



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2024**

PRESENT

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| Sandra MacLennan, Chair (SM) | David Parker, Vice Chair (DP) |
| Lorretta Oliphant, Depute Treasurer (LO) | Kay Player (KP) |
| Ann Rossiter (AR) | Angela Sutherland (AS) |
| Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC) | |

| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION | ACTION |
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| 1. Welcome from Chair | Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made, apologies were received from Laura Cameron (LC), Michelle Gillibrand (MG) and Mike Scott (MS). | |
| 2. Minutes from 6 th December 2023 | The minutes from 6 th December 2023 had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Lorretta and seconded by David. | |
| 3. Matters arising | <p>Item 3 – THUG’s meeting held on 30th January - will raise inviting the lady from Moray Council’s (MC) Licensing Board at the next meeting (27th February). FACT and FAF invite her to an open meeting</p> <p>Item 3 – My Place Awards – to follow up with Laura</p> <p>Item 4 – Secretary contacted the Treasurer who has delivered accounts paperwork</p> <p>Item 6 – Membership Forms – Dawn Brodie, Community Support Unit (CSU), MC is working on this and in hand</p> <p>Item 8 – money from Town Centre Task Force – Councillor McBain followed this up, Keith Henderson is the lead and Chair to speak with him and invite other groups to attend. Signage can this include the outdoor gym and signage to</p> | <p>LC</p> <p>DB</p> <p>SM</p> |

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| | point to it. Consultant to be employed to draw up plans Item 14 – Gordon Ruddiman, CSU, MC sent information through Sustrans and plans have been looked at, nothing to happen in the near future as no money – Active Travel Group member stated that there was a date to go ahead next year and Chair to speak with Laura from CSU | SM/LC |
| 4. Constitution | The Constitution had been emailed to the FAF distribution list and there had been no replies regarding any changes. The Constitution was proposed by Lorretta and seconded by David, Secretary to reformat and reissue. | TC |
| 5. Treasurers Report | Vice Chair, Depute Treasurer and Secretary met to discuss and amend the original format. Those present approved the use of the draft accounts format supplied by the CSU. It was agreed to add Lorretta as a Depute Treasurer to the current Co-op bank account. Current balance is £3,048.38. Consideration is to be given to moving the account to the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to be able to formalise the accounting and undertake online banking – Depute Treasurer to look into the opening of a new RBS account. | LO LO |
| 6. Correspondence | Secretary emailed out the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tsiMORAY e-Bulletins x 5 • SFRS Performance Report • MLOAF vacancies • STP e-Bulletins x 2 • FABA information • A96 Surfacing Improvements • Scottish Rural Network Newsletter • Forres Community Council minutes • Draft FAF Constitution • Forres Osprey Trust information • Town Centre feedback sheet • A9 Dualling Perth to Inverness • Forres Heritage Trust • Findhorn Bay Arts • Community Led Action Plans • Scotland Wide Community Funding • Forres CHS – Heritage Workshop and questionnaire • Quarriers unpaid carer update • Announcement from STP Board • Community Energy Efficiency Flyer - REAP | |
| 7. FACT | Roof repairs have started. The Town Hall (TH) will remain open during the work. Staff have been employed for extra hours whilst the repairs take place. | |

