

BUCKIE AREA FORUM

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 26th March 2014 in the Town House, Buckie.

Present: Barry Taylor, Alan Beresford, Jo Farquhar, Alistair Farquhar, Ian Moir, Neil Johnson, Rachel Gault, Gillian Rose, Emma Marandola,

In attendance: Cllr Gordon MacDonald, Ian Todd, Kim Paterson, Craig Barron

Apologies: Sonya Warren, Zafir Ali, Lynne Ward, Tam McLellan

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Under Regeneration group the Lyric Theatre were awarded £1000 not £100 as stated. Minutes were proposed by Jo Farquhar and seconded by Alistair Farquhar.

2. Matters Arising

Items to be covered on later the agenda

3. Correspondence

Unfortunately the email account has been temporarily locked by accident. Secretary Sonya Warren will remedy on her return.

4. Scottish Traditional Music Centre of Excellence

James Alexander was unable to present so item carried forward to next meeting.

5. Sports Hub

A presentation was made by Craig Barron supported by Kim Paterson. Sports Hubs are being established to encourage community participation. Buckpool Golf Club has held a meeting resulting in BALL (Be active live longer) group and a new snooker group sharing facilities. Links to the schools is also encouraged.

Work is taking place to support the Commonwealth Baton Relay as it passes through the area..

Is planned that virtual hubs be established. Buckie is looking to form a group and is seeking local sports groups to feed into this.

The next stage is to run workshops and meet the clubs. It was noted that the school's sports clubs are eligible to join. Dance groups also qualify.

It was understood that the BB group may be able to support youth hub leaders thus enabling them to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards.

The need for PVG record check to be made was discussed and agreed they are needed but voluntary groups aren't charged but any individuals applying would have to pay. It was noted that a separate group for Buckie is required and a workshop will be arranged to pool ideas – Buckie Area Forum to facilitate and BCHS will host the meeting.

Suggested workshops would be for S1-S3 week beginning 28th April

One for seniors and adults mid may then mid June bring S1-S5 together to discuss findings.

Health Centres being encouraged to contribute as they have an input on health issues and sport.

Flyers will be posted in local shops

Gillian Rose to create an email address for "Buckie Community Sports Hub"

6. World Host

Four pilot courses have taken place for invited employers.

Speyside and Keith areas are still looking for participants.

Courses are now rolling out and cost likely to be £40 per person.

BCHS pupils who attended highly recommended it.

Funding is an issue but the Tesco monies may be used towards these costs. We need to have spent the Tesco money within 10yrs and this does fit the criteria. Training for the trainers lasts 2yrs and the staff are accredited for 5yrs.

7. School Review

The proposal to merge local schools (Portknockie, Portessie, Cullen and Findochty) has been rejected by the Council on cost grounds but concern was raised over the quality of the report. The report had no costings, no benefits and looked like a central belt model. There is a meeting on 15th April and the Forum will be represented.

The need for rural school and communities was stressed.

A super-school would need to save £600K and there is a strong case against closure.

Following a lively debate, it was agreed that as the project is still in the information gathering stages the Forum watch and wait and offer support at an appropriate time.

It was unanimously agreed that education comes first not cost. Consideration needs to be given to potential village expansions and changes in communities. This subject will be carried forward to the next agenda.

8. Moray Towns Partnership

Moray Christmas Campaign will be promoted at the Christ Kracker. The use of phone apps and building a digital infrastructure were discussed. Gordon MacDonald will circulate details. The Regen. Group will be studying proposals and this will be discussed at the next Forum meeting.

9. Regeneration Group

Telescope: Still have £7000 to spend once agreed position is agreed.

Brown signs: now ordered and being erected.

Farmers Market: Regen group are working with BCHA and Crofting Connections to raise profile of Fishwives Walk. Event planned to have all 9 schools within ASG participating and an event culminating in a meal is being planned. Keith ASG have also expressed interest in organising something at their end of the walk.

Art Exhibition: North Kirk will host an exhibition of school's art on 28th April. Regen group contributing £400 for catering.

Photography Exhibition: There will be a Buckie Area exhibition in 2015 with a prize of £1000.

MAKLAB: An IT group is looking for funding to book a studio to use 3D modelling. This would enable small enterprises to and community groups to use. BCBS are looking at trying to accommodate with community support. It is suggested interested parties research on the internet for further detailed information.

The Drifter: James Alexander is looking at the possibility of a Community Asset buy out and forming the Scottish traditional Music Centre of Excellence. The forum hopes to have a presentation from James at the next meeting. Moray Towns Partnership are offering £15k. There is a possibility that some of the Tesco money could also be used towards costs.

10. Youth Matters:

Nothing to report

11. Community:

Buckie Festival:

Following shows are booked:

Wednesday 2nd April Despicable Me Film 2pm British Legion Hall

Thursday 3rd April Journey to Gothenburg 7.30pm Victoria Park Function Suite

Thursday 10th April Two Can Toucan puppet show 2pm British Legion Hall

Indian Peter's Coffee House Sunday 1st June 7.30pm British Legion Hall.

12. AOB:

Arrodoul boundary changes: Attention was made to the proposed change of boundaries around Arrodoul with regard to a planning application for 17 houses. Concern was raised over the lack of mains sewerage and the flood relief scheme. Public consultation is on 22nd April 4-8pm in the town house.

Postal charges: Comment was noted that recently the Moray council has been sending out post underpaid on duty so recipients have to pay excess costs to claim their letters.

Next meeting: Wednesday 28th May 7pm in the town House, Buckie.