

Minutes of WREN Board Meeting
12th September 2017, Alexander & Co, Wadebridge

WREN Board Members present; Richard Alexander (RA), Tony Faragher (TF), Kevin Smith (KS).

WREN ops assistant: Leonie McGregor (LM), (minutes).

Apologies: William Box (WB), John Catchpole (Jn C) Chris Coonick (CC), Peter McGregor (PM), Caroline New (CN), Amanda Pennington (AP), Rachel Wigglesworth (RW).

Meeting started 19.00, closed 21.00.

It was noted that the meeting was not quorate, and consequently any items requiring a Board decision would be emailed to the rest of the Board for approval.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 11th July 2017.

1. **Finance.** The bank balances are in line with expectations. The annual accounts are now being audited. The draft accounts had been examined by TF and KS, and some minor amendments noted. The draft Chair's report was discussed and a final draft will be circulated to the Board along with the draft accounts with a recommendation for approval. These will be made available on WREN's website in time for the AGM invitation.
2. **AGM.** Tuesday 10th October 7 pm at Egloshayle Pavilion. LM to send last year's draft minutes to TF. LM to check with Town Council on use of kitchen, crockery etc, and to provide refreshments. The timing may not tie in with the Middle Treworder awards this year, due to difficulties convening the panel in time. The draft agenda was considered, in particular the rules relating to disapplying the audit rule. TF to check the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) guidelines and if necessary consult with Cooperatives UK. Directors stepping down at the AGM: RA, PM, CN. As the FCA has now approved the rule change voted for at the last AGM, the invitation can be sent by email only.
3. **Wadebridge Energy Company (WEC):** Further discussion took place regarding the request for a loan to WEC from WREN of £15,000. The WEC accounts contain all the relevant financial information to date, and will be forwarded to WREN as requested. However, it was clear that the most relevant issue which will inform any decision by WREN is the future operation of the installation. A system fault has been remedied, and data is now being collected to show whether the installation is performing as per the forecast. It will be a few months before the outcome of this investigation is clear.
4. **Possible projects: Social Prescribing** - RW had met with TF to outline a project she is involved with that is currently seeking funding for a community hub worker. The beneficiaries of this project would include those in fuel poverty, and therefore within WREN's remit. It was agreed to further explore the idea with RW, and to consider whether any community groups could be encouraged to apply for funding administered by WREN for projects along these lines. TF also to consult with Clean Earth.
Vehicle to Grid – TF and KS had met with a consultant wishing to launch this project and seeking partners. The project is in the early stages and the ideas will continue to be explored.
5. **Communications:** The next newsletter is being compiled. Please forward any contributions to KS.
6. **Other business:**
 - The Radio 4 programme “Costing the Earth – Battery Powered Britain” 13.09.17 features Cornwall (including The Olde House at Chapel Amble), available as a podcast.
 - There were no reserved matters.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 14th November, 6.00PM Alexander & Co