

Energy Group Minutes March 8th 2015 7.30pm

1. Present John Garrett, Geoff Cunningham, Dinah Dossor, Graham Arnold, Ed Gommon
2. Apologies; Elizabeth Turp
3. Notes of last meeting agreed.
4. Regeneration Select Committee; GC.
 - a) Feb. 12th ; A very well attended meeting was held concerning the Green Space Review which lists undeveloped land in the city. This touched on fears for sites such as The Sefton Park Meadows which are earmarked for development.
 - b) GA; proposed development of Smithdown Road for cycling lanes as reported in a recent Transition Cafe meeting.
 - c) Private landlord registration is required by the end of this month with reductions for pre accreditation.
 - d) St. Andrews Gardens development (between London Road and the University); concerns raised over the future of this iconic 1930's residential building.
5. Mayoral Commission on Environmental Sustainability; GC nothing to report. Submissions have not been published on their website. Energy Group will press Lucy Horne on both matters. *(Subsequently, report was released on Thursday 19/3, with GC and JG attending the launch)*
6. Community Energy Companies; EG, JG

Liverpool Community Renewables; Ed Gommon, supported by Martin Dunschen and John Garrett, has launched a SEIS Enterprise Scheme eligible for 50% tax relief for £80K will cover LCR's phase one development costs (site feasibilities, electricity purchase and roof lease agreements) and will fund a post for EG for the phase. The target for delivery, via a million pound share offer, is one megawatt of solar pv capacity installed on community and public buildings. L8 Living Sustainably have put in over 3K for training and feasibility and a further 15K has been applied for from the Urban Community Energy Fund. Investors are now being sought for a projected 4.6% return. The share offer and application procedure can be found on the website www.lcr.coop which holds full details of the scheme. Community Energy Companies are not limited by EPC requirements, though an EPC will need to be carried out. The three initial planned installations will be The Methodist Centre (Granby) Toxteth TV and Granby Toxteth Development Trust.
7. Transition Cafe: DD Wednesday March 11th at 6.20 at the Quaker Meeting House, School Lane. **Little Stories for a more creative, compassionate and life sustaining world.** Sally Fildes-Moss and Steve Matthews introduce a new Transition-related creative project for telling and sharing true short stories of ordinary people making positive change in their own lives and in their communities. With an introduction to the project, some readings and an invitation to share your stories.

There will be no meeting in April but members plan to liaise with other Merseyside groups.

8. Eco Office (JG) The first anniversary of the commissioning of the air source heat pump heating system took place on 20th February. JG would circulate a paper on the energy performance of the building compared with pre-retrofit figures.

9. May National Elections;

- a) FOE has circulated details of a planning meeting at 5.30 p.m on Wednesday 18th March in Gostins Building Hanover St. to discuss questions for candidates. These will take on board the recent meeting by the three main party leaders on 14th Feb who came together to agree policies to tackle Climate Change which they say will protect the UK's national security and economic prosperity. The questions suggested by Energy Group are as follows:

Question 1 (general)

In view of the recent pledge by the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat party leaders to agree UK carbon budgets as part of a commitment to act on climate change, what plans have the parties got to reduce the use of fossil fuels in our built environment, the largest source of UK carbon emissions?

Question 2 (specific)

Can the candidates outline their plans to cut carbon emissions in each of the following areas, and the role they envisage for local authorities in the process?

1. New build, stating their commitment or otherwise to zero carbon homes and new non-domestic buildings
2. Existing domestic and non-domestic buildings (targets for deep retrofit)
3. Heritage buildings (listed buildings and conservation areas)

- b) The Green Partnership is holding a hustings event on March 23rd at 7 p.m at Leaf Cafe Upstairs Bold St. Chaired by Liam Fogerty and organised by Murray Grant. The meeting will be attended by speakers from all the political parties and will be televised by Bay TV (based at Toxteth TV).

10. Research on economics of retrofit; G.C. work is ongoing

11. News Items;

- a) LED lights available at Claus Olsen; owing to the directional nature of LED beam 8 watt CFLs are the equivalent of 4 watt LEDs in terms of focussed light.
- b) LED street lights are being installed in Sefton Drive with a plan to roll out across the city.
- c) Heat Exchange systems; JG would circulate details of the Xpelair single room heat recovery through the wall unit he had installed in his own kitchen. Although costing

more (around £275-£300) compared with conventional kitchen extractor fans, they saved a lot of heat and (on continual trickle feed operation) had great advantages in houses prone to mould.

Next Meeting: April 12th 7.30 at Ullet Road Eco Offices;