



Board meeting - Sports Centre - 11/07/12 - 7.30 pm

Present - Iain Frazer, Matthew Black (Senior Energy Advisor), Holly O'Donnell, David Howell, Gordon Cowtan, Chrissie Pollock (Junior Energy Advisor), Kayt Howell (Admin), Kelly McIntyre (Project Manager),

Apologies - Pete Skabara, Jamie Pearson, Gordon Murray, Derek G Hulme.

REVIEW & APPROVAL of PREVIOUS MINUTES.

DH ran through points of action from previous minutes and Board approved.

Summary -

MB has notified all interested residents of the availability of the FDT grant to top up RHPP.

Petty cash card sorted.

GREEN PAGES printed and being distributed with Audit questionnaires.

Car Share Club - had first enquiry - look to putting on line in the future.

KM has checked out the Data Protection requirements re Audit and held information.

Carbon Cutter Police badges ready for beginning of next school term.

Drop in sessions could be better attended - looking at improving publicity.

Draught proofing - workshops in planning. Can offer excellent costs for materials to those who participate.

Hall roof insulation - roof construction has been established and waiting on further costs for replacing tiles as many are in poor condition. Costs in for providing vapour barrier and insulation to the interior underside and finishing.

STAFF REPORT

Audit - June was a difficult month to get truly underway due to holidays and staff training - so effort needed to move forward in July. Time consuming and some residents showing reluctance to participate - but results will provide the essential data to focus

further FDT activities. Methods of engaging the community were discussed by the board. **CP,MB**

Exemplar report submitted - KM met with the 'Greener Team' and introduced them to the work of the Trust.

Cycle Fintry - submission being made to obtain funding to add cycles, including electric cycles to the mix of energy efficient transport options within Fintry. Board discussed the proposal in some detail and gave support. **KM, CP**

Staff Training - CP and MB have undertaken several free, worthwhile training opportunities this month .

CCF progress report and first claim have been submitted and now awaiting feed back and approval. Some budget reallocation requested **KM, KH**

Green Deal - CP attended the 'train the trainer' course in Leeds. Fintry was the first community to be getting on board. CP reported on the complexity of the process and the difficulties which may arise in carrying out the necessary requirements. The Board agreed that development should be closely monitored but the initial thoughts were that we should bring in the right people as and when required rather than try and provide all needs from within the Trust. The board agreed that the Green Deal training was not core and that the issues of direct and indirect bureaucracy should be avoided by allowing the bigger companies to take on board. **KM, CP**

EV - staff have been looking into securing an Electric vehicle as a temporary addition to the FEET fleet to assess. Progress has been made through MBs contact's and we hope soon to have a vehicle available for use for 3-4 weeks. **KM,MB**

Woodland - information has been sent to resident requesting assistance re local woodland. Awaiting response.

BOARD MEETINGS.

HO'D proposed the idea of quarterly director's only board meetings on a Sunday afternoon in March, June, September, & December. If these were set into calendars and diaries then there would be greater opportunity for Directors to plan around and hopefully attend. This would allow for full catch up and decisions on major issues arising throughout the year which may have been missed by being unable to attend other regular meetings. Board approved this proposal. Dates to be agreed. First Sunday of each of the four months suggested. **KH**

DRT UPDATE.

Following the concerning announcement earlier regarding Aberfoyle Coaches going into receivership we are pleased to hear that Bert has been awarded the contract to continue with the DRT services for Fintry and surrounding villages. Bert has been considering

investing in an EV vehicle based at Fintry. Should this happen the board have agreed to fund his charges at our EV station.

WARM HOMES GRANT.

CP had previously proposed the idea of a Warm Home grant of £1000 per household to those caught within the low income brackets but above the threshold of qualifying for benefit assistance - to enable undertaking renewable heating measures. Further study of the benefit allowances are required, however the Board approved the grant subject to finalising qualification criteria.

CP

STAFF MEDIA TRAINING.

The team had undertaken initial introductory training from Chris Smith. This raised the need to address how we move forward and record and share our information as part of the process of creating the Fintry Low Carbon Centre for Excellence. FLOCC.

Staff team are looking at adopting some of the initiatives suggested at the training session including blogging and recording of relevant workshops, practises and events. The current under spend of the last F8 quarter budget will allow the purchase of an I pad which will assist in many of these measures and more. In addition will look at prices for purchasing own small projector .

STAFF

PARTNERSHIP FOR RENEWABLES.

Partnership for Renewables recently held a presentation at the hall and presented to the community council their proposals for a wind farm development at Cairnoch Hill by Carron Water.

The directors had a discussion to agree what FDT's position would be regarding the proposal - as there will be assumptions made by other village residents and we will be asked for our comments. It was obviously agreed that we need to be sensitive to the feelings of our membership and larger community.

It will need to be further discussed but at the moment it is agreed that FDT adopt a neutral position . Our Mem & Arts state that we are in favour of renewables but with that said, when Falck wished to extend up over the ridge facing the village we said no thank you.

When JP returns we shall ask him to convey to the CC that they will need to be the driving force for canvassing opinion in the community. The Community Council will be best placed to raise any concerns and objections on behalf of the community but the farm may still go ahead.

Should that be the case then FDT would be the appropriate party for negotiating the best deal for the community be it buy in or benefit.

KM will investigate the community benefit offer and what information is currently available. At the moment we are told it is £5,000 per megawatt which is above the industry standard. Denny has been offered community buy in but we are not sure why.

Should we find out more information we may consider compiling a survey monkey to ask for the opinions of our membership.

GC to send round link to website which shows visuals and gives scoping document.

<http://www.pfr.co.uk/carronvalley/3408/About-the-Project/>

RESERVED BUSINESS.

NEXT MEETING - 15th August.