

Transition Helston Energy (THE) Group – Minutes of Meeting
on Tuesday 19th January 2010, 7.30pm, Blue Anchor Helston.

Present: Nick, Vicki, Mark, Kathy, Ruth, Rosanna, Stefan.
Apologies: Jo, Tristan.

1. Owl Energy Monitors

The core group has suggested that we could purchase energy monitors to be loaned out to householders of Helston and district to check their energy use. Vicki has explored possible funding through the Cornwall Councillor Community Grants scheme. She has also discussed the option of Helston Town Council taking responsibility for the monitors and loaning out free, from the Guildhall.

Action – Vicki to complete grant application form and send to Charlotte Chadwick.

2. Core Group report

Vicki reported that as Transition Helston is submitting a number of funding bids, the core group had discussed the need to have policies on Health & Safety, Equal Opportunities and to have public liability insurance for any events we organise. This might be available through the Transition Network.

3. Solar Thermal Club

Mark has obtained a list of registered installers from the Community Energy Plus (CEP) website. The cost of a domestic system is likely to be between £3000-5000, with payback of around 10 years. The £400 grant is available only if using a registered installer. It is expected that the grant will not be available after April 2010. The South Kerrier Alliance sponsored installer, Nigel, has not yet finished his training.

We agreed to launch the Solar Thermal Club at the Farmers' Market on 6th February, taking names of people interested in having a solar thermal system. The final format of the Club would be discussed later. We agreed to look at the ways other Clubs had been set up, eg Maidenhead (Vicki) Totnes (Mark) and Lewes. We will provide general information about solar thermal at the farmers market. Nick, Mark and Kathy are available to attend the stall. Vicki is working for the farmers market, Rosanna offer to help on the day.

Action: Mark to obtain display material, contact Jo at CEP.

Nick to obtain display boards from Alistair.

4. Community Wind

Jo has sent a report that Neil from Community Power Cornwall has submitted the request to the civil aviation authority and MOD regarding the 5 proposed wind turbine sites and will hopefully have heard back from them by our next meeting. Nick has been trying to contact "Bomber" Brown at Culdrose to provide him with some background to our application prior to his receiving a formal request.

Action: Nick to contact "Bomber" Brown.

5. Biomass systems

We discussed different biofuel options and the efficiency of systems with regard to CO₂ and other emissions.

6. Energy Efficiency

We need to look at ways of insulating "difficult" homes.

7. Thermal Imaging

Now, is the best time of year to be carrying out this project. We will check with Mike whether anyone on his course is doing this in Helston.

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th February, 7.30pm, Blue Anchor (third Tues of every month)