

**Notes of the DERRINGTON LOW CARBON COMMUNITY PROJECT MEETING
On Thursday 23rd April at 7.15 pm at the Red Lion**

1 Welcome and Introductions:

Mike Clements kindly offered to chair the meeting and Karen took notes.

2 Present:

Those present included:

Rosemary Lofty, Helen Sammons, Sue Challinor, Mike Clements, Geoff Parry, Karen Davies, Sheena Davies, Martin Chadwick from Beat the Cold, Rob Hine and Rob Horton from Sustainability Matters, Colin Roff from Stafford and Rural Homes, John Watkins.

3 Apologies: Apologies had been received from Cllr Mark Winnington, Cllr Ray Sutherland, John Dunning and Maggie Overton.

4 Note and actions from the last meeting:

The notes were agreed as correct. Actions/matters arising all on agenda.

5 Questionnaire:

Mike and Karen had worked to produce the final version of the questionnaire.

The group agreed the title should be 'Derrington Way Ahead: Stafford Borough's first low carbon community'. These were distributed to the 'Local Reps' (listed on the questionnaire) to give out. People completing the questionnaire will receive 2 low energy light bulbs plus a jute bag (Karen has obtained these eco-friendly bags from Staffs County Council climate change team, who have been able to make enough bags available for every household).

All details of questionnaire collection are given on the questionnaire – please read to check! (*light bulbs are available at the Village Hall, large boxes contain ten smaller boxes. Each of these contains 2 bayonet low energy light bulbs, please collect what you need. Karen has delivered jute bags directly to local reps*).

Everyone who fills in and returns their questionnaire is eligible to receive 2 light bulbs and a jute bag). If anyone needs more, please contact Karen (07967328586).

Questionnaire should be returned to local reps by **Sunday 3rd May**. These need to be forwarded to Martin at Beat the Cold asap.

Either drop them in at Karen's (2 Mount Pleasant) so she can pass them on or post directly to:

Martin Chadwick
Beat the Cold
The Bridge Centre
Birches Head Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST2 8DD

Beat the Cold will analyse the questionnaire results by 13th May. Result/bar charts etc will be available for the launch event and to help inform what goes on the back of the Thermometer Cards.

6 Launch Event:

Rob Hine summarised the 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)
Kids planting activity

NB on May 30th 9 am – 10 am, the Council Waste Collection Vehicle will be at the Village Hall Car Park – can we incorporate this in to our activities???

***NB Rob** – I have asked Ian Wykes, SCC climate change team if they could attend – can you liaise with him directly now?*

Rob Horton had contacted/investigated the following community groups:

Brownies (**Helen Sammons** to liaise with Eva)
Countryside Group and Millennium Green Trustees (**Mike C** to arrange).
Art Group (approached but cannot participate)
Church (**Sheena/Rosemary** to follow up)
WI - **Sue** said the WI were keen to be involved and would provide Fairtrade Refreshment and homemade cakes – **Sue** to lead. **John W** to check if these could be served in the club room. *Will we charge or ask for a donation??*

The hall dimensions are: 52’ by 22’
12 tables available are 6’ by 2’
9 tables are available 4’ by 4’]

Need to check where power sockets are (**Rob/Rob/John W**)

Clear and large signage will be important for exhibitors and for activities (**Rob/Rob**)

Karen suggested acquiring a range of eco-prizes eg bags of compost from SCC waste Team c/o Mark Parkinson and having a competition/activity/get a raffle ticket on entry, or similar - **Rob/Rob** to work up an activity and collect 'prizes'.

Karen keen on the idea of a 'gauge' to be made on the day, poss with involvement of children and parents, which will measure carbon reductions (or numbers of people doping something... could be very flexible...) to be put up outside village hall, as and when appropriate.

(**Rob** – I have now talked to *Steak* about this and he is keen to be involved).

Fliers – a draft has been put together. Needs a final check and will then be printed at SBC (**Rob/Karen**). **Karen** to bring to next meeting to enable distribution during weekend of 16/17 May by Local Reps.

Parish Mag –article in hand (**Rob Ho**).

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

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

Posters for noticeboards – using front side of flier (**Rob/Karen**).

Help on the day – **all!!!**

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

Gazebos/marquees for the green area (**John W**).

Other Launch Event details to be discussed at next meeting.

Refreshments – could also involve Brownies? **Helen** to check with Eva.

7 Village Hall Energy Audit Update:

John W updated the group on progress.

He has talked with Marches Energy Agency (MEA) and has nearly completed the application form seeking funding for the Energy Feasibility Study. Well done! **John** to report back with progress.

8 Web Pages:

We will use the Village Hall website to detail the project. Webpages will need to be up and running asap, before fliers are distributed, as the web address will be flagged up on the fliers (**Rob Hi**). 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.

9 Village Fete Involvement:

Beat the Cold to attend.

Also a display/exhibition of our initiative so far.

10 Logo:

Now we have a title and strap-line we need a consistent branding/logo to go with 'Derrington Way Ahead: Stafford Borough's first low carbon community'.

Please send any suggestions/artwork to Rob Hine by Friday 1st May
– roberthine@btinternet.com

11 Links:

May 11th – **Jules** to talk at WI meeting.
Parish Council would like full briefing at a future meeting.

12 AOB:

Karen to contact Cooper Perry again, as SCC are looking for a school to work closely with on climate change.
There is an Eco-Action Day at Doxey on Sat 25th April (*this went very well – I told the organisers about our project and they were v interested – they do ‘Waste Swaps’ and I wondered if we could ask John Smith to one of our meetings to explain how it works*).

Next Meeting – Thursday 14th May at 7.15 pm at the Village Hall

(contact details for Karen:
kdavies@staffordbc.gov.uk Wk 619408 Mob 07967 328586)