



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING
WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY 2024**

PRESENT

Sandra Maclennan, Chair (SM)	David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)
Lorretta Oliphant, Depute Treasurer (LO)	Laura Cameron (LC)
Michelle Gillibrand (MG)	Ann Rossiter (AR)
Angela Sutherland (AS)	Tina Coffey, Minutes (TC)

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome from Chair	Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made, apologies were received from Mike Scott (MS).	
2. Minutes from 6 th March 2024	The minutes from 6 th March 2024 had been circulated, there were no amendments. The minutes were proposed by Lorretta and seconded by David.	
3. Matters arising	<p>Item 4 – Constitution – see below.</p> <p>Item 5 – Depute tried to speak with Co-op but did not get any further, queried if two signatures could be used and was asked that a person who could answer the security questions would have to speak with them. Chair and Secretary are signatories and can write out cheques, all agreed the Co-op account is to be closed and a business community account is to be opened with a Royal Bank of Scotland account which will have three signatories and access to online banking. Chair, Secretary and Depute Treasurer to meet to complete RBS paperwork for new account.</p> <p>Item 16 – query regarding which planning meeting Mike Scott attended, meeting was with regard to running events outdoors i.e. Grant Park 100 and representatives from a number of groups attended, risk assessments for the use of</p>	SM/TC/LO

	places i.e. Grant Park have been produced and can be accessed by all, templates also meet the requirements of Moray Council (MC).	
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 to be cashed since the last meeting, FACT for room hire and Secretary for remuneration.	
6. Correspondence	Secretary emailed out the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tsiMORAY e-Bulletins x 9 • SCDC Weekly Bulletin • Spirit of Community invite to launch • STP Bulletin x 2 • CARES Bulleting • M.Connect drop-in sessions • Road surface improvements A96 - Keith • Road surface improvements A96 - Lhanbryde 	
7. FACT	Michelle informed those present of the following: The scaffolding around the Town Hall (TH) is slowly coming down, work to be finished by 10 th May and scaffolding away by 17 th May. Chris Brown, Site Manager is arranging one more tour to see the work that has being done – invite out from Michelle for those wanting to attend. Crowdfunding campaign ongoing as short of £20k which has come out of reserves, slowly building up and some pledges awaited. Next phases will be discussed in June. Fact’s Heritage Consultant is Nick Cragg who has knowledge of funding and is working with Helen Avenell, intend to meet with Nick and the Design Team in June to relook at plans. Building has been kept open during works and insulation has been put into the TH. Reception area has moved from the Hall Keepers Office to the foyer, going forward the Hall Keepers Office will be used as storage space. The reception will be rearranged and is open from 10am to 3pm, Monday to Friday and possibly Saturday. A volunteer has been appointed a 10 hour/week contract to man the front reception. Project funding is coming to an end so a Pantry meeting was held to get the views of the group about how to go forward. There are 300 members although only 20 regular users, another meeting is due on Friday and possibly look to change the groups name. The group will continue and will work with	MG

	<p>FACT to make it more accessible – funding for this project finishes at the end of May.</p> <p>Income Generation Group – open to all, have come up with ideas and putting things in place and identifying new people to take the lead. Have created a bar which has been used three times and looking at more monthly FACT events to generate an income.</p> <p>Coffee mornings – only four slots left in August.</p> <p>Forres Connected Culture and Heritage – a pilot project and looking to get funding for open spaces and the application to be submitted at the end of this month. These are open meeting and anyone can be involved, email Michelle at FACT on michelle@forresarea.org if you would like to be added to the email list.</p>	
<p>8. Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme</p>	<p>Several consultations have taken place, hoping the next one will see three groups get together and should be open to the public.</p> <p>Sub-groups set up, Chair attended one to look at interpretation, others are greening, museum and heritage quarter. Laura is to check the next meeting date.</p>	<p>LC</p>
<p>9. Spirit of Community (SoC) 2022</p>	<p>Published copies of the SoC report were available together with copies of the feedback from the SoC launch held on 24th April. Initially intended to have partners round the table at the launch but this was expanded to include open to the public as the Forres Gazette had highlighted the meeting on their front page. 37 people turned up for the presentation and they were asked to suggest where projects might fit into the plan or groups/organisations that could support the themes of the plan, also asked for feedback on the best way to keep people up to date, general consensus was themed sub groups and either quarterly or 6 monthly meetings through multiple channels.</p> <p>If there was capacity could have a quarterly newsletter/briefing to put on the website and keep as an archive – Laura was willing to support the newsletter and to support initially setting up the sub-group meetings.</p> <p>Sub-group with themes, thought it would be similar groups who had been set up then meet and engage with a particular group and identify networks.</p> <p>The original steering group is to meet and take ideas forward and is then to invite other umbrella groups and have more people involved in the group.</p> <p>Michelle asked if the steering group would be in agreement that she is to approach Sylvia Jamieson who has volunteered to redesign the background information into a more user friendly source, the steering Group were in agreement for this</p>	<p>MG</p>

