



Esk Valley Community Energy Group

Minutes of Meeting
 Wednesday 2nd June 2010
 Comondale Village Hall, Comondale

Present	Action
Geoff Banner, Mike Ford, Judie Holliday, Peter Jones, David Maloney. Colin Mather, Ernst Nef, Joan Rees, Steve Smith, Debbie Trebilco, Geoff Walker, Erwin Wennekes, Peter Woods	
Apologies	
Peter Dingle, John Randles,	
Minutes of the last meeting	
Agreed as a true record, with amendments.	
Communication Action Plan and Funding	
<p>FAQ's Peter is still working on these, but would appreciate input from members of the group.</p> <p>Leaflets Whilst the leaflet dispensers were well used in the immediate Danby area, there had been little take up in the other locations.</p> <p>Website The website does not appear to be having many hits. SDF funds have been secured to pay for another year from February 2011. Debbie said the website was an asset from the point of view of attracting funding so thought it should be retained. Judie to contact Mike for advice about increasing the profile on search engines. It was thought that more information should be put on and other websites approached to include links to the site. Debbie volunteered herself and Mike to take on the administration of the website from next year when she hopes their house project will be finished.</p>	JH
Public Meeting on Feed-In-Tariffs on 10th June	
<p>The meeting about the FITs will be held on 10th June in Danby Village Hall at 7.30pm. This should be an interesting talk so would all please spread the word. Judie to send details to Tricia Keith from Whitby 20 20. A press release has been circulated and an article will appear in Valley News and possibly the Whitby Gazette. The FIT scheme is still active and has been included in the new government's joint manifesto. The RHI is also mentioned, however not there appear to be no guarantees that this will materialise. Peter to contact DECC to see if we can get any clarification of its continuation.</p>	JH
Anaerobic Digestion Survey	
<p>Colin has had a request from a SDF grantee who is proposing to undertake a number of feasibility studies and is looking for suitable sites. The site will be of around 300 households, one farm and an icecream or food processing operation. A number of suggestions were put forward and it was decided to invite them to either the July or August meeting so that the group can put these suggestions to them and also help in any way they can.</p>	CM/PJ

Projects Needing Grant Funding	
<p>Hydro Representatives from the Hydro Steering Group went to Yorkshire Forward last week. They spoke with two funding providers. RDPE funders could provide half of the project funds, however they are currently only looking at economic development projects and would need to see job creation from any projects that they funded. They have very strict procedures which would rule out any other funding streams. CO2Sense were more carbon reduction focused. The government culture at the moment is for projects that have good business standing. It was felt that the project would have a very sound business standing if applying for a loan to cover the cost of installation. The steering group sought the views of the wider group to the option of applying for an unsecured loan to make up any shortfall in the funding package, one option being a short term loan with no community funding being possible for the initial years of the project or a longer term payback with a reduced amount being available for community projects. All but one agreed that seeking a loan to ensure the project was realised was a way forward. Peter Woods suggested approaching the professional fundraiser who helped to secure the funding for Abbeyfield. Peter Woods to pass the details of this person to Debbie who will make contact with him to see if he can provide any help.</p>	PW/DT
<p>Wind Peter Woods reported that Peter Merner has done another photo montage so there are now four in total. The next step was to encourage all four to submit a planning application. As this is expensive Peter W enquired whether there was the possibility of the Parish Council applying on their behalf as the cost is half for a PC. Geoff Banner to follow up on this. Colin reminded the group that Ridgeblade have offered one unit to the group for experimental purposes and an invitation has been received by him to view a prototype later in the month.</p>	PW/GB
<p>Danby Village Hall Colin and Mike have still to report back to the Village Hall Committee, but hope to do so within the next 10 days.</p>	MG/CM
Visit to Abbeyfield to see Heat Pump	
<p>Peter Woods has spoken to the installer of the heat pump at Abbeyfield who is willing to present a talk to the residents and group members. Peter W to set up a time and date and circulate to the group.</p>	PW
AOB	
<p>Steve Smith A Permaculture event is being held in Whitby Coliseum on 21st July and they have asked Esk Energy to have an information stall. Agreed to do this. Volunteers will be needed to man this stall.</p> <p>Erwin Wennekes Botton are arranging a visit to view a wood chip unit in Richmond and invited group members to attend. He will circulate the details.</p> <p>Peter Woods Asked if the group could visit Falcon Farm at Botton to view their new heating system. It was decided to hold a meeting at Botton (possibly August) for this. Erwin to arrange. It was agreed to arrange some type of Energy Fair at Botton.(agenda item for next meeting.</p>	EW EW CM/JH

Steve Smith Energy Saving Trust – Green Communities can provide community Training in Energy Auditing etc. If any training is needed in the future they would be a good supplier.	
Details of next meeting	
Wednesday 7 th July at 7.30pm in Comondale Village Hall	GB