

URCHFONTS PARISH COUNCIL

CLIMATE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Notes of the meeting of the CFC Working Group held on 15th May 2008
at 4 Peppercombe Close, Urchfont

Present - Peter Newell, Chairman

Jim Batt
Richard Bromley
David Byford
Alan Cannon
Mary Treneer

1. Welcome and apologies - Pete Nobes
2. Notes of the meeting held on ~~15th~~ ^{19 March} May 2008 - Agreed
3. Matters arising -
 - (a) School Waste Committee - Mary had still not made contact with the School but Alan had recently met Jackie Holton, the Head, to obtain material for an article in 'News & Views'. It was noted that the paper skip was often full.
 - (b) World Changers Network Launch - Peter would attend the launch on 31st May in Devizes. Richard and Alan would confirm whether or not they would be able to attend. Richard/Alan

Jim undertook to arrange a display with Marion for Peter to take to the launch. This would include photographs, the final Energy Efficiency report and details of the Carbon Positive Award. Jim
 - (c) Transition Towns Initiative - Jim undertook to try and attend the talk in Salisbury that evening. Jim
 - (d) Earth Hour (29.3.08) - It was agreed that far too little notice had been given of this event (one month) to enable advance preparations and publicity to be developed to enable a substantial impact to be made.
 - (d) Climate Change Bill - The letter from Michael Ancram was noted.
4. South West Carbon Positive Awards - Peter and Richard had attended the Business in the Community Mayday conference in Exeter at which Prince Charles and the Prime Minister had spoken via video link. Whilst Urchfont did not win, the fact of being one of the finalists in the community category had generated some publicity and would be reported in News & Views.
5. Energy Efficiency Campaign -
 - (a) Pilot households - The final report was currently being printed by Kennet District Council and would be distributed to the 18 households and other interested parties. Earlier errors in the outputs had been corrected. It was noted that it was still very difficult to measure carbon footprints to establish a baseline for analysing comparative data. Alan had been embarrassed as a result of publishing incorrect information about one family in the Parish magazine. Peter would arrange a date for presentation of the prizes with a photo opportunity and publicity. Peter

(b) Extension to Pilot - Funding - Peter was awaiting advice from WWT regarding updated figures for the training course for the voluntary assessors to enable him to finalise an amended budget for grant applications. It was agreed that the budget should be reduced if possible to no more than £15,000. Peter

(c) Energy Saving Products - Peter reported distribution as follows -

Low energy light bulbs	107
Pipe lagging	6.5 packets (x 5 - 1m)
Draught proofing	13 rolls
Radiator panels	128

There had been some requests for products from adjacent Parishes.

(d) Energy Day - Whilst the main hall was likely to be available for use during most of the building works, it was uncertain when the work would be completed with January the anticipated date. Ideally the Energy Day should have been held at the beginning of the Winter rather than in February which now appeared to be the most practical time for a revised date.

Richard suggested that one way forward might be to hold a series of smaller events leading up to the Energy Day in February. These might include activities at the Shop and Pub. Richard would suggest some ideas for this and Peter would speak again to Peter Cook about the Village Hall works.

Richard/Peter

(e) Street Lighting - Peter reported that the recommendations in the paper previously circulated had been accepted by the Amenities Committee and the next step was to consult the Police and Fire Service. Concern was expressed about the minority of households which did not want the lights changed to part night lighting. It may be that the Parish Council could pay for these households to install movement activated external lights.

6. Community Wind Turbine(s) - Peter and Richard reported on the visit to the Westmill Wind Farm and subsequent papers from Atkins and Good Energy. Richard was awaiting further information from other contacts in the renewable energy sector. Following a recent TV programme, David suggested that turbine blades might need to be replaced after 15 years for which budgetary provision would be necessary.

It was agreed that - more information was needed from Good Energy. Peter and Richard would arrange a meeting with Hugo House.

- this project should in due course be developed and managed through an industrial and provident society as a subsidiary of the Redhone Community Trust (with whom Peter had discussed) to enable funds to be attracted from, eg the Cooperative Bank.

7. Publicity - Mary reported upon the Recycling Week in first week of June with 'swoosh' flyers in shops in Devizes and Marlborough. She would be sending posters and flyers to Marion and Alan undertook to publicize this in Redhorn News. Richard undertook to give priority to the Website pages on the CFC work. Alan/Richard

8. Plastic Bags - Alan reported on the research he had undertaken into biodegradable bags following the Planks Farm Shop example. Both dog bags and shopping bags would shortly be available with an added additive (EPI) making them degradable within some two years. Unit price would be 1.2p per bag. The supplier was Reddipak Ltd (details from Peter/Alan). They were also available through Jolly's Pet Stores in Chippenham. Mary would explore the potential for wider use in KDC. They might be available for the Energy Day.
Mary/Peter
9. Date of next meeting - 10.00am Thursday 26th June 2008 at
4 Peppercombe Close, Urchfont
10. Any other business -
- (a) NESTA Community Environment Challenge - Peter reported on the success of the Marlborough Climate Pledge Group being shortlisted for the 'Big Green Challenge' prize fund sponsored by the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts. Concern was expressed that local groups were not receiving information on funding opportunities in a systematic way from WWT. Peter would pursue this and Richard would explore whether there would be a further round of NESTA prizes.
Peter/Richard
- (b) Sustain the Plain - Jim undertook to enquire about any further grant monies being available from the previous round. Jim
- (c) Parish Council Carbon Footprint - Richard suggested that, following the Carbon Positive Awards at which all those present were asked to make pledges to reduce carbon emissions, the Parish Council might analyse their carbon emissions. He offered to provide a template for this.
Richard/PC