



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

**PRESENT**

<b>David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)</b>	<b>Lorretta Oliphant, Depute Treasurer (LO)</b>
<b>Laura Cameron (LC)</b>	<b>Michelle Gillibrand (MG)</b>
<b>Ann Rossiter (AR)</b>	<b>Mike Scott (MS)</b>
<b>Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)</b>	

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made, apologies were received from Sandra MacLennan (SM) and Angela Sutherland (AS).	
2. Minutes from 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	The minutes from 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Ann and seconded by Lorretta.	
3. Matters arising	Item 4 – Constitution – see below. Item 7 – Nick Clark, FACT has a personal licence (to run the FACT bar) and 2 other members of staff will undertake this training, now able to apply for occasional licences (up to 12 per year). The first occasional licence will be used on 24 <sup>th</sup> March for an Elvis event. Nick plus Michelle to run the bar. Item 18 – Secretary has completed a level 2 Food Hygiene and Safety for Catering course.	
4. Constitution	Secretary to reformat and reissue.	TC
5. Treasurers Report	Depute Treasurer informed those present there is currently £2,882.38 in the account with 2 cheques cashed since the last meeting. Depute Treasurer and Secretary met to	

	complete paperwork to add the Depute Treasurer as a signatory to the account on the Co-op bank. Deputy Treasurer to check with the Co-op whether the remaining 2 signatories can sign the paperwork to add another signatory.	LO
6. Correspondence	<p>Secretary emailed out the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tsiMORAY e-Bulletins x 4</li> <li>• STP Bulletin</li> <li>• STP Funding Finder – February</li> <li>• Moray Transport Forum – minutes</li> <li>• Scottish Rural Network Newsletter x 2</li> <li>• Rural Matters Newsletter</li> <li>• FABA – event</li> <li>• Community Council minutes</li> <li>• A96 Footway works, East Road, Elgin</li> <li>• Forres Heritage Quarter drop in</li> <li>• Jobs Fair – Social Care Sector information</li> <li>• REAP Flier</li> <li>• Quarrier update</li> <li>• Huntly road surfacing improvements</li> <li>• Scottish Rural Network</li> <li>• Moray Transport Forum minutes</li> </ul>	
7. FACT	<p>Michelle informed those present of the following:          Rolls of insulation are being fitted in the roof cavity. There have been some snagging points. In the office following on from surveys dry rot has been found in the supporting beam above the windows, further investigations are required. The dry rot has not penetrated further than thought but the beam lintel and the supporting pole which holds it up has moved and this issue is to be looked at. The beam when looked at is one piece around 17-18m. The engineer says there is no immediate risk but it needs to be sorted. Also discovered that the current roof is sitting on the original roof.          Last week work on the roof was in-line with the timings set but now with the beam to be sorted out the timings have slipped and FACT await costs of fixing the beam. Contingency money and crowdfunding campaign will go towards paying for this, with the crowdfunding page going live soon, looking to raise £20k. Between reserves and contingencies should be able to pay any further costs and FACT await costs from the architects before going back to the funders. Insulation is being fitted to the side of the building which has been worked on.          Two hard hat tours have taken place, one for funders and MP's and the other for staff, Board members and volunteers. Need work to be completed by the end of March.</p>	