	to happen.	
10. Mannachie Park	Laura informed all this item has not been progressed. Noted in the Forres Gazette regarding anti-social behaviour – response received from Moray Council PR Team. Laura gave a debrief on the Mannachie Park project. Laura is to get in touch with former steering group to see if there is appetite to further fundraise.	
11. Developer Contributions	Query as to whether any grant funding or developer contributions had been put towards any development, has any money been put towards groups? Is any money available? Laura to follow up.	LC
12. Money for Moray	Joint Transition Participatory Budgeting – waiting to hear if there is money this year.	
13. Moray Towns Partnership	To be removed from the agenda.	TC
14. Moray Forum	Meeting held today discussed the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and CPOG. CPP – set up working group to see how it operates, lot of personnel changes in MC departments and working on trying to get Forums established. Community Learning and Development Plan consultation, two types - group and individual consultation, look to respond as a group (unsure of the closing date). Laura to follow this up. More transparency required as to what the group does. CLD Strategic Plan Review is available and agreed FAF is to complete it as an organisation – on the agenda for June. Laura to find out whether the Learners' Forum has been rejuvenated. Thanks to the Community Support Unit, MC for their help.	LC TC LC
15. Transport Forum (TF)	Angela informed all a meeting was held on 23 rd April, twelve people present. The launch of TF has been put on hold. Hopeman have the Bee Link transport in connection with the closure of their health centre and the need to get to the Lossiemouth surgery. As from 20 th May the number 32 bus from Forres to Elgin will stop in Roseisle. The number 36 bus has no timetables as yet (from Aberlour to Aviemore) and no promotion coming from Stagecoach. Spoke about the bus/rail ticket to get to Inverness airport, it was to be from Dalcross rail station every 30 minutes, unsure how it runs and thought if you have the Scotrail app and put in the full journey you would be able to scan and use the phone to pay for the journey on buses and trains. Need to address that some do not know how this system works. Moray Car Share is no longer running and is working towards winding up their operations in the autumn, it was thought they	

	<p>and other businesses are struggling with insurance costs. M.Connect – 6 - 7 different places for drop ins during a consultation period – group bookings discussed as can't book for more than 6 persons.</p> <p>Facebook page is to be set up as of 24th April and people joining from the TF Group need approval to join, future meeting dates are 23rd July and 29th October.</p>	
16. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DP – Transition Town Forres (TTF) – agreed between MC and TTF that their fees are to be reduced and the rent agreed for the next 3 years. Film Forres – cinema nights throughout May. Forres Theme Day on 5th May from 10am to 4.30pm in Grant Park. Rotary coffee morning on 11th May and Forres Community Council meeting on 16th May. Men's Shed received £500 from Forres Academy from their youth philanthropy money and also £2.5k from the Wood Institute Foundation • AR – Outdoor gym promotion held on 24th March, 10 in attendance – next stage to put information regarding an app to use with the gym equipment on the MC website via a video. To attend a Systems Based Approach meeting on 8th May via a Zoom meeting. St Lawrence are holding a soup and sweet on 4th May, started up a new book club and walking group which has 5 walks being mapped out and timed. Launch of Grant Park 100 tickets, worth buying now as tickets will be cheaper than purchasing on the day. Piping tickets are on sale • TC – MODS are putting on a Rocky Horror Show in the TH on 25th May – tickets on sale • LC – CLD Strategic Plan Review – relevant for those working in a community setting but may be easier to understand for those working in partnership with council. Meeting with the GAFF and looking at a plan to pull together some ideas • SM – FAF received £500 from Ward Councillors for tear-off map pads (money from pot of £15k the Ward Councillors have) – unsure how the money is to be paid and Laura agreed to follow this up – Secretary to look back at previous minutes with regard to map purchases 	<p>LC</p> <p>TC</p>
17. Councillors	No Councillors present.	
18. AOB	There will be no meeting on 3 rd July 2024, Secretary to inform FACT.	TC
19. Date of	Wednesday 5 th June 2024, 7.00pm, North Room of the Town	

For further information please email: forresareaforum@btinternet.com

Next Meeting	Hall.	
--------------	-------	--

Meeting dates in 2024: 7th August, 4th September, 2nd October (includes AGM), 6th November and 4th December 2024