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| | Looking to raise funds for the TH via a ceilidh or games night and looking into crowdfunding. Bar has been built which could be used by TH staff or rented when required by visiting performers. | |
| 8. Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme | Last week 3 evening stakeholder meetings took place, invited to attend and put forward thoughts on 4 themes. The information is being collated – planning a similar event and open to the public. Kirsty Shand has 1 year to produce a plan (September start). | |
| 9. Spirit of Community 2022 | Still to go to the printers and meeting planned for Friday (Chair, Laura and Michelle) to discuss how to launch and get a diary date for the future. Once the document is produced look for stakeholders to take on parts of it and the Forum to develop our own plan as to how the Forum fits in with the SoC and what the Forum can take on board. | |
| 10. Mannachie Park | Unsuccessful with Berry Burn funding and will meet to discuss other funders – looking for money to purchase toddlers play equipment and fence off an area with seating. Laura wanted to meet to decide to either go for more funding or not take it forward. | |
| 11. Developer Contributions | Developer Contributions – 3 groups received £1k each, they were Friends of Fields and Woods, Rafford Hall and Forres in Bloom. | |
| 12. Money for Moray | Waiting to hear if there will be funding this year. | |
| 13. Moray Towns Partnership | In abeyance. | |
| 14. Moray Forum | Met today and signed off on the Moray Forum Constitution. Milnes and Speyside Forums have been asked to repay £500 to MC as they were in abeyance and did not meet four times a year, both groups are going to challenge it. There was a query regarding where the FAF sat within the MC, following received from Gordon Ruddiman, CSU: In the Council structure the Communities Service headed up by Kevin McDermot, (CSU, Youth Team, AFL) sits within Education Resources and Communities, headed up by Service Manager Andy Hall. In the Community Planning Structure, the Communities Service is part of the CLD Strategic Group who collectively report on the CLD Strategic Plan. The Area Forums, through Moray Forum have representation on the Community Engagement Group which links to Community Planning Officer Group and then the Community Planning Board. Any request for funding for FAF, would be via the Moray Forum to the CEG. | |

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| | <p>Community Engagement Group which is part of the Community Planning Board – there is a working group set and they will look and get a strategy set up.</p> <p>Place Plans – meeting but no Forum invites and they meet every quarter</p> <p>Spoke about Ward budgets (£15k per Ward) unsure what Councillors will be spending this money on.</p> <p>School Estates meeting held in Forres – intend to have a further meeting – meeting was to look at ideas and plans for the future development of the school. Looking at 3 possible locations to be ground tested for suitability.</p> <p>Looked at scenarios and asked to consider them, looked at pros and cons and looking to create a community facility with the possibilities of other partnerships having the opportunity to be part of that building as it is developed. Perhaps NHS involvement and integrate with students and the public and how best to be developed. Looked at the footprint of the facility which may be restricted but depends on where it will be built.</p> | |
| <p>15. Transport Forum</p> | <p>Met online on Tuesday 23rd January due to bad weather – launch will be later than initially thought. Each area is to collate all transportation in their area. Will have to discuss the format of the launch and another meeting due with venue tbc – progressing and discussed funding.</p> | |
| <p>16. Round the Table</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DP – Film Forres The Guard and How to Train Your Dragon to be shown in February. Leancoil Hospital Trust AGM on 29th February at the Tolbooth at 6pm. Forres Men’s Shed – attended an event at Forres Academy, £3k available for a group and all invited groups attending were voted on by P2 pupils who choose the winning group and award the money • AR – St Lawrence Church host lunches on the first Saturday of each month and starting a warm space studies space for secondary students with each student receiving something to eat continues every Thursday – once a cohort of students is set up will engage with them to see what they would like to see. Outdoor Gym is being used, have set up pages on Social Media and another article due out in the press soon. Looking to hold an open session to explain how some of the equipment work. Kim Slater, MC met with key partners, users, professional organisations and governing bodies good networking session. Sports Hub – new Development Officer, Robin Paterson, in place and keen to promote and support – look towards SoC to see if there is a focus and also develop gym | |

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

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| | <p>more to include more equipment, apps on the machine so able to get feedback. Grant Park 100 years old on 24th August 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC - FACT pop up coffee morning on 10th February, St John's Art exhibition from 21st to 24th February • SM – TCTF – 43 applications for grants throughout Moray with 12 from Forres. Forres in Bloom – invited to go for Britain in Bloom and will appear in the Royal Caledonia Annual Journal (article). All plants for the park will arrive in 3 week's time | |
| 17. Councillors | No Councillors present. | |
| 18. AOB | Discussion took place with regard to food hygiene certificates if undertaking any activity with food – suggestion was to look at High Speed Training which offers online courses for a reasonable price – Secretary to book a course. | TC |
| 19. Date of Next Meeting | Wednesday 6 th March 2024, 7.00pm, North Room of the Town Hall. | |

Meeting dates in 2024: 3rd April, 1st May, 5th June, 3rd July, 7th August, 4th September, 2nd October (includes AGM), 6th November and 4th December 2024