

**Notes of the DERRINGTON LOW CARBON COMMUNITY PROJECT MEETING
On Tuesday 19th October 2010 at 7.15 pm at the Village Hall**

Thanks to everyone for continuing their support of this project!!!

1 Welcome and Introductions:

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and Karen took notes while William chaired.

2 Present:

Those present included: Sue Challinor, Karen Davies, Rob Hine, Will Sammons, Lyndsey, Sheena Davis, Helen Sammons, Maggie Overton, Alan Thomas and Edward.

3 Apologies: Apologies had been received from Rosemary Lofty and Tom Proctor.

4 Waste management and Recycling in Stafford Borough

Mark Street and Mark Francis from the Council's Waste Management Team had been invited to the meeting to talk about existing services and to discuss opportunities to support further waste minimisation efforts in our village. The talk was very interesting and covered:

Blue Bins (a wide range of dry recycleables); Blue Caddy (paper); Brown Bins (garden waste); Green Bins (for real rubbish); Composting (discount bins available).

Recycling Champions (a new initiative – 14 people have volunteered so far with the first training session taking place this Friday Oct 22nd at 10 am at the Gatehouse – ***all welcome***, tel Mark 619000).

Where collected materials go; Uses for recycled material eg jumpers, trousers, necklaces were passed round.

There were lots of questions and we also discussed:

Biffa – who collect and dispose of materials and have good links with commodity markets. Prices dropped in 2009 esp for paper (though metals and textiles held up well) but seem to be recovering.

Food waste; In vessel composting; Anaerobic Digestion (eg Lower Reule near Gnosall have one which deals with food waste from household collections in Newcastle and some food waste from supermarkets). A 15,000 ton tank holds the food waste, methane is produced as this decomposes and produces enough power for the needs of 750 homes.

Stafford Borough is nearly 'zero waste to landfill'. Streetsweepings will shortly be recycled too.

Waste to Energy – a new large scale facility is due to be opened at Four Ashes in 2013.

Skip Days –the Furniture Exchange approached SBC about a year ago to discuss ways to divert useful products away from the skip/landfill, for re-use by the FE. Trials were held in the Haywoods and have been successful. The FE has some constraints including availability of drivers and storage space, but hope to extend this initiative. Commercial waste collection (which makes up about 90% of waste produced)

is a much slower process than household waste and is not the responsibility of Stafford Borough Council.

What can we do in Derrington?

Eg we want to try to be as sustainable as possible and it seems a huge waste for bottles and cans etc to be thrown away from places like the Village Hall Social Club and the pub.

Mark explained that a review of the existing 'bring sites' is going on now. The poorest performers (ie least used) may well be switched to alternative sites, and this could include Derrington.

New facilities called 'Nodes' might be suitable as they are small, neat community collection points.

Derrington - Way Ahead members to consider sites and discuss with others, then contact Mark to progress. The Group thanked both Marks for their time and the very interesting and useful presentation/discussion.

5 Notes and actions from the last meeting in July:

All actions/matters arising are on the agenda.

6 Village Hall Energy Measures

Funding summary: **£50,000** has been won towards the package of energy measures (reproofing, zoned heating, solar PV, display panel). This is fantastic!!!
Thanks to all concerned !!!

Scaffolding will be going up on Tuesday 26th October and installation of the Solar PV panels will take place next week!

We need to plan the Display panel (**Karen** to investigate).

7 Feedback on Local Food Festival

General views was that this was a really nice, busy event with a great feel and a real 'buzz'. There were around 400 visitors and we have some photos and a write up in the website. The group felt that we should do it again next year, perhaps moving the date to a different weekend to avoid the Churches Cycle Ride and Katherine House Walk. We should try to encourage more links with the school and children and perhaps encourage more people to bring their own produce. Thanks to everyone who helped and supported this event and of course, the WI for their super refreshments!!!

Brief update on Current Activities:

a) Community Bench Making on the Greenway

The purpose of this is to encourage people to walk and cycle along the track and to stop and relax, have a rest, and is especially aimed at people who cannot walk very far. Three events have now taken place, with local volunteers aged from 5 to over 80, helping to make six benches, including 2 on the Millennium Green. Updates and photos on http://www.derringtonvillagehall.btik.com/p_Campaign.ikm!

Next bench building days: Thursday 21st October at 6pm and Sunday 14th November at 10am. **Do come and help!!**

b) Film Season

The first film attracted around 12 people, with mixed reviews. The next film is about Cuba and is quite short. We hope to attract more people to this one and perhaps have a light hearted or social element to it eg Cuban food or music. **All ideas welcome! Please contact Rob tel 603387 if you have any suggestions!**

8 New Bid to Leader

There is funding available to bid into which will otherwise be lost to local projects, so we have put together some ideas and circulated a short questionnaire to seek people's views. Over 60 responses have been returned so far, and these have been very positive. **Karen** to collate and proceed with bids. The process is quite complex and lots of work is yet to be done, so watch this space. Thanks to every one who has helped circulate and collect the survey forms.

9 Promotion/Publicity etc

Village/Church magazine: **Sue** has submitted information for the next edition, thanks!
Web pages: work still needs to be done, but a local resident, Paul McKenzie has expressed interest – **Karen, Rob, John D to meet Paul** (avail on Wed and Thurs) to discuss.

Posters/publicity for the next film (**Rob**).

Grand opening/celebration of energy measures at Village Hall (Feb, c/o **Karen and Helen**).

10 AOB

Karen asked the Group to endorse a draft statement on 'The Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults' which she had prepared , to submit with a bid to the Grassroots Grant (as match funding for the Leader Bid). This was endorsed. KD had met with the head at Cooper Perry with David Hutchinson (PV consultant) to discuss opportunities for PV at the school. **KD** to progress.

11 Date of our next meeting: Tuesday Dec 14th at the Village Hall at 7.15 pm
http://www.derringtonvillagehall.btik.com/p_Campaign.ikml

Any agenda items/ apologies or queries, please contact Karen 07967 328586 or 619408 or by email kdavies@staffordbc.gov.uk

