

**Notes of the DERRINGTON LOW CARBON COMMUNITY PROJECT MEETING
On Thursday 14th May at 7.15 pm at the Village Hall**

An excellent meeting – thanks to everyone for attending and otherwise supporting this project!!!

1 Welcome and Introductions:

Ray offered to chair the meeting and Karen took notes.

2 Present:

Those present included:

Rosemary Lofty, Sue Challinor, Cllr Mark Winnington, Cllr Ray Sutherland, Geoff Parry, Karen Davies, Martin Chadwick from Beat the Cold, Rob Hine and from Sustainability Matters, Colin Roff from Stafford and Rural Homes, John Watkins.

3 Apologies: Apologies had been received from Helen Sammons, John Dunning, Maggie Overton, Mike Clements, Sheena Davies, Rob Horton.

4 Note and actions from the last meeting:

The notes were agreed as correct. Actions/matters arising:

- Need to make sure we have the key to the club room for the Launch Event
- The group agreed that money donated for refreshments at the event will go towards the upkeep/maintenance of the WI Herb Garden – a really good example of a sustainable community project
- The skip will be at the village Hall 91m – 10 am. Rob Hi and Karen had felt it would be useful to investigate whether there were opportunities to co-ordinate with this eg collect any useful items brought for collection (landfill) and divert for re-use or recycling. However, following discussion with SBC Waste Officer this is not currently practical.
- Logo design – everyone seemed happy with it!

5 Questionnaire:

Q's had been distributed and Martin had received 31 back in the post. Karen handed in a further 21 at the meeting.

Martin talked through provisional results, which showed several projects as being particularly popular: Swap Schemes, Improved Public Transport, Household Energy Surveys (help and advice), Buying Local, Provision of more local recycling facilities.

Several comments had been made in the 'Comments Box' and Martin will email these to Karen to forward to the group.

An issue re access to public transport for the disabled was brought up – **Martin** to forward comment to Mark W and **Mark W** to raise with Staffordshire County Council.

The group agreed that it was best to avoid using the term 'Local Reps' as it made us sound like sales reps!

Any more **questionnaires** collected over the next few days can be given to Karen or

forwarded directly to Martin (address: Martin Chadwick, Beat the Cold, The Bridge Centre, Birches Head Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST2 8DD) **by 23rd May at the latest** so he can collate and analyse the information for presentation/illustration at the Launch Event. Beat the Cold will also encourage as many people as possible to fill in a Questionnaire at their stand (Martin/Jules) so we get as good as possible a return rate. People will still receive a jute bag and two low energy light bulbs on completion of Questionnaires.

NB Martin – can you bring more light bulbs for the event then please, we'd to ensure everyone in the village has had a couple if they want them.

NB Rob Hi – can you ask Julie Waddicor (SCC Climate Change Team) if we could have more bags as well please – we have a few spare but it would be great to make them widely available at the event. They've provided a good number already but seemed happy that we have as many as we need.

6 Launch Event:

Karen to bring Fairtrade leaflets/posters to put on WI café tables.

Karen and Martin (via Ray) to forward/give Rosemary info on faith groups/sustainability/environmental issues.

NB Have a look at these links. Eco-Congregation is really good. I will print some info out for Rosemary.

http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/live/Documents/LA21/Documents/Faith_Pack.pdf

www.ecocongregation.org/

www.ecocongregation.org/system/files/module1_06_0.doc

Pledge Cards (**Karen's colleague, Sebastian**): these will be numbered and given to people as they enter the hall. This will enable us to estimate numbers of people attending the event. People will be encouraged to write down one 'pledge' to help the planet. Pledges can be collated and put on the webpages later.

The pledges will be tied on the trees outside if the weather is fine, if rainy they will be blue tacked onto the Giant Thermometer. The latter will now incorporate the new logo (**Rob Hi** to arrange pens, blue tack, ribbons etc)

It seems like lots of people may bring bikes – excellent! So we need to warn DR Bike at Back 2 Bikes that they may be busy (**Rob Hi** to contact).

Dr Bike will be in a gazebo – a display on local cycling initiatives eg Cycling for Health, Cycle Maps and Routes, B2B, to be put together (**Karen/Sebastian**) and **Mark W** to arrange an up to date map of the Greenway for display via SCC officer).

Two gazebos (with sides) to be provided by **Ray S.**

Fliers were distributed. These to be distributed over the next couple of days (**ALL – thanks** - as per those who distributed questionnaires).

