



# Esk Valley Community Energy Group

Minutes of Meeting  
 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009  
 Danby Village Hall, Danby

Present	Action
Pat Cabbage, Tom Chadwick, Ronnie Duck (Sleights), Mike Ford, Judie Holliday, Peter Jones, Dave Maloney, Colin Mather, Ernst Nef, Joan Rees, Steve Smith, Debbie Trebilco, Geoff Walker, Peter Woods	
<b>Apologies</b>	
Geoff Banner, John Randles,	
<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>	
Agreed as a true record.	
<b>Welcome</b>	
Colin welcomed Ronnie Duck from the parish of Sleights.	
<b>Department of Energy and Climate Change            Low Carbon Communities Challenge Funding Application</b>	
<p>For clarification Peter Jones explained that whilst Esk Energy could apply for the DECC LCCC funding DECC are looking for applications from local authorities, albeit with the active support of the community.</p> <p>The application is to include an action plan which will outline planned projects which could be taken forward with funding.</p> <p>The application will concentrate on 3 projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A wind proposal – hopefully a pilot scheme to showcase the Ridgeblade, however this is not a certified product so enquiries have been made as to whether this can be included</li> <li>2. A grant scheme for the installation of renewable technologies (to be chosen by the parish councils)</li> <li>3. The Ruswarp hydro project. (at the action group meeting it was decided to not include this project, however after discussion with Harriet Festing, the Deputy Head of Citizen Lead Policy Making at the DECC it was decided to include this project)</li> </ol> <p>The time frame for the application is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application submitted end of December 2009</li> <li>• Decision made by end of January 2010</li> <li>• Funding begins beginning of April 2010</li> <li>• Funding ends end of March 2011</li> </ul> <p>The funds will come to the NP for administration. The NP through the CREP will allocate the funds to the projects.</p> <p>There was discussion about the philosophy of the action groups decisions and what projects the application would focus on.</p> <p>It was proposed that if successful the funds would be divided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% for the hydro scheme</li> <li>• 25% on a grant scheme for solar hot water</li> <li>• 25% for a wind project, specifically the Ridgeblade (with a fallback of 5 traditional turbines as a community project)</li> </ul>	

<b>Progress Reports</b>	
<b>Ruswarp Hydro</b> The landowner and his solicitor have been contacted again and the solicitor now seems to be taking action on the lease agreement. Colin has been in touch by e-mails with the solicitor of the weir owner and has requested written confirmation of the verbal permission that has been obtained for permission to repair the weir. The water levels have been agreed with the Environment Agency, Colin thanked Mike F for his hard work in negotiating this. The Yorkshire Dales NP have had a hydro potential survey carried out on its rivers and have set up a Steering Group to work with Dave Bamford from the EA to hopefully be able to take forward some of the identified potential sites. Negotiations are ongoing about the levels of fish monitoring requested by the EA to suit their desires and the level that would be required to prove that the hydro scheme was not having a detrimental effect on fish stocks, it is hoped that the EA will recognise the importance of the monitoring and find the funds to cover the cost of all the monitoring. The group have asked the EA to provide a brief for the minimum levels of monitoring that it will accept. An SDF grant will be applied for to help cover the costs of this. <b>Abbeyfields</b> After problems with the boreholes and unsubstantiated blame the boreholes are now complete and Geowarmth are back on site.	
<b>AOB</b>	
There will be a Vigil on Saturday in Whitby at 6pm as a show of solidarity for Copenhagen. There is to be a course on Permaculture in Whitby in February. Details will be circulated round the group when they are available	
<b>Details of next meeting</b>	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2010 (subsequently postponed), new date to be announced Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2010 In Danby Village Hall 7 for 7.30pm start	