

**Minutes of the LLES LTD Board meeting
Wednesday 11th March 2009**

Present:- Gwen Prince, Graham Brand, Kevin Carey, Diana Berriman, Andrew Capel, Tony Shaw, Michelle Boudin
Gillian O'Connor

Apologies for absence: Nick Venti, Paul Jervis

Minutes of last meeting accepted.

Actions from previous meetings

Date	Actionee	Action/Update	Status
10/12/08	Andrew	to take list of Gwen's duties to members to find volunteers 14/1/09 Andrew has list of duties and is tying up people from the skills audit.	Closed
10/12/08	Andrew	To change registered address of LLES from Gwen to TBD. 14/1/09 It was agreed to use the Resource Centre as the registered office but the RC directors should be consulted and their approval sought first. 11/2/09 Andrew to contact Geoff Pedley. 11/3/09 Geoff contacted but awaiting other LRC Board members to respond.	Ongoing
10/12/08	Nick	To talk to local estate agents about energy surveys for selling homes and rental properties with a view to a business plan/proposition for a member to become qualified to perform the surveys in Llani. This would not conflict with the aims of the charity as it would be considered Primary Trading.	On hold
14/1/09	Diana	to contact Richard to look at Y Fan Pool site. 11/2/09 Hasn't been able to get hold of him. 11/3/09 Still unable to get hold of him.	Ongoing
14/1/09	Nick	Offered to look into various funding options	On hold
14/1/09	Diana/	At public meeting (5 th Feb) tell members they can attend Board meetings and give a presentation if they got prior approval. 11/2/09 Diana to send out email to LLES members	To do
14/1/09	Diana	Request LLES member volunteer to attend Eisteddfod meetings as an observer. Diana to send out email	To do
14/01/09	Nick	Approach Paul Jervis about attending Eisteddfod meeting on behalf of LLES	On hold
11/02/09	Kevin	Offered to rework energy survey for review at next meeting	Closed
11/02/09	Graham	To send out email to all Board members about carbon footprint websites he has found. 11/3/09 Email sent.	Closed
11/02/09	All	To look at websites Graham is sending out.	Closed
11/02/09	Andrew	Update Gift Aid forms to reflect change in amount reclaimed (now 25p in the pound). 11/3/09 Done	Closed
11/02/09	Andrew	Photocopy flyer (20 per house) . 11/3/09 Done	Closed
11/02/09	Kevin	Produce a sign up sheet to recruit core group of volunteers to help Diana. 11/3/09 Done and to hang up in LRC.	Closed
11/02/09	KDGG	Kevin/Diana/Graham/Gwen To get together for a followup LCCP discussion	Ongoing
11/02/09	Andrew/ Diana	Contact PAVO and arrange Employees liability insurance. 11/3/09 Forms have arrived. Diana to contact PAVO to find out what cover is needed reopen houses liability, LRC liability, vulnerable children and adults etc	Ongoing
11/02/09	Andrew	Update Website to advertise Open House and next event. Check Green fair dates are there.	Closed

Matters arising

Gillian O'Connor gave a 5 minute presentation. Feels the Green Fair (GF) is fantastic and would be sad if it didn't happen this year. However it needs to be bigger and involve "locals". If we could just get one farmer on board then the rest would follow. They have their concerns too – eg cost of red diesel. Be direct, no woolyness. Need to get GF speakers who can speak to them about their concerns. Gill also suggested that Severn Trent be approached about putting a hydro-electric scheme on the dam at Lake Clwedog to the benefit of residents.

Boards Response :- Diana and Gwen said it has been notoriously difficult to get farmers and other “locals” on board. They have tried. GF has involved the WI, schools and churches in the past.

Kevin – Jay Griffiths had been lined up to give a talk, when will this be? Gwen – he will speak at the GF.

Tony suggested LLES should be spelt out on all flyers.

Chairs Report

Kevin believes the way forward for LLES is to concentrate on 4 things

- 1) Diana's work on LCCP
- 2) House surveys
- 3) Green festival
- 4) Open House

Possibly add evening speakers to list?

Michelle asked about the aims of LLES to be carbon neutral? Diana said that the energy surveys had been done with the aim of reducing carbon consumption by a third. This had been based on the findings of the Concerto Project – a biogas aerobic digester that could power the whole of Llanidloes if consumption was reduced by a third. Unfortunately it didn't go ahead.

Open House

Diana said the weekend was well attended. She has 100 feedback forms and estimates 300 visits in total. There would be thank-you party for volunteers and householders on Tues 17th March at 6.45 in the Town Hall. Kevin reported that a couple from Derby had visited! He suggested that Chris' Mum's house would be a good house to add.

Report from LCCP

The Open House is one of the criteria for LCCP.

Action Diana:- To ask volunteers to fill out a form like the householders forms.

