

Minutes of WREN Board Meeting
17th November 2014 The Energy Shop Wadebridge

WREN Board Members present: Richard Alexander (RA), John Catchpole (Jn C), Jerry Clark (JC), Tony Faragher (TF), Lizzy-Jane Frankel (LJF), Stephen Frankel (SF), Peter McGregor (PM), Caroline New (CN), Kevin Smith (KS), Rachel Wigglesworth (RW).

Dominic Comonte (DC) WREN operations manager, Leonie McGregor (LM) (minutes).

Apologies: David Atfield (DA), Jake Burnyeat (JB), Adrian Jones (AJ), Amanda Pennington (AP).

Meeting started 18.00, closed 19.45.

Board approved minutes of last meeting on 21st October 2014.

Matters arising:

- Congratulations to DC and team for the successful bid to Energyshare for £23,000. This will be a restricted fund to establish Wadebridge Energy Company and the run the first share offer.
- Christmas party tickets will be on sale by the end of the week – to break even 50 to be sold, we can sell up to 60.

1. **Finance:** WREN's budget up to March 2015 predicts that unrestricted funds will remain at the current level. Several projects are in the pipeline for 2015, sources of funding to bridge the potential gap between Coastal Communities funds and any new funds coming on stream are being sought. The Board agreed to the transfer of the balance of the Big Energy Saving Network fund £89.18 to unrestricted funds. It was agreed that termination conditions for any future grants should be explicit in the offer letters. JC will forward the conditions of the AONB grant to RA.

2. **Projects update:**

Extra funding for administration support from Coastal Communities is a possibility and being chased by DC.

Wadebridge Energy Company (WEC): The SW Water solar installation is in planning, with a decision expected by 1st January 2015. Around 50 households have shown interest in the call for roofs for domestic solar PV, at least 25 of these could be suitable and the next stage is for the residents to be contacted and installers visit. A continuing hold up over energy co-ops and model rules is still delaying registration of WEC and an alternative form of incorporation is being considered, which may have implications for the website. WREN is working towards the launch of the share offer in February 2015.

Smart Cornwall: WREN's Smart Market Town project is part of this initiative. Funding should start to flow in early autumn 2015.

3. **Publications:** the next newsletter is due out in early December. An article on "keeping warm this winter" is due to appear in the parish magazine, and topics for the NCA column are the Energyshare award, the new look website, the LED bulb offer closing and the Christmas party.

4. **Website:** CN has now completed work on updating the website which is now live. All please view and send comments to CN.

5. **Timing of Board meetings:** As at least 3 Board members can only attend evening meetings, it was decided not to hold any morning Board meetings. TF will talk to AP about taking part in operations meetings as an alternative.

6. **Other business:**

- **Summer solstice festival of arts and energy:** Funding for this is being considered. The Board agreed that some unused Ashden funds may be allocated for the project, subject to agreement from Ashden and Sustrans.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 6th JANUARY, 6.PM WREN ENERGY SHOP
(then 3rd February, 3rd March, 14th April, 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July.)