



MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM (FAF) MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT

Sandra MacLennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
John Bremner, Treasurer (JB)	Angela Sutherland (AS)
David Edgar (DE)	Debbie Herron (DH)
Ian Todd (IT)	Michael Scott (MS)
Tina Coffey (Minutes) (TC)	

(Abbreviations of groups: TTF – Transition Town Forres, FACT – Forres Area Community Trust, FiB – Forres in Bloom, MC – Moray Council, BBCT – Berry Burn Community Trust, FCC – Forres Community Council, TH - Town Hall, Area Forum - AF)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Apologies had been received from Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC) and Brian McDonald (BM).	
3. Minutes of FAF Meeting held in October 2019	There were no amendments. The minutes were accepted as a true record by those in attendance, proposed by David P and seconded by David E.	
4. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item 4 – Grant Park – if Community Council take on the Trust they would have to pay rates, informed one of the trusts is registered with OSCR – Chair to take forward (Trust 1 for the park and Trust 2 money for upkeep) Item 4 – Tolbooth received £20k, Market Cross received £12/13k, MC received £25k for the Mosset Pond. FiB/FACT/Forum/Friends of Museum received £35k for the museum square – remove all clutter and replace with updated street furniture and signs Item 4 – Chair/Secretary working on the banners, Debbie to forward details Item 12 – Chair to email re Nimrod in the garden 	<p>SM</p> <p>DH SM</p>

5. Treasurers Report	The balance on the account stands at £1,695.19. The following cheques have been cashed: Community Café £25, Secretary for 3 month's secretarial duties £150, Debbie for reimbursement of Expo expenses £330 and £35.38 refund of coffee morning expenses. One cheque remains uncashed.	
6. Correspondence	Secretary read out a list of emails forwarded to the FAF membership which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scotland's Towns Funding Finder – October 2019 • Scotland's Towns and Improvements Districts Bulletin • Forres in Bloom – Queen's Award presentation • Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 22 	
7. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	<p>Debbie informed those present of the following: Community Asset Transfer of the TH was agreed at Policies and Resources Committee at MC, public notice advert in the Forres Gazette and with the Sherriff on 6th December 2019, open court and public can attend. £75k to be paid for the building and money goes into the Common Good Fund in Forres. An application to the Scottish Land Fund has been submitted for money to pay for the TH, architects fees, project manager and costs for the building. Debbie has received positive comments on the application, the meeting will be 23rd January 2020 and FACT will be notified after the meeting as to whether they have been successful. If not successful then back to MC to negotiate a nil value.</p> <p>Debbie met with Jim Grant, MC to discuss a Capital Regeneration Fund, have to apply through the local authority and Jim agreed FACT can work with the council.</p> <p>Thanks to Debbie for all her work on this item.</p> <p>Older Persons Project had a learning visit to Inverclyde – Kirsty submitted an application to YouChoose4 and tsiMORAY and is to submit an application to the Auchernack Trust, have funding from impact partners to the end 2021 and from Baillie Gifford to the end of 2022.</p> <p>Forres On-line had a busy Get Online week and visited different places. Success with a client getting a job. Attended Outreach work in various places, beneficial.</p> <p>FACT AGM on 15th November at 6 pm, changes to legislation and company articles are to be updated with a special resolution to be voted on, refreshments available from 5.30 pm and all welcome.</p> <p>Funding received from Community Job Scotland for a young person year-long post, interview on 19th November 2019.</p> <p>Bookings for 2021 coffee mornings, agreed all those who booked this year will have the application form emailed/posted out and can book 1 morning, the deposit is still to be paid. To get a deposit back and not have to pay for cancellations FACT are to be notified 6 weeks in advance of the coffee morning. Paper copies can be collected from the FACT office. Information will go into the Gazette as an article and possibly a small advert also via social media.</p>	

