

BUCKIE AREA FORUM
MINUTES
13 April 2016

Present: Linda McDonald (BAF), Emma Marandola (BAF), Gillian Rose (BAF), Ian Moir (BAF), Ian Todd (TMC), Pam Gowans (NHS/TMC), Iain Grieve (BAF), Alan Beresford (Banffshire Advertiser)

In attendance: Cllr Gordon McDonald, Cllr Sonya Warren

1. Welcome and apologies

Chair Linda McDonald welcome everyone to the meeting, noted apologies for Zafar Ali (BAF), Jo Farquhar (BAF), Alistair Farquhar (BAF), Cllr Gordon Cowie, Tam McLellan (BAF), Ian McPherson (BAF), Nicola Warren (BAF), and introduced our speaker, Pam Gowans.

2. Presentation by Pam Gowans, Chief Officer of Moray Health and Social Care Partnership

Pam explained her role in the Integration Joint Board for the NHS and TMC, and told us that Moray is performing well but there is always room for improvement. They have a budget of £110 million and are keen to engage with communities to ensure the money is spent well for the people of Moray. She told us that they provide almost all of the mental health care in Moray, and that the community-based model works best for the majority of patients as it promotes independence and employability, and that structure, purpose and feeling valued are vital in the recovery ethos. However, more needs to be done for shorter-term depression/ anxiety problems. Cllr McDonald asked about Muirton and Pam assured him that patients will not be transferred to Spynie and there are no current plans to close Muirton. They always face challenges re sustainability and will strive to meet Buckie's future needs. They are trying to address issues for Moray folk having to go to Aberdeen for consultations due to the associated problems with transport/ appointment times/ childcare etc. The demand for care for an aging population versus the supply of younger people choosing healthcare as a career is not in balance and this is a huge issue, and Pam will try to 'sell' Moray as an attractive option. Linda thanked Pam, and Pam and Alan left the meeting.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Ian Moir and seconded by Gillian Rose with no amendments required.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

The insurance for the Town's House hall is paid, £106. The painters are working on the hall.

5. Correspondence

The new police inspector for Buckie, Ewan Strachan, has been in touch as has Gordon Morrison, the Fire and Rescue Station Manager. Both will attend future meetings.

6. Treasurer's report

Figures were not available as Zafar was unable to attend. The Regen group must get account information as they will be writing cheques, and Gillian needs to find out which invoices for the hall are outstanding. The bank paperwork is dealt with by a central office so the branch staff are not trained in completing the forms. Gillian suggested a separate finance meeting and group visit to the bank to get things properly sorted out, and this was agreed.

7. Moray Area Forum

Linda is on the 'Money for Moray' sub-group which has £60K to distribute to rural areas for economic development. Groups can bid for awards £200-£5000, deadline for applications 22 April 2016. Groups then have to give a 2-minute presentation at a public meeting and those present vote on who receives the money. It is done fairly; each person must vote for 10 recipients in order of preference and incomplete submissions are not accepted.

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8. Buckie Regeneration Group (update)

There are 2 new members of the Regen group, Neil Johnson (BHS) and Chris Saundison (Banffshire Advertiser). The cinema is still sustaining losses so Regen may have to end the project, the May showings might be the last. The bunker visit has been delayed due to the structural engineer being unavailable to allow access. It was suggested that Regen is 'spread too thin' and need to cut back on the number of projects. The area by the binoculars in Cluny Square will be tidied and there'll be a new Fishwives' Walk board. Gordon and Sonya are going to the Visit Scotland expo next week.

9. Youth Matters

None. Ian suggested trying to get new pupils to come after the change of timetable.

10. AOCB

It was clarified that we use the Community Lounge in BHS free. BAF will pay for blackout curtains or blinds for the Town's House so the projector can be used. BAF will take 84 of the chairs (that were purchased for the cinema) for the Town's House. Regen will pay for the ceiling to be painted as it was not included in TMC job, Gillian will get a quote/arrange this with the painter.

11. Next meeting/s

The next meeting will be at 7pm on 15 June 2016 (AGM followed by ordinary meeting) in the Community Lounge at Buckie High School.

Future dates for BAF meetings: 21 September 2016, 16 November 2016