Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 21st November 2018, The Goods Shed, Wadebridge

WREN Board Members present: Chris Coonick (CC), Tony Faragher (TF), Eric Gill (EG), Rick Johnson (RJ), Amanda Pennington (AP), Kevin Smith (KS).

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

Meeting started 09:30, closed 11.15.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 10th October 2018.

Matters arising:

- TF gave a presentation to 16 Plymouth University Masters students and their 2 tutors about WREN which was very well received. The new data projector was used and worked well.
- AP, TF and KS visited Wildwood Fuel at Treworder owned and run by Hugh Davis as a sustainable, carbon neutral supplier of kiln dried logs. Hugh is proposing to donate 25p per bag sold to a fuel poverty fund, details to be worked out.
- TF had requested details from Cornwall Council of local agencies that might be interested in working together with WREN on fuel poverty action. No mailing lists are available to be shared, however TF is attending a community network meeting next week to move forward with this plan.
- KS has worked through an initial list of changes for WREN's website, making certain changes and starting a new list of more major changes for Impress 51 to carry out.
- 1. Finance: KS presented a paper showing WREN's expenditure in the half year to date, compared with last year. This shows that WREN is not as yet cost neutral, but that the deficit will be smaller this year. TF will approach Balfour Beatty to request an administration fee for WREN for the Treworder fund which has been administered free of charge since its inception in 2013.
- **2.** Communications: KS had circulated a draft newsletter will be sent out shortly. AP to obtain copy from Wildwood Fuel's PR company explaining their sustainability credentials.
- **3.** Fuel Poverty: TF presented a Fuel Poverty plan paper which was discussed by the Board. It was agreed to use up to £1,000 to employ a part time worker to move this plan forward initially.
- 4. Feedback from Community Energy day, Plymouth 14th November: TF had attended and will forward a link to the presentations, featuring amongst other items Electric Vehicles, and the maths on storage. TF reported that WREN was referred to as inspirational in many of the presentations.
- 5. Proposal from Tony Faragher to do additional paid work for WREN. This was agreed by the Board in accordance with the proposal document at an hourly rate of £20 per hour up to a maximum of 24 hours per month, starting immediately.
- 6. Update on Projects: CC reported on several interesting initiatives that may be worth further investigation. This includes Verv, a company trialling peer to peer trading within an energy trading platform, and possibly looking to work with a community willing to engage with energy issues. CC also outlined the way Solar Together London is offering a group buying scheme for solar panels, along the same lines as the community switch model using iChoosr to send personal offers to registrants once a critical mass has been reached. There are funding deadlines in January 2019 for applications to the Rural Community Energy Fund and the Centre for Sustainable Energy, CC is happy to help work on the expressions of interest.
- 7. There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 12th December, 9 30 am at The Goods Shed.

(then 9th January, 13th February, 13th March, 10th April, 8th May, 12th June, 10th July, 14th August, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, 11th December 2019)