



**MINUTES OF FORRES AREA FORUM MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**PRESENT**

<b>Sandra MacLennan, Chair (SM)</b>	<b>David Parker, Vice Chair (DP)</b>
<b>Lorretta Oliphant, Treasurer (LO)</b>	<b>Laura Cameron (LC)</b>
<b>Lorna Creswell (LCr)</b>	<b>Ann Rossiter (AR)</b>
<b>Mike Scott (MS)</b>	<b>Lindsey Standring (LS)</b>
<b>Angela Sutherland (AS)</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.	
2. Minutes from 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	The minutes from 6 <sup>th</sup> November had been circulated, there was one amendment in the present list, Lorretta is the Treasurer and not the Depute Treasurer. The minutes were proposed by Lindsey and seconded by Ann.	
3. Matters arising	Item 13 – bus timetables – Lindsey stated this is ongoing Item 16 – family market was successful and busy but parking needs to be looked at Item 16 – FABA are not members of Scotland's Town Partnership and FAF have re-joined	
4. Treasurers Report	New account with RBS is now opened and money is being transferred from the Co-op into the new account via an app. Balance in the Co-op is £1,280.74 and in the RBS £500. This does not include ringfenced money of £900, altogether £2,600. Treasurer to continue to transfer all money from the Co-op to the RBS.	LO
5. Corres-	Secretary emailed out the following information:	

<p>pondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Session – St Laurence church</li> <li>• STP Bulletin</li> <li>• Quarriers newsletter</li> <li>• FABAs AGM information</li> <li>• MC Budget Public Sessions</li> <li>• Volunteer Event</li> <li>• Community Space Fund</li> <li>• tsiMORAY bulletins x 3</li> <li>• JTPB vote</li> <li>• FACT AGM</li> </ul>	
<p>6. FACT</p>	<p>Lorna informed those present:                  Coffee mornings for 2026 can now be booked.                  tsiMORAY AGM took place, they have a new Chair, Sam Dowdle together with changes on the Board.                  FACT AGM preparation is underway, taking place on 16<sup>th</sup> December, looking for new Board members and for volunteers with practical skills to help paint and do odd maintenance jobs in the Town Hall.                  Development Trust Association are offering Board and staff training events in January.                  Working on funding applications – 3 submitted recently.                  Tom Logie has donated a piece of lino for under the sink in the kitchen and should be fixed soon.                  Attended NHS meetings and a poverty statistics presentation in Moray Council (MC) by Ian Sneddon.                  Invited to Findherne Trust who are planning to do a different route for buses and M.Connect explained.                  Film night continuing.                  Lane – reported to MC the lights and state of the bins in the lane next to the Town Hall. Informed awaiting replacement parts for the light fitting.                  Social Enterprises meeting on Friday.</p>	
<p>7. Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme</p>	<p>No update, will be later in the month and will get back in touch. Positive as group out to have another look at the Tolbooth. Meeting about the square took place and photos could be used to produce designs which could be voted on and in the event money becomes available can draw it down on the approved design.</p>	
<p>8. Spirit of Community (SoC) 2022 and Local Place Plan (LPP)</p>	<p>SOC – did not cover building and spatial development, met to go over the LPP requirement and there was not a lot about housing. Laura took away the LPP and is working on it to create a more acceptable plan. From the survey suggestion was people are worried about the envelope of the town continually expanding, no support for infrastructure, request for new developments which were single storey 1 bed houses</p>	

