

## **Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 10th June 2014 The Energy Shop Wadebridge**

WREN Board Members present: Richard Alexander (RA), David Atfield (DA), Jake Burnyeat (JB), John Catchpole (Jn C), Jerry Clark (JC), Tony Faragher (TF), Lizzy-Jane Frankel (LJF), Stephen Frankel (SF), Adrian Jones (AJ), Peter McGregor (PM), Caroline New (CN), Kevin Smith (KS).  
In attendance: David Bassett (Wadebridge Town Council). Leonie McGregor (LM) (minutes).  
Apologies: Dominic Comonte (DC), Amanda Pennington, Rachel Wigglesworth (RW).

Meeting started 18.00, closed 20.30.

Board approved minutes of last meeting on 6th May 201

Matters arising:

The 75 entries for the currency design competition are on display in the shop until the end of June. Judging by Mike Poulson and Mel Hardie will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> June, and a newsletter announcing the winners will be sent later in the week. The agreed budget will cover the cost of the prizes, and printing of at least £1500 worth of W5 notes. It was agreed that as many notes as possible should be printed within the budget.

It was agreed that part of the Wadebridge Energy Futures exhibition should be displayed in the offered space in the museum, and a suitable time slot in the summer would be preferable to WREN.

1. **Finance:** RA reported that the cashflow forecast is broadly on target. WREN is to be registered as a tax exempt charity. It was agreed that WREN should conduct a systematic trawl for sources of funding, and one option is to subscribe to the Directory of Social Change. It was discussed whether the subscription could be shared with another organisation in the town, such as the Chamber of Commerce – AJ to consult on this.

AJ reported that the Town Council had planned to use Sainsbury s106 money to match fund the Ashden money awarded for the Sustrans feasibility study. There is now uncertainty over the availability of the s106 funds and these matters are due to be discussed by the Town Council on 11<sup>th</sup> June, AJ to report back.

### 2. **Operational Projects:**

- **Modern Energy House:** Enquiries are still coming in for the zero cost insulation offer with Green Deal Cornwall (GDC) with about 70-80 leads and 26 installations so far. WREN is looking at other potential diverter systems to add to the current offers, and seeking installers for measures other than insulation recommended by the Green Deal report. CN and LJF are working on improving the information on WREN's website.
- **Wadebridge Energy Company (WEC):** The 100kW PV project at a SW Water sewage treatment works is progressing well. Other elements of the portfolio are on hold until the planning application for the 100kW goes ahead. TF to follow up with Cornwall Council re availability of the revolving loan fund.
- **Superfast:** Students from Falmouth University are due to exhibit the results of their studies on businesses using Superfast in the Energy Shop in July.
- **Community Fund arrangements: Middle Treworder** –Most arrangements are now in place, press releases and posters are in hand.  
**St Breock:** Timetable undefined.
- **Diocese:** JC has a final meeting scheduled. The 4 surveys revealed that most churches have very similar problems and solutions, and it may be possible to streamline the approach and dispense with the need to survey each building.
- **Smart Innovation Hub:** The EU funding cycle is running more slowly than expected, funds are likely to arrive next spring. Next step is to enlist the interest and collaboration of

commercial partners. SF has met with Cornwall Council's Chief Executive, where the prospect of WREN becoming a demonstration site within the council's localism agenda was discussed.

- **Wales and West:** WREN's association with Wales and West has resulted in some useful contacts. JC has been invited to send in comments on fuel poverty for their next meeting.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** RW & TF are working on a fuel poverty strategy. Part of this has been for WREN to become a Citizens Advice partner agency which gives a facility for fast track referrals for debt management advice. TF to consult with the Foodbank on this.

#### **Other Business:**

- Pengelly Turbine: There is general uncertainty about the community element. It was agreed that WREN would offer to help St Breock Parish Council get the best outcome for the area. TF to take forward.
- Volunteering: There is a short term need to arrange cover for the Energy Shop over the summer. Board members please reply to DC's recent email. A recruitment drive for volunteers generally in the long term will be launched in the prospective newsletter. DA will check with University of Exeter for details of their internship fund.
- A group in SE London is setting up an Energy Co-op, and have asked if WREN would be prepared to share its business plan. This was agreed, on the understanding that the plan has not been updated this year.

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**NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 1st JULY 6.PM WREN ENERGY SHOP  
(then 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2<sup>nd</sup> December)**