

## Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes: 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Ellingham Village Hall

**Present** Gustav MacLeod, Heather Cairns, George Unwin, Christopher Watson  
**Apologies for** Ruth Machen  
**Absence**

**Strategic Plan costs & assessments from Aegis Energy** GM prepared and circulated summary of costs. Large wind turbine will give bigger return than smaller turbines or any of other projects. Turbine at school may give 20% but requires different connection. Return on solar panels at Brownieside shows 5% return which would not cover the costs of installation/loan. PVs at Tynely farm would give 10% and split phase supply already in place. Clarification required on whether further work required to provide adequate support on barn roof or whether it is just type of fixing that is in question. GM/HC meeting with Head Teacher of Ellingham School 12.7.13 to discuss replacement of school boiler and establish where capital funding would come from for the school.  
**Action GM/HC**

**Rural Community Energy Fund Application** GM has completed forms as far as possible. Application is for costs of feasibility study so application is being made retrospectively. All agreed that the application should state this and it was noted that even if not eligible for stage 1 (feasibility study costs) a subsequent application could be made for stage 2 (carrying out project).  
**Decision: complete and submit RCEF fund stating application has been made Retrospectively.**

**Agenda for Public information sharing** All agreed that an introduction should be made by GM, outlining the Trust's thinking i.e. to develop green energy scheme(s) which will pay income into the community, and the engagement of Alan Creedy/Ethical Partnerships to explore various possible schemes. The ultimate aim is to lower fuel bills for parishioners, or even reach a stage where they do not have fuel bills at all.

A list of priority schemes then to be given, as follows:

1. Biomass heating system for school – little return but a good community project
2. Solar panels at school to (a) provide energy to school and (b) to make money
3. Wind turbine at Brownieside (NB better option is to join with Ellingham Estate to erect larger turbine at Wandylaw as this would generate the biggest return for community – 28-30% - however would require community support).
4. PVs on barn roof at Tynely, renting roof space from A Frater and paying for installation. This would feed directly into grid with a return of over 10%.
5. Hydro scheme – further investigation required to see if this viable.

CW noted that it may appear to the outside eye that the Trust has been sitting on funds and not doing anything with it – residents may wish to see a more immediate benefit to the parish. With this in mind CW and GU will work on the wood/log project so that this can also be presented to the public.

**Action: CW/GU**

It was also agreed that people may be put off applying to the fund because the form and guidance notes are too complicated – suggested having 2 forms, one for applying for small amounts of funding and one for larger. GM/GU to look at this before next meeting.  
**Action: GM/GU**

Alan Creedy and Louis Fell to be invited to meeting and available to answer questions at end. Kevin Bartlett (NCC Localities Officer) also to be invited to attend. Questions to be taken from parishioners at end of meeting – NB one question each, parishioners

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should state name and postcode.

**Decision: Prepare for public meeting (to be held 11<sup>th</sup> September) as above.**

***Action: GM prepare agenda***

**Proposed meeting with landowners** Landowners to be invited to next meeting (7<sup>th</sup> August) to discuss schemes which have so far been looked at. All agreed that Trust would be happy to look at any scheme a landowner may want to bring forward.

***Action: GM***

**Schemes to immediately pursue & employ person**

**Decision: A Creedy to be commissioned to produce costed documents for priority projects.**

***Action: GM***

**Next meeting** 7th August, 7pm in Village Hall. Public meeting 11<sup>th</sup> September, Village Hall.

**Minutes prepared by**

Elsbeth Gilliland