

**Notes of the DERRINGTON LOW CARBON COMMUNITY PROJECT MEETING  
On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009 at 7.15 pm at the Village Hall**

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

**1 Welcome and Introductions:**

John W offered to chair the meeting and Karen took notes.

**2 Present:**

Those present included:

Alan Thomas, John Watkins, Rosemary Lofty, Sue Challinor, Karen Davies, Jules Hill from Beat the Cold, Rob Hine from Sustainability Matters, Sheena Davies. Sebastian Pearce (Stafford BC).

**3 Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Colin Roff from Stafford and Rural Homes, Maggie Overton, Helen Sammons, Ray Sutherland.

**4 Note and actions from the last meeting, on July 28th**

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

- Several comments had been made in the 'Comments Box' of the Questionnaire. Jules has emailed these to **Karen** now. She will pass to **Rob H** to ask him to put them on the webpages.
- 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. No further information available on this.
- Properties with 50mm but less than 100mm insulation - **Colin** and **Jules** have discussed these homes and 3 properties will be insulated at an estimated cost of £450 to the project.

**5 Home Energy Audits – update**

Jules gave an update: 11% of households in the village have been surveyed, that's 40 houses.

Jules now aims to target younger families. She has designed a laminated poster and distributed these to volunteers to put up around village. Thanks!

There are still people who 'ticked the box' on the original questionnaire who have yet to be surveyed.

The Thermometer Card has been designed and printed. Everyone agreed that it looked super. It acts both as a thermometer to guide people in temperature setting in their own home and contains a wealth of local information too. Jules is giving them out to householders who have had an Energy Audit.

**6 Energy Audit of Village Hall**

John W updated the group on this. His submission for funding to cover the costs of a Feasibility Study was successful. This means we can now go ahead and book Marches Energy Agency to carry the Feasibility Study out. We must claim the grant by 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010. **Karen** to liaise with **Helen** (who is now Chairperson for the Village

Hall, Committee) and **John** and then to arrange MEA date/s.

Depending on the recommendations, we will then consider what funding may be needed for capital installations. There are several sources of grant funding available and MEA can also advise on this.

The group thanked John for his efforts and time spent putting the bid together.

## **6 Film Programme**

Rob Hine has liaised with Helen and booked the Village Hall on the following evenings: 8<sup>th</sup> Oct, 12<sup>th</sup> Nov, 10<sup>th</sup> December. He has talked with the Film Club so that films dovetail with the existing Film Club Programme.

Possible films include:

The Age of Stupid

Power of Community

End of Suburbia

An Inconvenient Truth

Farm for the Future

11<sup>th</sup> Hour (with Leonardo Dicaprio)

We will need to decide on final programme and widely publicise asap!  
(**Rob H with KD** and volunteers to circulate fliers near the time).

John W told the group about an AV film of the village. This could be useful to show before films as a taster of local life – with the ensuing films reiterating that our lives are threatened by unsustainable lifestyles. Perhaps another AV could be created to look at all the outcomes/achievements of the Low Carbon project?

## **7 Can we become Staffordshire's first Fairtrade Village?**

Sebastian showed a short film about cotton growing in Cameroon.

To become a Fairtrade Village the Fairtrade Foundation has set down 5 criteria:

- Parish Council support required
- A group (or sub group of this group) to be set up to promote FT
- Local outlets selling FT items
- Local press/occasional events and publicity
- Support form local businesses, school, church, pub

The Stafford Area Fairtrade Directory was passed around. There is also a web version of this. We intend to update it soon. It could be an opportunity to include Derrington as a case study and to encourage other communities and neighbourhoods to really show their support for Fairtrade.

The group was supportive of the idea. We will have a stall/info at the Food Festival (**Sebastian/Karen**).

The group agreed **Sebastian and Karen** to approach Parish Council to progress. **Karen** is giving a presentation at the PC meeting in Great Bridgeford on Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Sept and will raise it then.

## **8 Local Food Festival 12<sup>th</sup> September**

Rob H ran through the programme for the day.

Local producers will be involved/promoted, anyone growing their own produce will be invited to display their items and hopefully donate some for the Grand Auction (prizes will be given out). There will be several activities including several for children, plus a programme of talks including: Question Time, Gardening with Bees in Mind etc.

A5 fliers had been printed and the following people agreed/were volunteered to circulate – many thanks!

**Helen:** Main Road, Yew Tree, Crossing Lane

**Sue:** Main Road, other side, plus Badgers Croft and Willowbrook

**Ray Sutherland:** Church Lane and Chestnut

**Karen:** Long Lane, John Rawsthorne and Roger Davies, Cooper Perry Primary

**Sheena:** St Matthews, Twemlow and Field

**Rosemary/Maggie:** Flats and Mount Pleasant

A4 posters were distributed – thanks everyone!

**Karen** will put up laminated A3 posters too.

### **9 Web Pages**

Rob H has been updating web pages – look really good, interesting and informative! **Jules and Rob** to add some more info about Household Surveys etc. New banners have been ordered for the Village Hall (Vista.com) inc web address, this should help promote web site.

### **10 AOB**

Jules: gave out information she had found on Luncheon Clubs. Whilst funding is available it would require a lot of local support and volunteer input.

Jules: Jules had gone through the MEA Low Carbon Leadership handbook we looked at at the last meeting. It seems to be more appropriate on a larger scale eg Borough wide, than for us.

Jules: had attended the Green Communities Training event in Birmingham on 26<sup>th</sup> August. Colin Roff had also attended. It had been quite useful.

Karen: had heard that there is a Haughton Gardeners Guild event this Sat and would try to promote our event there. Mr Plant down Long Lane is a member.

Karen: had met David Kidney earlier that day and he had asked her to inform the group he is very supportive and happy to attend events where possible.

Sebastian: informed the group of the new national initiative to cut energy use by 10% by 2010. See <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/10-10>

Rosemary: explained that she intended to step down from the Steering Group and the group thanked her for all her support.

Sue: asked when the Village Hall would be open on the 12<sup>th</sup> – we need to check, but 9 am at the latest.

***Date of our next meeting: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at the Village Hall at 7.15 pm***

Any agenda items/ apologies or queries, please contact Karen 07967 328586 or 619408 or by email [kdavies@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:kdavies@staffordbc.gov.uk)

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