

URCHFONTS PARISH COUNCIL

CLIMATE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Notes of the meeting of the CFC Working Group held on 6th November 2008 at 4 Peppercombe Close, Urchfont

Present - Peter Newell, Chairman  
Jim Batt  
David Byford  
Richard Bromley  
Alan Cannon

1. Welcome, apologies and resignation - Pete Nobes. Mary Treneer had resigned upon her new appointment with the Wiltshire Council.
2. Notes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2008 - Agreed
3. Matters arising -
  - (a) RegenSW - Richard undertook to pursue this possible source of grant aid Richard
  - (b) Street Lighting Review - Peter reported that the Fire Service had raised no objections to the proposed change to part night lighting in the areas so far consulted. The response of the Police was outstanding.
  - (c) VAT - Peter reported that this had been further discussed by the Board of the Redhone Community Trust and voluntary registration was not possible as the Trust was hoping to be registered as a charity and thus have very little trading and was unlikely to have the potential to have sufficient trading in the future to have any expectation of reaching the VAT threshold. If the Wind Energy project proceeded further, this would have to be undertaken through an Industrial and Provident Society which might well need to register for VAT.
4. Parish Council Carbon Footprint - Richard had still to produce the methodology to take the preliminary work further. Richard
5. Energy Efficiency Campaign -
  - (a) Extension to Pilot - Peter reported that, whilst the AONB had received approval for a further LEADER programme, they would not be in a position to progress the grant application until late December. Peter

Jim confirmed that Community First had received approval for the successor grant programme to Sustain the Plain - 'Plain Action' - covering a wider geographical area. Peter would pursue this when details of the grant programme were published. Peter
  - (b) Energy Saving Products - Peter reported distribution as follows -

Low Energy Light Bulbs	180
Pipe Lagging	12 packets (x5 - 1m)
Draught Proofing	18 rolls
Radiator Panels	219
Hot Water Cylinder Jackets	1

Electricity Monitors

10 loaned out

The monitor which Richard had borrowed appeared to be broken. Peter explained that, notwithstanding advice in the booklet, he had had some problems with monitors alternating readings very quickly.

Richard explained the problems he had had with lime scale in his hot water cylinder and the consequent waste of electricity with some 25kgs of scale. He would explore the scope for borrowing a thermal imaging camera to experiment on other cylinders.

Richard

- (c) Energy Roadshows - 27 enquiries had been recorded and Peter and Richard were following these up. Peter/Richard

The next Roadshow would be on 15th November.

Richard was working with the Somerset Trust for Sustainable Homes and was concerned at the number of different national standards for energy efficient houses.

David highlighted the problem he had experienced in finding people willing to clean wood burning stoves.

- (d) Energy Day - This was being progressed by the separate Working Party meeting immediately after the meeting. Publicity was now a priority - Alan would start to promote. Alan/Energy Day W/P

6. Community Wind Energy - Peter reported that the Feasibility Study had been started by Atkins with a meeting and site visits the previous week with Mike Blanch. On the latter's advice, Peter had written to Mike Willmott at Kennet to seek advice on the need for planning permission for a temporary anemometry mast and on the work being sought by Government on the identification of sites for renewables.
7. Micro Hydro Power - Peter reported that John Bean had been asked by the Redhone Community Trust to undertake some preliminary investigation into the feasibility of hydro power in the stream through the Bottom.
8. Publicity - Alan reported that SCRAP claimed that Salisbury City had abolished plastic bags. They had also cast doubt on the validity of plastic bags which the manufacturers/suppliers claimed to be bio-degradable. Richard suggested that there might be a distinction to be made between those bags left to degrade in landfill or elsewhere and those subject to high temperatures through composting. It was agreed that definitive advice was required - Alan would enquire about the source of the SCRAP information and Richard would also pursue the matter possibly through WRAP. Alan/Richard

Alan further reported upon a meeting with Jacky Thomas, WWT, who had suggested articles on garden sharing and was interested to pursue local groups swapping articles. He had used some of the material supplied by Alan Lancashire especially on loft insulation. He would be publishing the piece on wind energy by Peter and would consult John Bean about the possibility of adding a paragraph on hydro power. Peter would look out another 'Tip of the Month'.

Peter/Alan

Jim mentioned that he would be having his house surveyed by National Power for free.

9. Date of next meeting - 10.00am Thursday 8th January 2009 at Peppercombe Close, Urchfont
10. Any other business - WWT Speakers List - Peter explained that Jacky Thomas was trying to develop a speakers list and wanted suggestions. Richard would ask Tim Watts if he might be willing to be a speaker on energy efficient transport. Richard