	<p>Art Gallery exhibition was well received, the next one opens at the end of November with a winter/Christmas theme.</p> <p>Community Meal on 11th November from 11 am to 2 pm with Moray Foodplus, free, all welcome and donations accepted.</p>	
8. Forres Area A96 Community Group	<p>David E informed those present there had been no meeting since the last FAF meeting. Attended the update on the A96 presentation, hopes of a co-creative process are fading as no further consultation in the Forres area is likely to happen.</p>	
9. Planning for Real (known as Green Spaces Group)	<p>Planning for Real/Greenspace meeting on 20th November. Mosset Plan consultant has submitted a draft of his report to Bob Laughton of the Rivers Trust and will send the group a copy. MC received £25k to redo the pond at the Mosset (islands) to remove decaying items as long as SEPA agree. FiB coffee morning on 16th November, run in parallel with the Moray Food Growing Strategy, a consultation regarding areas in Forres which people have suggested would be suitable for growing food (drop in exhibition) from 10 am to 2 pm. REAP will be present with an apple press and other activities and in the after the Royal British Legion will hold their coffee afternoon.</p> <p>Cluny Hill Plan has gone through Community Council to get initial views with a proper consultation to follow. Discussed at the last Community Council meeting and possibly compensatory planting.</p>	
10. Moray Towns Partnership	<p>No meeting has taken place since the last FAF meeting.</p>	
11. Moray Area Forum	<p>Letter received from Scottish Fire and Rescue regarding defibrillators, each fire engine had a defibrillator but changing to one in every two engines, writing to ask where defibrillators from Moray would be moved to as unsure if they were gifted or bought.</p> <p>Moray Forum, Anita reported the group is in a hiatus as no report has been produced with the group not meeting for a year, request by Chair to put out a letter informing everyone of the hiatus, refused and a meeting is to be fixed for January 2020.</p> <p>Forres is a member of the Moray Federation of Community Halls and Associations, next meeting on 24th November in Buckie at the Fisherman's Hall commencing at 2.30 pm.</p> <p>Participation Strategy – if a group considers it could run a service better then they are entitled to be involved in the decision making process.</p> <p>Money for Moray – successful in the latest application.</p> <p>Ian – Participatory Budget (PB) strategy and Money for Moray have inputted and got changes. The strategy will go to committee in January 2020, 1% of MC budget = £1.6 million, MC to demonstrate that all have had a say in how the money is spent. Implementing next year and based on strategy for spending deadline 2021, MC has to demonstrate to the</p>	SM

	<p>Scottish Government and COSLA they have undertaken a PB with local communities with 1% of their budget. Federation sent out information canvassing groups about grass cutting. Chair raised it at the Community Council and it will be discussed at the next meeting. FiB have their lawnmower insured and can't lease/loan it out. Chilli Pipers in Grant Park in May 2020 grass cutting - will have to get a dialogue going.</p>	
12. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DH – following coffee mornings in the TH: Medical Aid for Palestine on 9th November, FiB on 16th November and FACT on 30th November • SM - meeting of the North East Diversity group Findhorn Bay Arts received £50k, Secretary to invite Kresanna Aigner to the next meeting. 15th November Dallas Dhu celebrating their 20th birthday with a dinner and Children in Need quiz will be held • TC – Forres Area Credit Union AGM on 27th November in FACU office commencing at 7 pm • AS - coffee morning in September how much was made – Secretary to check – <i>subsequent to the meeting £288.34 was raised</i> • DP – 23rd November, Wind farm turbine exhibitions from Statkraft ,11 am – 3pm in Forres TH. Improvement to local bus service, electric bus up Forbeshill • JB – Remembrance Sunday parade on 10th November • IT – 26th November MC Draft Corporate Plan – MC priorities in Elgin TH and invite out. Chief Executive and 2 x Deputy Chief Execs and Heads of Service to discuss the plan and require input before it goes to Committee – engagement with communities from 6.30 pm for 7 pm and there will be area tables – invites to be sent out and RSVP's required 	TC
13. Councillors	There were no Councillors in attendance.	
14. AOB	There were no items for AOB.	
15. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 4 th December 2019, 7 pm, North Rooms, Forres TH.	