Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 14th November 2017, The Goods Shed, Wadebridge

WREN Board Members present; Chris Coonick (CC), Tony Faragher (TF), Rick Johnson (RJ), Kevin Smith (KS).

WREN ops assistant: Leonie McGregor (LM), (minutes).

Apologies: Amanda Pennington (AP), Rachel Wigglesworth (RW).

Meeting started 19.00, closed 21.00.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th September 2017. There were no matters arising.

- 1. Co-option of Rick Johnson to the Board: Proposed TF, seconded KS.
- **2. Appointment of company officers: Chair** Tony Faragher, proposed KS, seconded RJ. **Treasurer**: Kevin Smith, proposed RJ, seconded CC. **Secretary**: Tony Faragher, proposed RJ, seconded KS. Chris Coonick will shadow TF this year, so that she may take up the role next time.
- **3.** Welcome to new Board members: TF welcomed Eric Gill and Rick Johnson to the Board, and suggested an informal coffee meeting to be arranged to fill them in with any background, all Board members welcome to attend.
- **4. Finance Update:** KS reported on the current balances in WREN's bank accounts, which are in line with expectations. KS and LM have a handover meeting with Kevin Cornford from Alexander & Co next week. LM to check St Breock Fund balance. It was decided to examine WREN's budget in detail at the next Board meeting, to include the process for making payments.
- **5.** Communications: The next newsletter is due out before Christmas. Items to be included are the results of the Sustainability Awards, the opening of the St Breock Fund for applications, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LEP joint energy strategy and delivery plan currently being devised with 2 other LEPs and KS's report on the Smart Meter Conference. CC to write a piece on the new ECO funding for energy efficiency directed at private landlords. Please forward any other contributions to KS.
- 6. Wadebridge Energy Company (WEC): Discussions continue regarding the request for a loan to WEC from WREN of £15,000. This is to fulfil one of The Loan Society's (TLC) original conditions, and a waiver is being considered by TLC in the light of current circumstances. The WEC accounts have been received by WREN. There was some discussion about the £4000 currently owed to WREN by WEC, and KS to check that this is reflected in both sets of accounts. Ideally this small cashflow loan would be paid off by WEC before any formal loan agreement was put in place, and the Board request that WEC consider when this can be repaid. It is clear that if the formal loan is agreed both WREN and WEC would need separate legal advice.
- **7. Data Protection Compliance new regulations:** Paper discussed.TF to identify all data held by WREN to be considered at the next meeting. A statement about any data held will be drafted and posted on the website. All other data will be deleted.
- **8.** Community Funds: St Breock Fund launches early December, review meeting tomorrow. Nanstallon Fund has received 1 application for repair of the village institute windows. Pengelly Fund (a landowner voluntary fund) is changing its terms of reference and will now donate all monies directly to a county organisation that has lost its funding stream. WREN will no longer be involved.
- **9. Possible projects**: Social Prescribing to be discussed further with RW. Energy efficiency and generation in social housing AP to outline further. CC to investigate possible projects re the new ECO funding shortfall. TF also to consult with Clean Earth on the status of the annual £10K.
- **10. Other business**: CC, as part of Cornwall New Energy consultancy, proposed a research project for WREN on the activities of other community energy groups, including lessons learnt, which will help inform WREN's future decisions.

Future Board meetings: to be held monthly, on the second Wednesday of each month at 9 am.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 13th December, 9 am at The Goods Shed.

(then 10th January, 14th February, 14th March, 11th April, 9th May, 13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December 2018)