

Minutes of WREN Board Meeting
26th June 2020, Zoom

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

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

WREN Community Engagement Officer: Simon Miller (SM).

WREN Intern: Riva Tufnail.

Apologies: Amanda Pennington (AP), Marcus Shirley (MS).

Meeting started 9:30, closed 11:30.

The meeting started with a presentation by Riva Tufnail, who has completed 4 weeks of her 6 week internship with WREN. Riva will give her final presentation either at the next Board meeting or on a separate occasion.

The Board unanimously decided to co-opt Simon Miller as a member of the Board – proposed by KS, seconded by CC. Simon was welcomed onto the Board and thanked for his willingness to be involved.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 29th May 2020.

Matters arising: The TEVI project has encouraged WREN to apply for a grant of £10,000 towards further planned work on the Energy Equality project which will not be funded by RCEF. The grant will be subject to an ERDF 80% intervention rate - the Board agreed to commit £2,000 of WREN's own funds to this. The other major condition is that the funds are reimbursed on proof of expenditure, the Board was happy to proceed on that basis. It was agreed that CC would complete and submit the expression of interest to TEVI.

1. **Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF):** RCEF will fund a small amount of further work on the project. This is to talk to energy suppliers about wholesale market prices and power purchase agreements, and their capabilities in house regarding technology approaches. Quotations from 2 different groups for this piece of work will be forwarded to RCEF for consideration. WREN will look at the costs of running a share scheme and complete a business plan. Certain written permissions are required from land owners and Cornwall Council to complete the final report for RCEF. 3 potential portfolios are being considered: low, medium and high risk. Cornwall Council is about to launch the Community Infrastructures Levy which may be a source of funding for community owned solar panels. CC to provide a 1 pager for TF, who will discuss an approach with local Cornwall Councillors Robin Moorcroft and Stephen Knightley.
2. **Communications:** The next newsletter will include news that the feasibility study is complete and WREN will be proceeding to explore a number of opportunities on community owned buildings in discussions with Cornwall Council and Wadebridge Town Council. CC to ask Riva to write a short piece about her project. Earlier in June SM had emailed a thank you to 80 respondents to the first survey with an update on the RCEF project and providing a link for membership. A request for help newflash had also been sent out on behalf of Callum Mooney seeking participants in a study for his dissertation.
3. **St Breock Fund:** Further funds have been returned where projects are unable to proceed this year. St Breock parish panel will make a further donation of £1,000 to Concern Wadebridge, and the remainder will be carried over to next year.
4. **Treworder Fund:** The new owners of the fund paid this year's monies. The amount for distribution will be £13,652, which includes some funds unspent from last year. The fund will open early July and close September 11th, with decisions by the end of September.

NEXT MEETING FRIDAY 31st July 2020, 3 pm on Zoom.

(then 28th August, 25th September, 30th October, 27th November 2020)