

Buckie Area Forum

Wednesday 24th August 2011 at Buckie Townhouse.

Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed those present and noted the following apologies:

Cllr Gary Coull, Cllr Douglas Ross, Cllr Ron Shepherd, Cllr Anita McDonald, Alistair Farquhar, Zafar Ali & Anna Parker.

Present:

Barry Taylor (Chair), Alan Beresford (Vice Chair), Sarah Murray (Secretary), Ian Moir (Treasurer), Tam McLellan, Emma Marandola, Sonya Warren, Iain MacPherson, Doug Reid.

In Attendance:

Cllr Joe Mackay, Cllr Anne McKay, Cllr Gordon McDonald.

Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising

Ian Moir asked that from now on we have the minutes signed, all agreed to this.

Speyside Way Race – being held this coming Saturday from 1.30pm onwards with the planned Ceilidh going ahead at Buckpool Golf Club. It was decided to limit the number of tickets available to less than 100 so we didn't have the added expense of having licensed bouncers at the event. We have already sold 51 tickets to competitors.

Code of Conduct – Ian Moir asked if this was still an outstanding issue. Alan Beresford said he would give a brief update on this during his update on the Moray Forum.

There was no further update on the entertainment fee issue.

C.S.U – an email had been received from Gillian Rose on the correct positions of the members of staff, to be corrected in the minutes from the previous meeting.

SSE Exhibition – the Chair commented there were lots of attendees at this and lots of good information came out of the exhibition. He proceeded to hand out leaflets and other information from the exhibition.

There were no further matters arising.

Proposer – Tam McLellan

Secunder – Sonya Warren

Moray Transport Seminar Update

Alan Beresford gave a brief update on this saying that 3 meetings had been held so far with various agencies involved including Moray Social Health Partnership who have been really enthusiastic about it. At the Seminar there are to be 3 main speakers – Moray Council Community Transport Unit, Stagecoach and Community Transport Association Scotland.

After the seminar talks there will be question and answer sessions with teas and coffees available. The last 45 minutes of the day will be facilitated groups similar to the way the budget consultation was conducted to find out peoples need and how these can or cannot be met. Dr Jamie Hogg will then collate all the findings and consult with all the various groups involved to form a multi-agency action plan. A formal report will also be issued after the event.

The Chair said there is wide range of people involved in the steering group, Milne's Forum identified this need and it has grown from there. He also said this is the first time we have genuinely worked together with all agencies such as Moray Council, Moray Forum, Health Board etc.

Alan Beresford mentioned that we are looking for approximately 12 delegates from the Buckie ASG to attend the seminar and asked for suggestions on how we do this. He explained it aimed solely at older people with specific transport needs. BAB's bus will be dealing with the transport needs for the seminar. He also explained there will be a press release regarding this and we are going to contact all the local older peoples clubs.

Alan Beresford invited questions from members at this point.

Sonya Warren asked if the Community Councils are involved in this too. The Chair responded by saying that this is a forum driven initiative and would only be involved where there are no forums in that area – i.e. Keith & Laich.

Much discussion took place regarding finding the delegates to attend the seminar with various suggestions coming forward.

Alan Beresford stressed that we need a response to this as soon as possible as the seminar is being held on 24th September.

Ian Moir asked who was financing costs from the Buckie Area, The Chair responded saying that all forums had agreed to chip in to cover the costs.

An update will be given at the next meeting.

Moray Forum Update

Alan Beresford gave an update on the Moray Forum. He said Roddy Burns (acting CEO of Moray Council) attended the previous Moray Forum meeting; he is currently trying to

get round all the forums to introduce himself. He spoke about the previous budget consultation and the upcoming budget and agreed there needs to be better consultation all round. He was exceedingly positive regarding the role forums play in the community and he encouraged the continuing work. The Chair said he was very impressed with Roddy Burns saying he seemed genuinely interested in the community and forum issues.

The Chair reminded members about the upcoming Community Economic Strategy Consultation being held on 15th September at BCHS at 7pm. This is to be an open meeting and if there is overwhelming demand there will be another meeting held.

Iain MacPherson said this is a good opportunity for emphasising the new Curriculum for Excellence. Ian Moir said he was interested in attending to question the mass of paperwork coming from 'the top' – this could be a way to save money but not lose jobs. Gordon McDonald said this is a hugely important document for Buckie and all kinds of people should be at the meeting from the fire service, police and health boards etc. The CSU will be facilitating this consultation. Gordon also said that if people don't speak up then they can't expect their views to be heard nor have their needs met.

Any documents relating to this will be forwarded to members as and when they are made available.

There was a brief discussion regarding the change fund.

Fiona Rolt was appointed as secretary of the Moray Forum – this was approved unanimously.

Fiona hosted a stall at the 'join the dots' event to outline what the forum does etc., this was reported to have went well.

The Chair invited questions from members at this point.

Youth Matters

At present we have no youth representation therefore any youth matters. It was agreed that we need to send an invite to BCHS to get them involved again.

Doug Reid mentioned that recently with the help of youth worker, Fiona Herd, 3 local boys had made a short film showcasing life in Buckie. The film is called 'Joose'. Sonya Warren asked if it could be put on the BCK website. This will be looked into and Doug Reid will send the link to Gordon McDonald. Ian Moir asked if a condensed version could be made available for the news/media. All agreed this would be a good idea.

Community Issues

The Peter Anson Exhibition – shall be set up from next Friday and will be open to the public from 1-4pm and 6-8pm every day. We are looking for volunteers to be present during opening times for security purposes. The library has received lots of phone calls expressing an interest in the display even from people in England. Gordon McDonald said this is a unique display which has never been done before and the libraries dept. are now trying to get the display into Duff House in Banff. There have also been generous offers of loans of paintings from private collections. The Arts & Crafts group are also helping out with volunteering. Emma Marandola asked if STV would do a slot on it. Agreed to contact STV.

Iain Macpherson raised a query regarding the state of the former health centre saying it was dangerous and an eyesore. Gordon McDonald responded saying that it was owned by a private individual at present therefore it was their responsibility and not much could be done about it. After much discussion took place regarding the current state of the building Gordon McDonald agreed to ask the council to look into the state of it. A meeting is to be held tomorrow (25th August) regarding the situation on the lottery funding etc. for the purchase of the building.

Ian Moir updated the members on the financial affairs and said we are now ready to change the name of the bank accounts as previously agreed.

Alan Beresford said he had received an email from the Chair of the Forres Forum regarding allotments – he was going to look into it and get back to them.

Gordon McDonald gave an update on the Leader funding application – it has been deferred for 3 months as more details are needed but this doesn't affect anything we are currently doing. Gordon also said we are currently sponsoring 3 events – the Speyside Way Race, Buckie 10K and the Buckpool Golf Club Winter League Open. These tick all the boxes for healthy living in Buckie.

Ian Moir asked what the situation is regarding the budget and community facilities etc. Gordon McDonald said this will always come up in budgets but shouldn't be coming up in the next budget. At present £73K is being spent on the Fisherman's Hall with the money coming from the common good fund. There is to be an audit performance looking at how much the council are charging the common good fund for administration.

Date of next meeting

Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 26th October at the Townhouse.