# Project Outline

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| **Project Title :** | Robert Smyth Academy | | |
| **Sponsor :** | Denise Marsdon | **Date :** | May 2015 |

## Background

Robert Smyth Academy registered an interest in exploring the replacement of aging boilers with a biomass alternative with Green Fox. An introduction was made by Ben Dodd to explore this and PV potential for the site.

## Project Synopsis

The project will seek to replace a number of aging boilers on the site with a biomass alternative. It will also explore the potential for PV deployment across the site.

## Outline financials

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Income** | **Expenditure** |
| Installation of biomass boilers and storage facilities |  | TBC |
| Installation of PV array |  | TBC |
| Share offer administration |  | TBC |
| Rate of return to investors |  | TBC |
| Power Purchase Agreement | TBC |  |
| Heat Purchase Agreement | TBC |  |
| FiT | TBC |  |
| Export Tariff | TBC |  |
| Renewable Heat Incentive | TBC |  |

## SWOT analysis

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| --- | --- |
| **Strengths** | **Weakness** |
| One business, owns building.  Good sized roof for share offer – big enough for decent return.  Current boiler location and ability to build feedstock store facilities and chimney all support biomass option  Academies face financial difficulties in financing major heating upgrades  The school has already rejected capital purchase of PV when FITs were at highest level | Schools–they don’t have an ‘obligation’ to work for community benefit.  Gas on-site may reduce the financial attractiveness of a biomass option  Decision making process |
| **Opportunities** | **Threats** |
| Good school demonstration project. – well known high profile school  Sizeable installation for both technologies  Potential to continue with the PV option alone if biomass proves unviable  Learning resource for pupils | Grid connectivity.  Governors may be unconvinced by the project  Complexity of the project  FiT rates falling.  RHI falling. |

## Sustainability rating

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Comments** | **Score**  **-5 to 5** |
| **Social** | Community benefit, involvement of school with local communities, learning opportunities for pupils | 4 |
| **Economic** | Good business case for all involved (although business case to be developed) – this should offer reduced rates for school, replacement of boilers will alleviate funding constraints of the school, community benefit and return to investors | 5 |
| **Environmental** | Reduced carbon footprint as a benefit to the school. Good case study for HE and future schools’ programme | 4 |

## Summary

Whilst the business case is still to be developed for this, both biomass and PV are tried and tested technologies and the project offers a good entry into the school sector for HE. A link between the local community and a well known local school has excellent PR opportunities. The project will support the learning and development of pupils. A site visit has already been undertaken which supports the technical viability of the project.

## Project Status

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Accepted/Rejected** |  | **Date :** |  |
| **Reason** | | | |
| [A statement from the board as to why the project proposal was accepted/rejected] | | | |