

Minutes of WREN Board Meeting 7th August 2023, Zoom

WREN Board Members present: Chris Coonick, Tony Faragher, Kevin Smith, Ian Welch.

Apologies: Simon Miller.

WREN members present: Leonie McGregor (minutes).

Meeting started 1900, closed 2010.

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd July 2023.

There were no matters arising:

- 1. Energy Redress Fund application:** WREN's application to fund a low carbon energy advisor was unsuccessful. The feedback provided is in the form of scores in 4 categories. A fifth round has opened, closing date 22nd August. Tony and Kevin will look at what can be done to strengthen the application in the short time available and resubmit if possible.
- 2. Good Energy Supply to War Memorial:** Ian has located the supply to the reservoir pump and shared photographs of the overhead cabling and pole where the supply goes under ground. He has since been advised that a second box is located at the base of the pole and will return to see if he can find this in the undergrowth. If Ian is successful Tony will liaise with National Grid for the next steps.
- 3. Communications:** Kevin has sent a draft newsletter for comments. The AGM session on community funds, recruitment of new directors and the Project Venice webinar are further inclusions. Chris and Tony to send the content to Kevin by Wednesday.
- 4. Finance:** Kevin shared a financial report for the quarter ending June 30th 2023. Expenditure on the Royal Cornwall Show is included in this quarter. Chris will remind Exeter University that their invoice is still awaited. The 32-day notice account was opened at Lloyds and accrued £93 in 20 days of July. Kevin is on track to produce the draft annual accounts to be approved by the Board at the next meeting ahead of the AGM on 28th September.
- 5. Banking with Lloyds Bank:** No further information has been discovered about Lloyds' investment in fossil fuels. It was agreed to keep the account as is for now and act if new information comes to light.
- 6. AGM arrangements:** It was agreed to hold a drop-in information session about the community funds from 4 until 6.45 pm, followed by the AGM at 7 pm. Leonie will contact the John Betjeman Centre for room availability. Tony and Chris will step down as directors at the AGM.
- 7. Board member recruitment:** Tony has produced the final version of the recruitment document to include a list of personal qualities. Potential applicants are referred to WREN's strategic plan. The role will now be advertised in the newsletter and on WREN's social media, as well as in the Cornwall Voluntary Sector, and Women on Boards.
- 8. Options for river and marine power generation: request for further clarification:** Neil Farrington responded to the request with further details. There are currently no off the shelf technologies that would be appropriate. Additionally, WREN has no capacity to further explore this area.
- 9. Other Business:** Chris referred to Oxford innovation's fund for transforming businesses, which can provide an executive placement for ambitious businesses. Tony will follow this up. The handing over of the NZCom email address was discussed. It is hoped that Simon might take over the monitoring of the emails.

**NEXT MEETING MONDAY 4th September 7.00 pm on Zoom
Then: 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December.**