



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY 2015

PRESENT

Brian McDonald, Chair (BM)	Sandra Maclennan, Vice Chair (SM)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Angela Sutherland (AS)
Debbie Herron (DH)	Ian Todd (IT)
Naomi Zair (NZ)	Terry Monaghan (TM)
Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Brian McDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Councillor Lorna Creswell, Willie Chisholm, Fabio Villani and Gill Bird.	
3. Minute of FAF Meeting held in June 2015	There was one amendment: On page 3, under item 9, Consultations the word 'new' before sewers is to be deleted. The minutes were proposed by Debbie Herron and seconded by Naomi Zair.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuation procedures within Forres House Community Centre (FHCC) – LC was not able to attend this meeting and this item is to be discussed at the next FAF meeting. • Portable/pop up banners – Vice Chair is to send Secretary photographs suitable for inclusion on a banner - item ongoing. • FAF funding – IT informed those present that there is to be no change to FAF funding and the budget is to remain the same as last year. • Secretary to email Vice Chair the list of where Landmark deliver their leaflets. • Round the Table - Chair used gazebo borrowed from Transition Town Forres (TTF) for FAF/FACT table at Toun Mercat. • Secretary has emailed Alan MacBeth with invoice received from Piping at Forres. • Skate Park – although LC was not at this meeting DH had accompanied her to visit the skate park in Inverness. There 	<p>LC</p> <p>SM</p> <p>TC</p>

	<p>is work underway and an afternoon event is planned for younger people to take part in. Younger people are to be encouraged to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for Real Group – working group has been formed and will meet soon. • Community Council is to remain in the Tolbooth. • Burdshaugh – NZ has not heard back from either Ian Drummond or LC with regard to this item which is ongoing. 	LC
5. Treasurers Report	Current balance stands at £2,841.79, which includes £276 for insurance. There was 1 cheque cashed: £50 for secretarial duties. There was 29 pence in interest earned.	
6. Forres Regeneration Meeting – 15 th July 2015	There will be a meeting at the Town Hall with proposals to look at the town centre upgrade of building frontages. Please arrive by 5.45 pm for a 6 pm start. Possibility that money needed to undertake the work may be available – The Moray Council (TMC) through Rene Millburn’s team who will be leading on this.	
7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>DH informed those present of the following:</p> <p>FACT staff has settled into Leask Road Hall with opening hours from 10 am to 1 pm. Membership has increased with over 200 members. AGM was attended by 30+ people and a new Board member was voted in.</p> <p>Visit Scotland money – EU funding and all going well – there will be a contribution required from FACT to monitor numbers visiting area – aiming to have a 5% increase in the attractions and encourage people to join the cyclists welcome scheme. Aiming to increase overnight stays in area by 5% and increase visits to cafes, hotels etc by 5%.</p> <p>Videos to be made in the area – they will be about activity holidays and adventure and incorporate Moray Speyside larder, Cycle Moray Speyside and the draw of the coast. One film-maker will make all films.</p> <p>World host trainer – Forres is going to be used as an area of good practice and then to be used as a case study.</p> <p>Scottish Week – Toun Mercat and tea dance were well attended and enjoyed.</p> <p>National Theatre of Scotland – represented at the Toun Mercat collecting stories for their play “The Journey” – they engaged with a lot of people and were happy to participate.</p> <p>Older Persons Directory of services - there is to be a focus group on 2nd July 2015 and it is to be printed in the near future with distribution via Royal Mail in August 2015. Those involved in putting this directory together include Suzie Gentle – Age Scotland, Susan Leslie – NHS Grampian, Sylvia Jamieson – TMC, members of the Older Peoples Reference Group, Lorna Creswell, Forres OAP Group and Findhorn over 60’s group – taken weeks to produce and meetings have been spread over months.</p> <p>Digital work is ongoing and to start after the holidays.</p> <p>Next FACT Board meeting is on 13th July and will include election of office bearers after the AGM and will be looking ahead at the plan for going forward.</p> <p>Creative Scotland – awarded Findhorn Bay Arts £100,000 – for more information contact Findhorn Bay Arts.</p>	
8. User Led Group	LC is composing a letter to send out to user groups through the proper channels and would share with FAF members before sending	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Bremner – had a question for a Councillor with regard to a surplus of £5 million which has been put towards a new school in Elgin – thought it was up to Councillors who set budgets as to where the money goes – IT stated Moray received a £3 million rebate – JB unsure if unnecessary cuts had been made and why did Elgin High School benefit. IT stated decision went to Council and they decided due to rising costs of school but - ultimately Councillors decision and elected members agreed at a vote – JB would like LC to query this further – please contact JB for more information. • Naomi Zair – concerned with disabled parking at Piping Hot – little available parking places and disabled parking areas were deemed to be too far away from the arena, request that bands are to be asked not to practice in designated disabled car park slots. Secretary to contact Ian Widdowson with concerns. 	LC TC
12. Councillors	No Councillor's available.	
13. AOB	<p>Sandra MacLennan informed those present that funding had been acquired from elsewhere and £1,100 will no longer be needed. Secretary to inform Alan MacBeth, TMC.</p> <p>MTP money spends are amended as follows:</p> <p>£ 500 - MTP four towns leaflet for 2016 £2,000 - Culture Day – Findhorn Bay Arts Festival £ 750 - FACT - Forres Companion £ 400 - Nelsons Tower (T-Exchange) <u>£2,000</u> - Piping at Forres £5,650 - Total spend</p> <p>Secretary to contact Bill Graham, T-Exchange to see if money is still required for the project.</p> <p>Discussion ensued with regard to next meeting; proposed and agreed by all present that next FAF meeting to take place in September 2015. Secretary to inform FHCC staff that room will be required for August and Secretary to inform Ray McDonald that no refreshments will be required.</p> <p>Willie Chisholm will be giving a SFRS presentation at the September 2015 meeting.</p>	TC TC TC WC
14. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 2 nd September 2015, 7 pm in the Forres House Community Centre.	