



# COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY

APPLETON AND SPAUNTON COMMUNITY ENERGY GROUP

## Notes of Meeting

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2006  
Sunset, Appleton-le-Moors

**Present** – Helen Beaumont, Dave Grewer, Jim Hall, Judie Holliday, John Marsden, Dave Rawlings, Vicki Shaw, Nelly Trevelyan

### **Report back from Energy Event**

It was unanimously agreed that the Energy Event had been a great success.

Everyone reported positive feedback from Nigel's talk and it was agreed that it was pitched just right.

A reporter from the Yorkshire Post attended the launch on the Friday evening and followed up with calls to Vicki and Dave. He is ringing Dave tomorrow so that Dave can give him feedback from the questionnaires. Dave will make enquires as to when an article will appear.

A reporter from the Gazette attended the Event on Saturday.

The representatives from Danby were very impressed and are now keen to do a similar event in their community.

Vicki spoke to many people who attended the event and she said that they were keen and felt empowered by the opportunity for a community project.

Dave circulated a spreadsheet with details from the questionnaires. This listed the names and addresses of some of the people who attended and analysed their interests. Two people (Peter Bryan and David Hall) are interested in joining the group. They will be sent the notes of this meeting and invited to attend the next meeting. The list will be used to target people when holding future events.

Nelly reported that there were only two people who were obviously anti wind. She also reported that Garry Jenkins from North Energy is looking at whether there are any restrictions due to low flying aircraft. This was thought to be unlikely. However, there may be restrictions regarding the radars at Fylingdales Early Warning Station.

Nelly reported that the representatives from Zen Ego are putting together a package to include small scale wind turbines, air-source heat pumps and solar hot water panels, with funding from one of the major banks. She suggested that, if suitable, Appleton/Spaunton should put itself forward as a pilot community.

There was a discussion about the costs of various options and the possibilities of grants. Vicki told the group that the new grant scheme (to replace Clear Skies) would be launched at the end of April. The group eagerly looks forward to more details after the launch.

### **What are we going to do now?**

#### Options

- Call a village meeting regarding the Community Wind Option
- The group to agree a project
- Follow up on insulation/energy efficiency options (if all houses were energy efficient and well insulated it would greatly reduce the energy demand!)
- Need to clarify the opinions of all households
- We need to talk to some people who have already set up schemes, e.g. Welsh Community Wind Turbine, Kielder Community Heating Scheme (Representatives of group to come on fact finding trip to Kielder on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April)

Following a round-the-table discussion of what individuals would like to do now, group members said that they would like to:

- Nelly – to get own wind turbine back in place
- John – to investigate micro-wind and solar hot water panels, with a view to installing both
- Dave R – to install more insulation to make his home more energy efficient and investigate a district heating scheme
- Jim – wants to follow up on district heating scheme
- Dave G – looking into wood pellet stoves
- Helen – to install secondary glazing on north facing windows, not letting the house get cold, lining her curtains to keep the heat in and look into micro wind

#### Actions

- **Community wind** - Nelly to progress this option and talk to Garry Jenkins from North Energy about the next steps including gathering community support for the project and approaching National Park planners (with the help of Vicki and Judie),
- **Wood-fired community heating scheme** - Dave Rawlings and Dave Grewer to visit Kielder and follow up this option. Finding the funds to pay a consultant to undertake a pre-feasibility study of this scheme was discussed and agreed as a way forward,
- **Energy efficiency programme** - Jim and Dave G to get training in assessing energy efficiency in houses with a view to offering free service to residents and the applying for grants and/or discounts for insulation, and
- **Other village energy days** - Everyone to put together another day focussing on a particular topic e.g. companies offering different technologies.

### **Local Development Framework**

Nelly brought the Local Development Framework Consultation to the attention of the group and volunteered to draft comments from the group.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall if it is available (Jim to enquire).