



Board Meeting 23/01/13 - Sports club - 7.30pm

**PRESENT** - David Howell, Derek G Hulme, Matthew Black(Senior Energy Advisor), Iain Frazer, Kelly McIntyre (Project Manager), Chrissy Pollock (Energy Advisor), Kayt Howell (Co ordinator), Holly O'Donnell. Jamie Pearson, Gordon Cowtan.

**APOLOGIES** - Pete Skabara, Gordon Murray, Hugh Edmond.

#### **ACTION**

##### **WOOD SPLITTER**

A member of the community had contacted JP with a proposal for purchasing a community log splitter. The directors discussed the various aspects of the proposal and agreed that there were some positive points to the project which merited further investigation in order to provide detail - particularly on costs and methods of booking the kit.

**MB& JP**

##### **RHPP2**

KM briefly updated the board regarding the RHPP2 - the scheme for hightened voucher levels for renewable technologies. The uptake in the village has been for Airsource so far. We are looking at installs out with Fintry to maximize our voucher quota.

##### **TRAINING.**

Following on from the staff reviews HOD asked staff members to identify their own training needs and answer the 'what, why and how much' questions of each course prior to the next board meeting. KM and MB discussed the 50% cost reduction available for some low carbon skills training and the need to respond to some of the training opportunities which appear suddenly and offer excellent value to the team and the Trust.

**STAFF**

##### **OFFICE 365**

GC had the opportunity to discuss the potential use of this software for staff to use to share documents and keep track of the most up to date copies of materials. Information is held in a cloud based format and charity organizations are entitled to reduced rates. The staff and directors discussed the merits of this and other similar software office solutions. A free months trial is available - however staff asked for this to be put on hold for the moment due to other project commitments.

**To be revisited.**

##### **IBM**

GC had met people talking about 'smarter cities' and the Isle of Wight where an organization called Eco Island is working to help monitor and collate energy use data via a smart grid system - used to maximize the use of renewable energy solutions. GC had a conversation with those involved (IBM) and asked what they are doing and found them to be quite interested in how it might be applied to Fintry. GC will keep in touch of any developments.

**GC**

## SUB COMMITTEE

With a few meetings now held , DH asked how the sub committee was working and for an outline of it's remit. HOD reported that they had proved useful so far ,as a filter of topics which do not require direct board attention and they also provide a regular weekly access for the staff to board representatives. It was agreed not to hold sub com meetings on the same day as Board meetings to avoid unnecessary repetition.

## WIND DEVELOPMENT.

GC reported on the current situations of the various wind farm proposals in the area. FDT has been approached by Carron Valley DT suggesting a meeting and a joint meeting with PFR (Partnership for Renewables) to discuss potential community benefit. DH IF GC and possibly KM are available to attend a meeting.

## PV

KM reported on the staff research into a 'rent a roof' scheme where FDT may be the investors allowing the RHI to be kept within the village. There are some issues still to be addressed with the roof of the sports centre - so staff will feed back when they have looked at the situation further.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

A meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 30th January - to consult with the parties who have shown an interest, now that funding of £11k has been secured. Outline plans have been agreed in principle and DGH will look at the supply and costs from the information available. With time constraints on the spend of the grant money - it is crucial to move quickly on the project to meet these as well as allow garden users access for this years growing season. Volunteer help will be required on many aspects to make this happen.

## AOB

JP asked MB about the bulk buy electricity scheme - it's open to anyone to sign up and information has been circulated.

DGH asked about the District heating system \_ KM and MB reported on the position we are in regarding a feasibility study. More information will be forthcoming shortly.

Next meeting 20/02/13.