

**Minutes of WREN Board Meeting  
12<sup>th</sup> June 2019, The Goods Shed, Wadebridge**

WREN Board Members present: Tony Faragher (TF), Rick Johnson (RJ), Kevin Smith (KS).

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

Apologies: Chris Coonick (CC), Amanda Pennington (AP).

Meeting started 09:30, closed 11.40.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 10th April 2019.

Matters arising:

- Insurances have been renewed: the overall cost has reduced by about £200 per annum taking into account WREN's small turnover and number of employees.

1. **Finance:** Nothing to report.
2. **Communications:** A comprehensive newsletter was sent out in April. KS plans to send out the next one with the revised community fund deadlines this month.
3. **Update on Projects:**
  - Next Generation Fund – nothing has been heard to date about a possible second round.
  - ERDF application - outcome of the stage one application is awaited.
  - Rural Community Energy Fund – this has just been launched. TF has registered WREN on the mailing list.
4. **Community Funds: Treworder Fund** is open 1<sup>st</sup> July – 31st August. TF emails out to all schools to ensure they are aware the fund is open during the school holiday period. **WREN Fund** - it has now been decided to open the next round of £9,000 on 1<sup>st</sup> October, close end of November. **St Breock Fund** – the parish boundary proposals are out for consultation. Any changes will impact the St Breock Fund, and will be discussed with REG when more is known.
5. **Cornwall Council and CIOS Local Enterprise Partnership, feedback on strategy seminar June 5<sup>th</sup>.** TF had attended which was the third in a series of 3, dealing with energy and climate change in the light of Cornwall Council's declaration of a climate emergency in January. The focus was on transport, heating and household energy, with the discussions aiming to produce a framework for achieving the net carbon zero target well within the Government's 2050 deadline. Whilst funds will be available for projects in this area, WREN as a small organisation is not aiming to bid and sees its role more in terms of contributing to the discussions, and gathering information which may in turn inform WREN's work and direction of travel.
6. **Recruitment of new Board members.** It was agreed to set up a formal process for this which will be publicly advertised. TF will draft a 2 page document for potential applicants setting out WREN's redefined aims, and outlining the skills and expertise being sought. KS will work on an outline of the process to follow, with timescales. Various ways to get the word out were discussed, including social media, traditional print, and the direct approach.
7. **Other business:**
  - Councillor Knightley is now part of the Cornwall Council Team leading on the climate emergency agenda, and is supportive of the possible reviving of plans for the solar allotment at Ball. A planning appeal decision is awaited. CC has the original feasibility study.
  - KS had attended a stakeholder engagement session run by Wales and West Utilities on the future of gas. Biomethane and hydrogen as alternatives to gas were discussed, as well as hybrid heating, and the concept of social returns on investments. He will write this up for the newsletter.
  - KS has been invited to attend an LEM seminar on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.
  - Chasewater Energy Group's Renewable Energy Fair is 27<sup>th</sup> July.

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019, 9 30 am at The Goods Shed.**

**(then 14<sup>th</sup> August, 11th September, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019)**