



Board meeting. 30/09/15. 7.30 pm. Winterburn.

PRESENT: Gordon Cowtan, Jamie Pearson, Iain Frazer, Holly O'Donnell, Matthew Black, (Senior Energy Adviser), Kayt Howell (Co ordinator).

APOLOGIES: David Howell, Gordon Murray, Hugh Edmond.

ACTION

BALGAIR

MB reported on the snagging works for the project completion. Teething issues are settling, the problem with the meters has been rectified and are currently all with signal. Any further issues with the meters may result in charges from Alternative Heat. Boiler flues tiles have been resolved. The Internet connection to the flag boiler faults is being installed. The RHI application has still to be finalized, following additional meters being installed etc. The heat sales from the residents' usage are now coming through.

MB

SMART METERS PROJECT

MB has had lots of meetings with Veitch Cooper including a visit to Findhorn to investigate their experiences of forecasting energy needs of the community and how they developed their tariffs. Sandy Wito, of Veitch Cooper, will be available to do a presentation to members at the AGM.

Energy Assets are the company who would provide the Smart meter systems for distribution of data. Battery storage solutions have also been considered but the timing and cost would seem prohibitive for this project. Recycled Lithium ion batteries would not be available for the next seven years.

Much of the current focus is on commercial agreements with SSE, Good Energy etc.

The project aims to offer, to those who sign up, free smart meters, LEDs, wall insulation, modern storage radiator systems and ASHPs through a mixture of grants and low interest loans.

There may be potential to connect with Herriot Watt University and their Origin Project.

IF mentioned the battery storage for domestic use now being introduced by Tesla.

MB said that heat storage would definitely be part of the package to balance out the supply and demand needs for hot water.

At the AGM the proposal is to have a survey to present to members to gauge interest, and extend to a door-to-door survey.

MB to contact council regarding LED streetlights to add to the mix.

MB.

MENZIES HALL LIGHTING

MB has been able to purchase LED lights for the village hall, replacing halogens and 40w & 60w bulbs. This should result in using just 10% of the current running costs, so a 90% saving.

Reserved business

STIRLING PRIORITY BASED BUDGETING.

HOD attended this months meeting, and reported on two particular areas of interest for the Trust.

1. There was considerable discussion on building relationships and providing support to Third Sector groups. Something, which could prove beneficial to the Trust.

2. Potential for schools to present a business plan for small solar farms within their grounds.

MB reminded the board of the slash to FITs due in January, however panels may well be cheaper from then.

Further discussions required. MB & KH to look into suitability at FP. **MB KH**
JP reported that the Council are back cutting the fields at the Sports club but are being paid by club.

Reserved Business

TRAILER.

An FDT member had been asking about the community trailer - previously suggested by the Board as useful asset .

Selection and purchase to be made. Budget agreed.

MB KH

TOOL POOL

A suggestion proposed by an FDT member for the Trust to set up an online tool pool, was met with interest, however the Board considered the health and safety issues and liability issues not something that the Board would be happy to undertake. Staff time and availability was another issue. **KH**

AGM

KH reported on the preparations for the AGM on October 31st. Draft accounts are being prepared by our accountants.

Agenda is being compiled, as is the hand out leaflet. Directors were asked for their feedback on the document. **KH**

Posters have been made and distributed – inviting members to stand for election.

AGM will focus on the Fintry New Energy Tariff as main thread.

Financial summary and directors report to be completed.

GC

FREE directors to meet at 1.10pm prior to AGM.

GC GM DH

FCE directors to meet at 1.30 prior to AGM

GC IF HE

AOB

Craigton and Spitalhill Wind farm project is in the appeal process.

JP has a meeting with other communities involved in the Kingsburn Extension project to discuss income shares.

Date for next meeting - TBC