2 sites for Hydro – Van Pool and Twlych (no longer a suitable since it is in Radnorshire)

Tony suggested Vanner Park farm as a possible site and Michelle suggested Richard Becker's farm which already has a disused hydro in place. Richard's farm was ruled out, as a community site or local farmer would be preferred.

Graham – emphasized that we need a viable scheme and time is getting critical.

Action Diana:- to contact Delwyn Morgan about the Vanner Park site.

Action Tony:- offered to sketch out a hydro leaflet.

Energy Surveys and snippets

Training with Lightfoot on Saturday 14th March with Kevin and Diana going. No volunteers from LLES members.

Kevin proposed that LLES does not go with Lightfoot but no decision would be made until after training. Kevin presented Board with heat loss chart derived from his own house's data. Double glazing, insulation, floor insulation, drafts all included. This could be used as input to householder as to what to do next. He estimated it would add 20 mins to current survey. New flyers should be produced detailing what householders could do and list suppliers.

Andrew reported his contact with a lady from SWALEC about running a pilot study of Smart Meters in Llani. She says we need to outline the project and Steve Barrett is preparing something.

Tony suggested we run 2 trials in parallel – do 6 paper surveys, and install 6 Smart Meters and compare results in carbon reduction after a set period of time in each case.

Kevin reported on going to Bollington Carbon Revolution and seeing their infra-red camera in action. He felt it isn't the whole answer but would be of interest to householders. He saw an image of a house with underfloor heating which heated up the garden 1m around the house! Another image showed a garage leaking heat which was later discovered to have been turned into a living room on the cheap. A calendar of infra-red images was handed round. Kevin mentioned Eco-Teams as a possibility. Gwen had started one but they hadn't met for some time,

Joint fund raising with LGF

Tony handed out a copy of LGF Business plan which could be used in the funding process. Aberystwyth and Bangor University keen to get on board and could provide sponsorship -directly or indirectly.

Tony felt that some strategy needed to be arrived at where LGF can apply for funding. Graham said that any funding application has to be approved by the LLES board first and in the event that application had to be made quickly emails could be sent to the Board for approval.

Tony estimated that due to increase in numbers of speakers, venues, and activities the cost this year will rise by 2 to 3 times previous budgets.

Action Kevin – to write a thank-you letter to Steve Barrett for his work on the business plan.

Green Festival Report

The core committee has been unable to reach a consensus on the way forward. A number of resignations had in effect rendered the committee inoperable. Therefore the Board decided a meeting should be held open to all members of LLES to discuss the future of the festival. The proposals are to proceed with Green Fair on a smaller basis, or reschedule for Spring 2010 (both on the basis that volunteers step forward) or cancel it entirely. Kevin pointed out that Spring isn't a good time for farmers.

Gwen - Several speakers confirmed, Tony Juniper, Fred Pearce, and George Marshall. This may be the last year LLES can rely on goodwill of speakers and might have to pay them in future.

Membership and newsletter

Steve Barrett has offered to write a LLES newsletter which would come out three times per year. However he felt the post should be advertised to all LLES members first.

Action Andrew:- to advertise the post of newsletter editor.

Action Andrew:- to get hold of the LLES email subscription list and cross check it with members and update it. Add Gill and Michelle/Chris to it.

Michelle pointed out that there were several emails outstanding and offered to send an email to all members outlining recent events and asking for volunteers. This would be sent to the board for approval. **Action Michelle:-** send email

Budget/Finances (Treasurers Report)

Graham emailed accounts to directors which should be self explanatory but there will be a loss of £1000 this year due to Severn Wye not fully covering project. Need urgent fundraising or bigger loss forecast for next year. Some standing orders cancelled. Need £2000 per year for revenue costs and £8600 capital costs.

2020

Andrew had contacted Richard Beale but there was no news to report.

Any Other Business

Diana – Cwm Harri have permission from Powys CC for a food waste collection for their vertical composter. They are handing out bins and flyers in Llani and asked us if we wanted to be involved. Does LLES want to get involved? Gwen and Gill felt it would be good to get LLES logo and other info on their flyers or give out our own with theirs. We agreed to ask for volunteers to help distribute the leaflets. **Action Michelle:-** add this to the email

Diana – School boiler needs replacing. Could LLES install one and sell the heat to them?

Paul Jervis has suggested a pellet boiler for community centre – Gwen it needs to be a carbon neutral one
Decision:- Diana would ask Environment Wales if we could use the remaining £900 of their grant for a hydro, rather than a wood chip feasibility study. If they agree, Diana would then find a hydro engineer to look for a new potential site. Van Pool was suggested as a possibility, but would have to get land owners permission first. If they say no, or a hydro engineer could not be found, we would ask Brian Horne to do a study on a boiler for the community centre. Diana to check with SWEA if this could form part of the LCCP project.

Action Diana:-To follow this through.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 8th April 2009 at 7.30pm at The Mount Inn