**Harborough Energy Meeting**

10 Jan 2017

Attendees: Denise Marsdon, Darren Woodiwiss, David Robbins, Oliver Savage, Gavin Fletcher

Also in attendance Eloise Tugwell

Apologies: Peter Jones

**Actions in bold and a list of actions is at the end of the notes.**

1. Welcome and introductions

Eloise is a pupil at Robert Smyth Academy and will be speaking to the Head about the potential for investment in renewables to bolster the school’s reputation

1. Minutes &Actions Arising from previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November were accepted as a true record by the Board. In terms of matters arising DM/GF have yet to draft the formal letters of thanks for support to Pure Leapfrog and RCC. DW had circulated information on the solar charging options for a central Market Harborough mobile phone recharging point. He will recirculate for all to consider and look to obtain costs and discover any planning implications. It was also queried whether Environmental Energies might have something suitable.

**DW/DM to recirculate the information. All to consider and comment**

1. Harborough Solar One

Governance procedures were completed

DM noted that she has requested the latest electricity bill from Woodnewton in order to finalise their PPA bill asap. DM also noted that we now have access to monitoring software although currently only GF seems to have secured this. GF asked the board to note that as the software for monitoring has only just been made available the first FiT claim period was missed which affects cashflow. However, the next claim will include this.

**GF to circulate data from the site. DR agreed to support the officers in ensuring a fair allocation of costs to Woodnewton was mad.**

1. Biofuel Project

The project as it was originally proposed is now unable to proceed due to the volatility of fuel prices. NBJ has expressed a continued interest in working with HE on a community energy project and has proposed PV on its new factory extension. It is unclear whether we shall be able to secure a grid connection as local constraints remain challenging. It was suggested by DW that we could perhaps invite WPD to meet with us to discuss those constraints. Any progress on a PV installation with NBJ will be subject to their planning and building timetable

1. Village Power CIC

DM reported that subject to final confirmation that there are no liabilities the transfer will be made. However, in order to take this to the next phase Village Power Board will need to agree to the transfer and to resign.

1. Energy Supply

The Board discussed the potential to develop a local community energy supply project. DW had circulated a paper outlining the opportunity. Discussion focused on the potential for a joint approach across several community energy groups including Cornwall Energy, Regen SW and parties interested in fuel poverty National Energy Action and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. DW acknowledged that the financial commitment required for such a project was far in excess of anything HE could countenance.

DW requested financial support from Sustainable Harborough to convene a meeting and pay for travel costs. GF agreed that this could be considered but that it would make better sens to piggyback the meeting on an existing community energy event, e.g. the Conference or RegenSW event.

**DW to check out RegenSW plus other potentially suitable events on which to piggyback a meeting. GF to provide support for DW to convene a meeting**

1. Legacy

DM requested that the Board note that this was the final year of the Lottery funding that has supported the governance, administration, and marketing of HE to date and that directors should therefore note that they shall from December 31st 2017 be accountable fully for these functions.

OS suggested that there were in effect 2 likely outcomes:

* 1. The project comes to an end. There is no further external support e.g. from RCC and the board takes over. OS asked fellow directors to note that in respect of HS1 this was a 20-year commitment. He suggested that it was imperative that henceforth the board seek to establish a shadow process to ensure that they are able to take over their commitments if required.
  2. The second scenario is that RCC sees fit to continue support. OS had spoken with one board member of the RCC that had indicated some potential

DM circulated a list of potential projects including energy and water brokerage and consultancy services which could be honed into income streams for HE. OS noted that this would have further implications in terms of ongoing commitment and although they could produce the necessary income to finance ongoing support he would prefer to see a more focused list.

**All to consider the list and prioritise activities by end January**

1. AOB

DM asked the board to note that the rules around data protection were due to change and to become the General Data Protection Regulation from May 2018.

1. Dates of next meetings

Tuesday 14th March 2017. 18.00 Leefe House

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action** | **Who** | **By when** |
| **Recirculate phone charging point information** | **DW/DM** | **Feb 2017** |
| **Download and circulate date for Woodnewton/Archway** | **GF** | **Feb 2017** |
| **Prepare PPA invoice for Woodnewton and Archway** | **GF/DR/DM** | **a.s.a.p.** |
| **Find suitable event on which to piggyback/ Provide support for DW to convene a meeting** | **DW/GF** | **a.s.a.p.** |
| **Prioritise marketing activities** | **All** | **End Jan 2017** |
|  |  |  |