

Buckie Area Forum

Minute of Buckie Area Forum Meeting on 20th May 2009

Present

Barry Taylor (**Chair**), Alan Beresford (**Vice Chair**), Gillian Rose (Secretary), Peter Souter (MDCP), George Stewart (MDCP), Joseph Herd (RNLI), Anna Parker (Uniformed Organisations), Alistair Farquhar (Buckie Festival), Ian Moir (Buckie Community Council), James Smith (Buckie Community Council), David Barnett (Buckie Community High School), Iain MacPherson (Rathven/Deskford Community Council).

In attendance

Cllr Joe Mackay, Cllr Anne McKay, Cllr Joe MacKay, Cllr Douglas Ross, Cllr Ron Shepherd, Cllr Gordon McDonald, Linda Adam, (Area Forum Support Worker), Gillian Bailey (CLDW), Jacqui Taylor.

1.0 Welcome & Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting by introducing Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Fund Manager. He then invited notes of apology. Apologies received from Cllr George McIntyre, Caron Hunter, Cllr Anita McDonald, and Cllr Gary Coull

2.0 Fairer Scotland Presentation

Jacqui outlined the purpose of the fund is to:-

- Regenerate the most disadvantaged communities
- Improve the life chances of individuals and groups experiencing poverty and disadvantage
- Improving employability

Jacqui said she was keen to hear from Forum members what the issues in the Buckie area are. Alan Beresford questioned the Fairer Scotland fund administration costs reported recently and the number of council departments who had applied for funding. Jacqui responded by outlining that 9 out of 13 applications had been received from council departments and what administration costs are expected in Moray. Jacqui indicated she will be visiting the WELL project in Milton Drive next week.

3.0 Carin Schwartz – Transition Towns

Carin gave a presentation to the group about Transition Towns. She explained that it had originated in a town called Kinsale and its aim is to help make the transition from a dependency on fossil fuel to a low carbon future. Carin also gave a brief overview of how things have been working out with the project in Forres. She informed us how they have a community garden, eco bags, 'I love Forres' stickers, and a local map to celebrate everything local and to save on transport. Carin also explained how important it was to share and learn from others.

4.0 Minutes of Previous Meetings.

Minutes 11.02.09

For the purpose of the minute:

When the discussion took place with Tesco personnel, it should be noted that all elected members in attendance, with the exception of Councillor Joe Mackey, left the meeting at this point due to them being on the Planning Committee.

Speed Restrictions – Alan explained that what were required was traffic calming measures rather than signage.

With these points clarified the minutes were proposed by Alan Beresford and seconded by Alistair Farquhar as a true record of the meeting.

Minutes 18.05.09

The minutes were proposed by Anna Parker and Seconded by Alistair Farquhar as a true record of the meeting.

5.0 Matters Arising

Minutes 11.02.09

Buckpool Golf Club Juniors Room – this has been resolved thanks to Cllr Ron Shepherd arranging for an official to go along and see the premises. They do not need a separate room now and are in full view of the bar staff.

Minutes 18.05.09

The Forum email address, buckieareaforum@hotmail.co.uk, can now be accessed through www.yourmoray.org.uk

Youth Matters – not arranged yet for juniors at Golf Club to meet with Fiona/Linda. To contact Captain at Golf Club to arrange **Action: Barry**

Allotment Policy

This is still in the process of being drawn up and finalised.

6.0 Financial Update

Ian Moir, Treasurer let the group know that the current balance is £2656. Since January income has totalled £751 and expenditure £233.

7.0 Newsletters

Linda circulated the first version of the newsletter which included an update from Fiona Herd on Youth Matters and Alan Beresford from Moray Area Forum.

A discussion was held regarding what groups could also feed into the newsletter and if we could distribute outwith the forum. It was agreed to think about whether a sub group would be a good idea for the next meeting to take this forward.

Cullen Allotment Group – Still to secure land. Inaugural meeting on 23rd June to set up committee and adopt constitution.

8.0 Buckie Area Regeneration

Cllr McDonald told the group that the £25,000 Town Centre Regeneration funding has been approved. 1 week from today the decision will be made whether Leader funding will match this figure.

Business Brand – Set Up

Retailer Group – AGM past and have now set up a Buckie Business Association.

Website – Need to get hyperlinks to link in. Will sustain with adverts. Will be set up by professionals and then go out to tender after.

Buckie Community Radio – Kinnaird Radio been supportive. North Ayrshire has been helping with info on setting up, equipment and bandwidth etc.

Transition Town – The Moray Council looking at being the 1st authority in Scotland to be set up as a Transition Authority.

Child Care/Soft Play – looking at getting feasibility study done.

Signposting – Decided to buy two brown signs for Fishermen's Hall if the Roads dept erect them.

Fair Trade Town – Business Association members and other business to let us know if they are selling fair trade goods

Speyside Way – the only problem come upon is that all the Speyside Way leaflets would need to be changed to reflect the change of the finishing point.

Credit Union – Volunteers have had training. Everyone urged to go along and sign up on 3rd June.

Fish Wives Walk – Promote the walk with Keith. Race or challenge to carry weight equivalent to a cran of fish being discussed. Need permission from farmers.

Arts and Crafts – Date set for 12th September. Forms to be agreed. Photography competition now being a big part of it. Photos being displayed on Fri 11th with 12 finalists being picked for a Calendar. These will be displayed on the Sat 12th. Community Groups to do catering.

Farmers Market – Planning Application for all 4 towns has been submitted and a policy being drawn up.

Eco Bags – Competition will be held each year for school to design. 2 designs for this year will be in shops this summer. One to have Buckie Lugger and BCK. Other to have BCK multi coloured (subject to cost).

RNLI – 150th Anniversary will support them in their celebrations.

9.0 Community Issues

Farmers Market – as above still not resolved yet.

Letter from Portgordon Resident – concerns regarding the Village Hall. Gillian Bailey agreed to make contact and take this on board to assist them.

Signage – already covered

Big Man Walking – Alistair told the group about a large puppet show coming to Buckie. Big Man Walking is a large puppet 8m x 6m who will wake up at Buckpool Harbour and walk along the to the Drifter and then along East Church Street finishing at Ian Johnston Park. This puppet is only to visit 5 places in Scotland, Buckie being one of the first. Alastair informed the group that help would be needed to help with stewarding, first aid, close protection stewards and would need office accommodation for a week. Permission for road closures will need to be sought. This will take place on 17th October. To be discussed again at next meeting.

10.0 Date and Time of next meeting

Wednesday 17th June 2009 in Findochty Village Hall at 7pm