

# Buckie Area Forum

Minutes of the meeting for Buckie Area Forum held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010 in Buckie Community High School.

## **Present**

Barry Taylor, **Chair**, Alan Beresford, **Vice Chair**, Sarah Murray, (later elected as **Secretary**), Ian Macpherson, Anna Parker, Doug Reid, Sonya Warren, Shona Cowie and Emma Marandola

## **In attendance**

Cllr Joe Mackay, Cllr Anne McKay, Cllr Anita McDonald, Cllr Ron Shepherd, Cllr Gordon McDonald, Gillian Bailey (CSO), Don Richardson (Radio BCK) and Bronwen Foster

## **1.0 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming those present, he then invited notes of apology. Apologies received from Cllr Gary Coull, Ian Moir (Treasurer), Alistair Farquhar, Peter Souter, David Barnett, Fiona Herd, Zafar Ali, Gillian Jaffrey, Alexander Thatcher.

## **2.0 Election of Office Bearer (secretary)**

Barry proposed the election of Sarah Murray as secretary and this was seconded by Anna Parker.

## **3.0 Douglas Reid Presentation**

The chair introduced Doug and explained the presentation was an item carried over from the last meeting. Doug gave a presentation outlining his ideas for a website – to be based in Buckie – in memory of his close friend, Fraser Cameron. Doug then went onto give the presentation outlining a proposal for a social enterprise business with any profits to be given/donated to both local and national causes. Doug requested that if any interested individuals have ideas for the website they should get in touch with the Forum and the information would then be forwarded on to Doug. Unfortunately due to technical difficulties a recording could not be played at this time. On conclusion of the presentation Doug invited questions from the floor. Barry queried potential links with radio BCK and the BCK website, Doug responded that potential links could be made and sustained.

## **4.0 Previous Minutes**

Buckie Area Forum meeting February 2010

The minute of the previous meeting was proposed by Anna Parker and seconded by Douglas Reid as a true record of the meeting.

### **5.0 Matters Arising**

Youth Matters - there were no matters arising and no feedback has been received from the BCHS school reps as yet in relation to ongoing research into potential youth activity development.

### **6.0 Moray Forum Update**

No meeting had taken place of The Moray Forum, however Alan gave an update on the information regarding the M.E. Support group involving Councillor Ross and Mary Scanlon. Both Buckie Area Forum and Moray Area Forum were praised for their support to this group.

At this point technical difficulties with Doug's' presentation were resolved and those present were able to listen to the recording.

### **7.0 Area Forum Funding Consultation**

The chair outlined the 3 options proposed. The chair then suggested that Buckie would benefit from Option 2 and those present agreed that this be taken back to The Moray Forum as the proposal from BAF. Ian Macpherson asked how the figures had been calculated; Alan informed him that he understood that it was based on the electoral roll. Barry assured that confirmation of this would be sought before any agreement was reached. The favoured option from Buckie Area Forum is option 2.

### **8.0 Regen Group Annual Report**

Councillor McDonald gave a full and detailed report on the 1<sup>st</sup> years progress and successes. He advised that the group are anticipating some challenges in the year ahead due to the recent budget cuts. The Regen Group were allocated £10K this year instead of the £40K previously received. However, it is hoped that this years budget would be matched through leader funding. The chair noted that Buckie Regen Group had, had a very successful year with several of the priorities being completed or taken forward into year 2. The Arts and Crafts fair had been very successful and well attended.

An update was received from Don Richardson (Radio BCK set-up co-ordinator) regarding Radio BCK – who are now in the running to get a full community license as opposed to a restricted license, it is proposed that an open forum be held in the near future for the public to voice their opinions on what should be developed. It was decided that any questions, comments or ideas are to be directed to Don either via email at ([don@radiobck.com](mailto:don@radiobck.com)) or phone on 07701018381. Anybody interested or with ideas for the Regen Group plan can get involved – contact any group member or use the Forums web address.

Ian Macpherson asked questions regarding plans regarding changes at the harbour due to the

situation in Lossiemouth – Marina v Fishing. Cllr McDonald responded that the Harbour Group are holding discussions to identify new opportunities such as wind farm maintenance and catamaran use for the harbour in the future.

## **9.0 Youth Matters**

No updates have been received from either David Barnett (Rector, BCHS) or Fiona Herd (CLDW Youth Team).

## **10.0 Community Issues**

Proposed travellers sites – Alan updated the Forum on the concerns raised at the Buckie Community Council meeting the previous evening, these being that no public consultation had been held or that given the current financial situation regarding the budget situation such major spend had been approved.

Three Arradoul residents present were all opposed to the proposals of a halting site at Slackhead. They informed those present that the majority of local residents have concerns about safety issues regarding access to the site and would suggest that The Moray Council are contradicting the Written Statement contained with The Moray Local Plan 2008.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding these and other issues during the Forum meeting. These included concerns regarding where the money was coming from, especially after the council has recently announced cuts in spending of approximately £20 million. The vice-chair summarised the concerns raised mainly as being: usage of land, safety issues and funding of the proposal. The Chair and Secretary agreed to attend the meeting which has been called in Arradoul for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to observe discussions/concerns.

## **11.0 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 23rd June at BCHS at 7pm.