	<p>Income generation – bar is complete and can either be hired out or if a bar is required then FACT will run it and take the proceeds.</p> <p>FACT’s Volunteer Co-ordinator is to have their hours reduced after March and looking to move to a more sustainable model for FACT.</p>	
8. Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme	<p>FACT have funding to take on a Heritage Construction Consultant who will submit bids to funders and will work with Helen Avenell.</p> <p>£20k for the Culture and Heritage Project, it is a pilot and is about working together better and supporting each other. There will be a heritage digital activity, there is a heritage database and will look into this, Leancoil have leadership of it. Looking at tailor made packages for visitors. Had a meeting with Mark Hindley and Forres Local, interested in the project. Project is volunteer and youth based about working together better and had a planning meeting with 14 in attendance. Next meeting is a week tomorrow and hope in future to apply for more funding.</p>	
9. Spirit of Community 2022	<p>Online meeting took place 6<sup>th</sup> March, not much of a link in with councils recently and trying to make sure they feel included with the final report. Online meeting was to regroup and have an Action Plan going forward. Meeting produced dates for a timeline and will allow Community Councils to feed into it. The proposed launch date is Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 5.30pm to 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall. Look to incorporate Place Plan ideas in the SoC report as this overlaps from the information gained from the SoC initial information.</p>	
10. Mannachie Park	<p>Play equipment has been fitted, the grass has been worn away by the builders and the park has been signed off with regard to safety, waiting for grass seed to grow.</p> <p>Original stakeholder group wanted to put in an additional toddler area at a cost of £35k, feedback from Berry Burn was too much to give the group.</p> <p>When Laura went back to the group the age group of children of those parents currently involved is older than toddler and it was suggested that Laura look for new parents of toddler age children. Laura is to approach nurseries and see if she is able to attract new parents to the group.</p> <p>A member of the public approached the CSU and stated there is an increase in park noise levels after 9pm and Laura is in dialogue with him. Extra litter bins and seating have been added to the park and the member of the public has asked that the CSU be mindful of residents and increased noise levels.</p>	LC

	Looking at finding a balance if installing extra seating in the park and keeping a dialogue open with members of the public.	
11. Developer Contributions	No release of funds until the new financial year.	
12. Money for Moray	Waiting to hear if there will be funding this year.	
13. Moray Towns Partnership	In abeyance.	
14. Moray Forum	There have been no meetings since the last FAF meeting.	
15. Transport Forum	<p>Vice Chair attended the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March with the next meeting in April 2024.</p> <p>Possibly in April changing the 32 route to include Roseisle – waiting to hear from Stagecoach.</p> <p>Look into setting up a Facebook page as sometimes antisocial behaviour results in buses being cancelled and X (formerly Twitter) is used to inform the public of bus cancellations although not everyone has access.</p> <p>M.Connect have a series of meetings in the area and the app does not always work and there is no notification that the bus is coming.</p> <p>Looking into setting up a site on Facebook for the Transport Forum for promotion, open for discussion as to whether it is an open site or managed and used to give out information.</p>	
16. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS – Moray Council is ready to sign a lease for the games store – 25-year lease and have to pay rates. Attended a planning meeting to discuss running events outside</li> <li>• AR – attended a Grant Park 100 meeting which is progressing. Scottish week is progressing with a draft calendar being worked on</li> <li>• MG – Forres ASG Sustainable Learning Estate meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> March in the Town Hall, stakeholders meeting</li> <li>• LC – introduced herself and explained she represents the Community Support Unit (CSU), Moray Council and replaced Gordon Ruddiman who was a temporary replacement for Martin Robertson. She is working with groups within Forres</li> <li>• AR – on 14<sup>th</sup> March a Systems Based Approach to Physical Activity in Moray meeting from 10am – 1pm, with the Moray Health and Social Care Team</li> <li>• DP – Film Forres are showing the Wonka film at the</li> </ul>	

For further information please email: [forresareaforum@btinternet.com](mailto:forresareaforum@btinternet.com)

	TH on Saturday, balcony will not be used due to the insulation being store there. Men's Shed open day on 13 <sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 2pm. Forres Crafters event on 8 <sup>th</sup> June at the Tolbooth and Nelson's Tower will reopen on 1 <sup>st</sup> April	
17. Councillors	No Councillors present.	
18. AOB	There will be no meeting on 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2024, Secretary to inform FACT.	TC
19. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024, 7.00pm, North Room of the Town Hall.	

Meeting dates in 2024: 5<sup>th</sup> June, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2<sup>nd</sup> October (includes AGM), 6<sup>th</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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