

## **Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022, Zoom**

WREN Board Members present: Chris Coonick, Tony Faragher, Simon Miller, Kevin Smith, Ian Welch.  
WREN ops assistant: Leonie McGregor (minutes).

Meeting started 1930, closed 2100.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Matters arising: Kevin has received an updated quote from Jaz at Impress 51 for transfer of WREN's domain and email addresses from Webmate to Impress 51. Some technical queries had been raised and it was agreed that Tony will draft an email to Macace informing them of WREN's decision to switch and requesting their assistance to facilitate the process.

### **1. NZ Com update:**

- Chris reported that project progress is currently stalled whilst an issue is clarified by National Grid. Some unusual results were seen when the full model was run for the first time. Only when the parameters and assumptions are configured correctly, can the model be worked up for each technology, house type and EPC rating. This delay has had a knock on effect for the carbon accounting tool which relies on the correctly working model. Certain key decisions have been made, in particular to exclude battery technology from the model. Some early conclusions are emerging, and it is clear that a technical version and a roadmap for community use will be key tools in the Wadebridge Net Zero 2050 local plan. Chris estimates that the project is about 2 months behind where she would like it to be. Simon's work will now focus on engaging with community decision makers.
- Simon reported on plans and arrangements for the Royal Cornwall Show. He is meeting with Chris and Gary Mardle this week to produce a complete plan with list of requirements for props, sign-up sheet for volunteering time on the stand and a programme of events. This will be circulated to Board for their suggestions and contributions.
- Simon reported on the visit of the focus group to the Cornwall Climate Change centre and was thanked for his write up.

2. **Energy Equality project:** Kevin is talking to Dan and colleague at Plymouth Energy regarding the financial model and the prospectus for the share offer. Kevin and Tony will then discuss the ideas and come back to The Board with their conclusions.
3. **University of Exeter 80 hours student internship:** WREN has been approached to offer research subjects for another possible student placement this year. Chris has mentored the students in the past but has no capacity this time. It was agreed that Tony would respond with an expression of interest and a rough area for study.
4. **Planning inspection of the Cornwall Council Climate Emergency DPD:** It was agreed that a further response from WREN should only be submitted if there is a substantive point to make. Board members will consider the notes and documents from the inspector and email each other with their thoughts. Marcus Shirley who led WREN's original response will be included in these communications.
5. **Energy Savings Trust Redress Scheme:** Simon highlighted this fund to the Board which he had recently come across in connection with the £14.9m WPD fine by Ofgem. WREN is eligible to apply for funding which is awarded 4 times per year. Tony will register WREN as a potential applicant.

6. **Finance:** There is an outstanding query with University of Exeter regarding VAT on certain of their previous invoices. A further invoice from them is also awaited. Kevin has had no response to recent reminders.
7. **Communications:** The newsletter is in hand and will be sent as soon as possible.
8. **Recruitment of Board members:** Tony has collated the results from the skills and diversity audits on the Reach site. He will now work up some ideas on how to fill the gaps and which of those are a priority, to take the process on to the next stage.
9. **There was no other business.**

**NEXT MEETING MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> June 6.00 pm on Zoom**

**(then 11<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 12<sup>th</sup> December tbc)**