

## Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021, Zoom

WREN Board Members present: Chris Coonick, Tony Faragher, Simon Miller, Marcus Shirley, Kevin Smith, Ian Welch.

WREN ops assistant: Leonie McGregor, (minutes).

Apologies: Amanda Pennington.

Beth Leighfield WREN intern

Meeting started 1500, closed 1700.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### **Matters Arising**

- Marcus and Tony have a meeting set up with a potential volunteer to discuss EVs and help with planning the online event.
- The website update has been broadly completed. The Board agreed to pay £90 to Impress51 for the work. Help with the FAQ section is requested from Board members. Kevin will split this into sections and send them out for updating. Marcus is working on a map of local EV charging points to be embedded, Simon to look at graphics. Chris to check with ZLC Energy about use of output data from the Nanstallon array.
- Volunteer Ettie Coonick is continuing her work reorganising WREN's Dropbox, deleting duplicates and creating an index. Tony is considering other storage options and will report to the Board when requirements are clearer.
- Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill: there is currently no discussion time in Parliament for private members' bills, which has the upside of allowing more time to build support. Tony will draft a WREN support letter.
- The Cornwall Community Energy Network first meeting will now take place on 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- Further Rapid Response funding has been awarded from the St Breock Fund: for laptops to the Friends of St Breock School, and to the Gymnastics Centre.
- Cornwall Council DPD consultation – Kevin, Tony and Marcus met and sent a response to Cornwall Council.

### **1. Energy Equality Project update:**

Beth Leighfield gave an update on her work. The HIVE application was submitted towards the end of January. In response there will be a Zoom meeting with HIVE on 19<sup>th</sup> February which Beth, Chris, and Tony will attend. Beth will submit the 'Community Booster' application by the end of February. The Booster, if the application is successful, would provide up to £10k for developing WREN's share offer with the subsequent possibility of stage 2 funding up to £100k. The application form requires in-depth information and help will be needed from Board members to provide this. Beth is also organising phone interviews with people who responded to the Survey Monkey questionnaire, to find out barriers, concerns and motivations relevant to their participation in the share issue.

Chris has updated RCEF with the latest information including grid budget estimates from WPD, and the outcomes of AFE's research. RCEF have appointed a new project manager to work with WREN. There is slow but steady progress with the 7 potential sites. It was agreed Simon would keep them all updated on how the project is progressing. It is hoped that the additional work by AFE and any structural surveys will be funded with the current RCEF grant. TEVI funding is also a possibility. Simon will share details of 2 other funds he has come across.

- 2. Business Plan:** A draft had been circulated by Chris. It was agreed WREN's strategy should be considered and a session was arranged for 5<sup>th</sup> March 3-5pm.
- 3. WPD Innovation Fund:** Stuart Fowler from WPD has been assigned as WREN's innovation engineer link. Chris, Kevin and Tony to meet him on 16<sup>th</sup> February to run through the proposal. All potential partners have reiterated their support.

4. **St Breock Windfarm Community Fund s106 Deed of Variation:** This is being drawn up by RES to reflect changes brought about as a result of change of ownership and management of the project. There should be no impact on the constitution, and RES will cover WREN's legal costs up to £750, should legal representation be required.
5. **St Breock Windfarm Community Fund boundary changes:** RES enquired whether the parish boundary change review will have an impact on the 7 panels for the fund. Amanda confirmed that there is a minor change entailing land transferring from Egloshayle Parish Council to Wadebridge Town, but there is no timetable within Cornwall Council for any further changes to be implemented at present.
6. **Communications:** Kevin is compiling the next newsletter. It will include an update on the Energy Equality Project, and WREN's new look website. Any items of interest please send to Kevin.
7. **Other Business:**
  - Western Power Distribution Green Recovery Ready to Go projects call for evidence: Kevin asked whether WREN had any upcoming projects to respond about. The solar installation at Padstow School was discussed and it was decided to query with WPD whether such a project would be considered in this call.
  - Tony has provided information about WREN's activities to Cornwall Climate Action Network.

**NEXT MEETING FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> March 3 pm on Zoom.**

**(then 9<sup>th</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> June,  
9<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 10<sup>th</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021)**