Karen had done some posters too – to be put up as follows:

Parish Council Notice Boards: **Ray**

Village Hall: **John**

Bus Stop: **Rosemary**

Pub: **Geoff**

End of Blackhole Lane/Long Lane: **Karen** to get larger A3 poster done

Millennium Green entrances: **Geoff**

Horses Gate: **Karen**

Cooper Perry School: **Karen**

Seighford: Mark W

Ranton: **Mark W**

Haughton: **Ray**

Signpost Centre: **Karen**

Ranton School: **Helen**

Stafford and Rural Homes office and One Stop Shops: **Colin**

Karen to arrange some A 3 posters.

Who's been invited:

Rob Hi has sent out invite letters to several people. The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Millichap will be attending and will be asked to arrive at 11 am – **Rob Hi** to ensure he has background info and some key bullet points (eg 5 statistics from the survey results). Other notable invitees include David Kidney MP and Cllr Highfield Cabinet Member Environment.

Rob Hi to be in charge of photos/camera.

Karen has worked with the SBC Press Officer. He thinks we might be able to get Prince Charles to come along.

A photocall has been set up for the local press on Tuesday 19th May at 12.30pm at the Village Hall. **Everyone Welcome to be there** – please bring a sustainable 'prop' eg hen or bike, spade, plants, eggs etc.

Karen to check up with Press Officer re Radio Stoke.

We will also put out another press release and hope the press will attend on the day (**Karen/SBC**).

Martin said he had already seen an article on the project in the Sentinel – Moorlands edition.

Here it is!

<http://www.thisisstaffordshire.co.uk/environment>

People will be encouraged to enter from the front. We will have an A board encouraging this (**Ray**).

Need to think about where to place Furniture Exchange van and where people can cycle to test out bikes (**Rob**).

Exhibitors to drop off exhibitions then to remove vehicles to park them elsewhere (down Mount Pleasant, along Church Lane, Ray's Drive Sirocco, Church Lane) c/o **Rob Hi**.

Suggestions/comments/questions – post it board to be set up and signposted (**Rob**).

Signs for each stall/refreshments etc (**Karen and Rob**).

Programme proposed for the launch event, this will include the following exhibits and activities:

Beat the Cold/Derrington Low Carbon Community questionnaire results
Carbon Footprint activity
Stafford area Save Your Energy website/initiative
Back 2 Bikes/Dr Bike check
Staffs Wildlife Trust – making butterflies/children's activity
Face-painting
Furniture Exchange (with follow up collection next day)
Freecycle
Orbit handy person scheme
Stafford and Rural Homes
Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) – demo on composting
Love Food Hate Waste campaign
Transition Town Stafford
Sustainable and Healthy Communities work (Karen's team) – esp Cycling for Health/Walking for Health etc
SCC Climate Change Team
Kids planting activity
Some kind of quiz with prizes
(eco-prizes to be sought eg bags of compost from SCC waste Team c/o Mark Parkinson and having a competition/activity/get a raffle ticket on entry).

Need to check where power sockets are (**Rob/John W**)
Steak will make the 'gauge' – can we incorporate new logo (**Rob to liaise with Stake**).

Parish Mag –article done, follow up article after the event (**Rob Ho**).

Notices on entrance roads to village (**Mike C**).

Press releases (via SBC press office, **KD**).

Can someone write something for the community section of the Staffs Newsletter?? (**Karen liaise with Helen**).

Help on the day – **all!!!** Can some people get there at 8am to help with gazebos, taping off grassy area, putting up bunting?? **Thanks!!!!**

Fencing/rope around green outside village hall (**Mike C**).

7 Village Hall Energy Audit Update:

John W has submitted the application form seeking funding for the Energy Feasibility Study. **Well done John!!!** The request is for £1300 and this will cover costs of assessing opportunities to improve energy efficiency as well as potential for using renewables. There will also be support regarding how to access capital grants should such projects be considered viable. We should know by the end of June. Karen reported that within our existing grant, there is a small amount allocated for match funding for this type of work.

8 Web Pages:

We will use the Village Hall website to detail the project. Rob Hi and John Dunning have done a great job – pages looking great! Also need links to Save Your Energy website, Stafford BC Sustainable and Healthy Communities and Staffs CC climate change web sites. Could also add the Questionnaire to these webpages. **Rob and John D** to see if the button on home page can be made any more prominebt/zappy!?

9 Village Fete Involvement:

Beat the Cold to attend with 2 people and some things from this project eg results. Also a display/exhibition of our initiative so far.

10: AOB:

Karen going to Cooper Perry on Monday.

Karen to book up Marches Energy Agency (Richard Davies) for a talk.

Beat the Cold to begin Energy Audits/Home Visits in June.

See You all on May 30th !!!

Next Meeting – Thursday 2nd July at 7.15 pm at the Village Hall

(contact details for Karen:

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