

Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 6th January 2015 The Energy Shop Wadebridge

WREN Board Members present: Richard Alexander (RA), David Atfield (DA), Jerry Clark (JC), Peter McGregor (PM), Caroline New (CN), Kevin Smith (KS), Rachel Wigglesworth (RW).

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

Apologies: Jake Burnyeat (JB), John Catchpole (Jn C), Tony Faragher (TF), Lizzy-Jane Frankel (LJF), Stephen Frankel (SF), Adrian Jones (AJ), Amanda Pennington (AP).

Meeting started 18.00, closed 20.00.

Board approved minutes of last meeting on 17th November 2014.

1. **Finance:** RA reported on the current balances of all the funds, both unrestricted and restricted. JC will ensure any funds due to WREN are invoiced and chased to maintain cash flow.

2. **Projects update:**

Modern Energy House: CN is working on a leaflet design to match the website information, for each of the different interventions. The work is funded by the Trenouth Solar fund grant. WREN is trialling a new partner for insulation and Green Deal assessments.

Wadebridge Energy Company (WEC): The SW Water solar installation now has planning consent, and a revised heads of terms document is with the land owner for approval and signature. WREN is working with Natural Generation on the domestic solar PV rooftop offer, and the next stage is for a draft lease to be prepared for the residents' approval.

Community Funds: 4 different funds are currently in the pipeline.

Pengelly Turbine fund - £10,000 to be offered in February/March

Middle Treworder solar fund - £20,000 to be offered in April/May

St Breock REG Windpower fund – WREN is starting the process with the local councils concerned to set up the committee which will administer the fund.

£1000 Hawkey community fund – this will be used to fund a competition to win energy-saving lighting.

Smart Market Town: Arrangements are being explored with strategic partners to bring in capital and expertise to take this initiative forward.

Sunshine Tariff: Regen SW is working with WREN on this initiative which aims to encourage demand shifting by offering an attractive tariff. A partnership project involving Western Power Distribution and an energy supply company is close to being submitted to Ofgem for approval.

3. **Fuel Poverty Strategy:** document presented by RW and TF, who were thanked for this clear explanation. Ideas for tackling fuel poverty were discussed, including redistributing the winter fuel allowance and engaging a task force via Volunteer Cornwall. RW and TF will now refine the document for the website, suggestions for amendments or questions to be emailed to them.

Other business:

- **Publications:** topics for the next WREN newsletter, NCA and parish magazine articles to be insulation and the rooftop offer, and any other ideas should be sent to KS.
- **Website:** KS highlighted some areas needing attention. DC to write section on switching energy supplier, JC to check FAQ section.
- **Academic Liaison:** DA & DC have agreed 4 topics with Owen Thomas at Falmouth University for 2nd year Politics students. DC has also made a presentation to a group of Exeter University students.
- **Reconomy Day** (Rethinking Economics) organised by CoaST with Transition Penwith in Penzance on 6th February. Anyone interested in attending with PM to contact him.
- **Installer Partnerships:** It was agreed that any prospective partners should be sent the invitation to tender document currently in use, and that any new partners would join the existing ones under the same terms.

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