	<p>aimed at older people and more affordable housing. These were then cross reference with policies NFPF4. Draft document to go out to consultation and will be live for 28 days. Difficulty at present school location has not been decided and groups have to look elsewhere, unsure of where gap sites will be. Looking to put the first draft to Emma Gordon, MC by 16<sup>th</sup> December and then out for consultation in January 2025 before submission in April 2025.</p> <p>Common Good Consultation – (strip of land at Roysvale) report to go to Committee in January.</p>	
9. Pilmuir Park	<p>Reception at Logie by the Berry Burn Community Trust, celebration of 10 years distributing money. Discussion ensued regarding funding distributed. Had session and handed over to technical officers who looked at the budget and came up with 7 pieces of equipment and now with the designers. Then into schools with children and parents looking at designs. In Forres, child poverty and access to free play equipment is a consideration. Next year in March parks will be inspected and will decide which parks are to be updated in the summer.</p> <p>Insurance for Mannachie Play Park, as owned by MC it will be paid by MC.</p>	
10. Developer Contributions	<p>There is £3,775 left as an underspend from the last round and there is no capacity to do another round, although if someone got in touch with a proposal it would go through the same process. Been informed it is available but not been opened up wider, could open up next year but may be dependent upon getting more money. Rebecca Morrison, MC deals with developer contributions.</p>	
11. Money for Moray	<p>Third round of working with tsiMORAY, all votes cast and wait for votes to be returned and applicants to be informed soon. General public informed after successful applicants have been informed – Money for Moray and tsiMORAY are working in partnership.</p>	
12. Moray Forum	<p>Group has not met since the last FAF meeting.</p>	
13. Transport Forum (TF)	<p>No updates received.</p>	
14. Round the Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AR – attended Systems Based Approach Meeting – 8 areas: active travel, active places of learning, sport and recreation for all, active places and spaces, active Health and Social Care Community Connections. Ann made comment about using a central place to inform people of different activities, currently in Forres there is Forres Local, FACT and notice boards in the Community Centre. Informed the Moray DHI</li> </ul>	

	<p>Community and Practitioners is a database being trialled and look to widen out and would be more easily updated and how to get information out, active communications and active work place. Moving forward with it and try to develop more strategic plans across different sectors. Lunch this Saturday at St Laurence, 14<sup>th</sup> December MFR Cash for Kids Mission Christmas at St Laurence, £10 for adult tickets available through Facebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LC – was sent active travel ideas request and will forward poster to Tina – Team are looking for requests for where to put bike stands, shelters, repair stations and looking for community ideas. Been out at Kinloss to help with residential area playpark improvement project and Factor (Newton Property) went and met with community, there are certain restrictions and they have around £30k, Regiment was storing it for them. The Community Council is involved and looking to purchase play equipment and have referred them on to suppliers used by MC, they may be eligible for funding. Met with parents in Dyke regarding their playpark, Dyke Playpark Group is involving the Parent Council and wider community as this is the only playpark in the area, there is no financial support available</li> <li>• TC – nativity at St John’s church on 24<sup>th</sup> December, upcoming coffee mornings - Friends of Guiding on the 7<sup>th</sup> and Theme Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> December, FACT on 11<sup>th</sup> and FAF on 18<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>• LCr - FACT running a quiz night on 18<sup>th</sup> January. Commenced Phase 2 of fundraising, preparation and painting sessions over the holidays at the TH (possible use of Community Payback personnel) meeting with Elgin TH personnel. Dances/ceilidhs on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December in the TH. New legislation – PVG for Board members who are responsible for vulnerable adults and children, looking at having to pay for them</li> <li>• DP – Men’s Shed is on the board at Tesco mid-January to end of March 2025, looking to raise funds with blue tokens for work benches at the Shed. Active Travel Forres meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am in the Green Room, FHCC. No Forres Community Council meeting in December</li> <li>• SM - Connections meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December in the Tolbooth at 10am</li> </ul>	LC
15.	No Councillors present.	

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

Councillors		
16. AOB	Lorna – look at information Boards for volunteers. Chair meeting with Alex Burrell regarding Forres in Bloom and looking at taking out a CAT lease, have to set up a SCIO and a new constitution. Health Improvement Officer, new person in post for Forres talked about how A&E have identified bad areas in Forres for slips and falls, they have a small budget for extra gritting and will put them in these areas. The Resilience Group would be looking to ensure the grit is distributed but look to make people aware of the grit and take ownership of the areas where trips/falls happen the most.	
17. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025, 7.00pm, North Room of the Town Hall.	

Meeting dates in 2025: 5<sup>th</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December