is to join the Board.</p> <p>Poly tunnels donated with plants being grown in tunnels at Brodie Castle of interest perhaps to Sandra Maclennan, Secretary to send Shona's email address to Sandra.</p>	TC
Community Engagement	<p>Councillor Creswell raised questions in Council about how does Forres become engaged if they are not selected to engage, if nobody attended the Moray Area Forum then Forres would have no voice at all – how are things constructed?</p> <p>At the new Community Council meeting Community Engagement was discussed and reported that they have to become a member of tsiMoray to get a voice.</p> <p>Come together as a big group, or various groups come together - how best to go forward.</p> <p>Convener's office – not a council group, Chaired by Convener of TMC and a representative from Area Forums, village halls, joint Community Council, tsiMoray and Fiona Rolf (member of Milnes Forum and minute taker for Moray Area Forum) and other groups attend. Ian Todd understands that an action plan had been put together and the last he heard had gone to the last meeting with a view to being endorsed. John Ferguson is on the Board. Those present unsure of the role of community engagement.</p>	
Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Bremner – short Community Council meeting on 19th December • Sandra Maclennan – very good turn out to plea for help in park around 40 attended, bulbs taken up, barrels planted and 1 possible new volunteer to the FiB Board • Rotary Club raised £7,000 for the Philippines and out soon collecting round the houses with Santa and his sleigh • Carin Schwartz - Moray Food Bank collection points at TTF and Reboot • Fabio Villani - White Paper on Positive Independent Scotland published - speakers at Moray College on Friday 6th December at 7 pm – Angus Robertson and Richard Lochhead in attendance • Brian McDonald – FACT end of year celebration on 19th December from 10 am to 12 midday at the Tolbooth all welcome. 	
tsiMoray	<p>Restructuring completed with 1 x Chief Officer, 2 x Volunteering Groups Development Managers, 1 x Business Crisis Development Manager, 1 x Business Support Manager and 1 x Administrator. Application in to host additional post to help engage people from the voluntary sector. Currently ½ staff off sick and office open when possible. New Board working well but need more people due to a wide remit.</p>	

Councillors	<p>Councillor Aaron Maclean stated that his month had been busy encompassing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending Sport and Leisure Life Sciences Centre on Friday • Licensing starting in Findhorn • Wind farm a week on Tuesday • Muirden planning 10th December <p>Councillor Creswell stated that it had been a busy month which encompassed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New role as Health and Social Care merge with NHS • Trip to Edinburgh to meet up with colleagues from health sector • Boyndie – school bought for £1 trying to develop a social enterprise – group who bought Boyndie managed to double the size – includes people with disabilities of all age groups, includes a restaurant and garden nursery. • Meeting on 14th January 2014 with care in mind • Heritage Group community asset transfer postponed -not turned down – try again in February – noted that Elgin Youth Cafe were the first to get a community asset transfer • Councillor McLean to forward to email to secretary 	AM
FAF Membership	All FAF members to complete membership forms, unconstitutional and not entitled to vote if no paperwork received.	
AOB	<p>Eleanor Hayward is the appointed Community Council representative to attend FAF meetings.</p> <p>Councillor Creswell attended a meeting about town walks to be held in July and August to see if there would an interest – there is to be a meeting in January for those interested.</p> <p>Boys Brigade and Anchor Boys are ready to launch and need a grant request form, also Men’s Shed were looking for a grant request form. Councillor Creswell to send email addresses to Secretary for onward transmission for grant claim forms.</p>	LC
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 5 th February 2014, 7 pm in the General Purpose Room at Forres House Community Centre.	