



Minutes of Board Meeting 27/05/15. Sports Club Office . 7.30pm

**Present:** Matthew Black( Senior Energy Advisor), Kayt Howell ( Co ordinator), David Howell, Holly O'Donnell, Gordon Cowtan, Jamie Pearson, Hugh Edmond, Iain Frazer.

**Apologies:** Gordon Murray.

#### **ACTION**

The Board agreed the previous minutes of 23/04/15 meeting.

#### **BALGAIR UPDATE.**

MB reported on the latest news from the District Heating Project.

The Heat interface units have arrived and should all be installed within three weeks by Alternative Heat. Units are neater than we had expected and the residents are happy with how they look. Household monitors have yet to be installed. Enviro Energy have completed a site test and will provide appropriate antennae to cover any weak spots.

The club house is being heated and monitored closely. The lease is still being passed between Lawyers. Maintenance contract being pursued by MB.

Stirling Council has provided their contribution of £122K.

**MB**

#### **SLCF**

KH reported on the ongoing progress with Stirling's Low Carbon Future project.

Interviews are taking place shortly for a part time energy advisor. MB to sit on panel.

**KH&MB**

#### **SCALE**

This is the new project which will be lead by Rachel Nunn , and enabled by FDT. Stirling's Community Accelerated Local Energy. The project aims to locate and develop potential large scale renewables within the Stirlingshire area. Funding will be from other sources, not turbine funds, and will, in addition, provide mutual support with the SLCF project.

**GC & KH**

#### **CYCLE FINTRY**

The booking system is no longer supported online so a simpler paper system will be set up for members to use. One bike is currently out on a 3 month hire.

The Board agree to have a donation "honesty box" for cycle hire and have a summer promotion to encourage use. KH to update new system, inform members, and promote use.

**KH**

#### **FCC**

Fintry Community Council AGM is on the 10th of June. FDT will attend and promote to our membership. JP, the FCC chair, gave a brief report on the Shoppers Bus, the Goodwill Fund, and the current status of the Outdoor Bowling Club. GC to check amount owed to GWF.

**GC,JP & KH**

## SMART METERS

MB has secured funding for a feasibility study through Local Energy Scotland's Innovation & Infrastructure Fund. This will look at the potential for offsetting energy produced by the Claylands farm AD plant versus the domestic consumption of the Fintry Community.

Robert who runs the AD plant, is keen to work with FDT to maximise all renewable potential of the plant - chip drying, Bio-methane etc.

MB discussed the possibilities for additional funding post feasibility study, by accessing the LES challenge fund. MB discussed the process by which we may be able to access funds from SSE, by offsetting the increased village load against energy produced by AD and preventing the need for an upgrade to the infrastructure. **MB**

## CORRESPONDENCE FROM MEMBERS

The Board discussed and agreed the method by which correspondence from members of FDT will be addressed.

Correspondence will be collated and be an ongoing part of each Board meeting agenda and responses will appear in the following minutes.

### 1. Enquiry -

*"I am puzzled and annoyed to read that FDT board are 'looking into the provision of Educational Bursaries for students from Fintry'. I need to ask why and how is this considered to be meeting the Trusts's objectives to lower the carbon footprint, reduce waste and work towards sustainability?"*

*Will this be put to the wider membership or will it be yet another board decision that members are simply informed of at the AGM?*

*Could you let me know when the AGM will be held?"*

### Board's Reply -

The Board investigates suggestions for projects and ideas submitted by our membership which will benefit the Fintry Community and makes decisions accordingly - as an elected Board.

The Board are looking at the possibilities of an Educational Grant and the possible criteria for this at the moment.

The initial ideas are that the grant would be awarded to further education students who were able to prove a sustainable element to their studies, each application being considered on it's own merits.

This would lead to careers where there is an aspect of carbon reduction and sustainability - therefore meeting with our core objectives.

Re AGM. This is normally the last Saturday in October from 2pm to around 5pm. although the actual date for 2015 has not yet been agreed.

No further correspondence.

## TRANSPORT

FDT staff are investigating further options which would best meet the majority of transport needs for Fintry.

The initial enthusiasm for a car club and its impressive early adoption had dwindled to unsustainable levels - as it proved apparent that residents preferred the convenience of using their own vehicles as opposed to hire cars.

The board discussed in detail, the issues involved, covering a variety of options, from scheduled bus provision, van hire, mini bus options, bio fuel use, electric buses, funding possibilities.

The discussions highlighted several areas requiring further in depth investigation.

**JP,MB & KH**

## EDUCATION GRANT

FDT are looking into the provision of Further Education Grants for Fintry residents. The criteria and application process are being investigated with the aim of providing grants to any further education students who can prove an element of carbon reduction and/or sustainability within their studies.

Further details will be added to our forthcoming newsletter.

**KH**

## HOUSEHOLD GRANTS

While FDT continue to provide their existing range of household grants, the Board discussed the possibilities of increasing some loan amounts in qualifying cases, and DECC's current conditions which have restrictive implications. MB to email DECC. GC to contact OSCR.

**GC & MB**

## SCHOOL SOLAR PV

The solar panels on the nursery roof funded by FDT, have provided another £173.00 to the education fund administered by the Parents Council.

Next meeting - 24/06/15 TBC