

Energy group minutes August 9th 2015

1. Present: John Garrett, Geoff Cunningham, Elizabeth Turp, Dinah Dossor
2. Apologies: Graham Arnold
3. Notes of last meeting Agreed
4. Regeneration Housing Sustainability Select Committee; CG

Geoff has emailed the Secretary and Chair to request the criteria upon which Expert Advisers are appointed and stood down. No replies have been received to date.

5. Mayoral Commission on Environmental Sustainability; JG
No further news
6. REECH (Renewables and Energy Efficiency in Community Housing) event June 18th CG
In view of the limitations of the Green Deal and other Government initiatives it seems likely that DEC is scrapping existing policies, including the Green Energy Survey in order to start again.
7. Community Energy Companies; JG;
John has resigned as a Director due to demands on his time. Two main sites are being investigated; a company based in the Innovation Park, Toxteth TV, as well as Static Gallery.
8. Going Deep; The Benefits of Centrally Funded Nationwide Deep Retrofit programme; (GC) A paper by Graeme Moore University of Liverpool School of Environmental Science and Geoff Cunningham of Calibrate.
Geoff tabled a Report (attached). PASSIVHAUS Magazine and AECB (Association of Environmentally Conscious Builders) are prepared to publicise the Report and Geoff will circulate as many other bodies and individuals as possible.
9. Merseyside Collective Switch <http://www.lcrenergyswitch.co.uk/> (JG)
Action pending.
10. Transition Cafe DD
The Circular Economy Symposium (to be renamed) will take place on Saturday 17th October at The Quaker Meeting House 9.30 – 4.00. The keynote address will be delivered by George Thurley, programme assistant to the Quaker Council for European Affairs which is based in Brussels. We plan to include another Really Really Free Market so please save anything you'd like to pass on and Dinah will store it. You will soon be able to register for this event on Eventbrite.
11. News Items:

a) Green Power plan to take Linlithgow off the National Grid; JG tabled a paper by Greg Russell using a sewage heat recovery system rooted in a Danish system. There are also plans to install community solar panels on blocks of flats and use the energy to power heat pumps to take heat

from waste water. Plans are in place to implement the project from April 2016 if funding is in place

b) Alan Cunningham circulated information about Decarbonet, an energy saving project from Lara Piccolo, a researcher at the Open University. (www.decarbonet.eu). She writes “We are investigating how social media can contribute to raise collective awareness of climate change and promote energy savings. One of our current objectives is to build an online community to share energy saving hints. To do so, we are now offering energy monitoring devices and a smart plug (for free) for people interested in being engaged. We want to promote the idea that people can explore the smart plugs/meters and share very practical and contextualised things they learned by using the monitors in specific appliances. We had a smaller experiment in our lab suggesting that it works! We just need to find the right people to start engaging others. We are now collecting contact details of interested people to start delivering the energy monitors. Very soon we will send the devices. If you believe it is in line with your Transition group, please, help us to disseminate this initiative. You are invited to join this project and circulate the information among your networks. DD

c) Eco Office Open Day September 6th featuring 3 real owls. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Start time to be finalised.

Next Meeting: September 13th 7.30 at the Eco Offices